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# HISTORY OF FRESNO COUNTY

CALIFORNIA

WITH

## *Biographical Sketches*

OF

*The Leading Men and Women of the County Who have  
been Identified with its Growth and  
Development from the Early  
Days to the Present*



HISTORY BY  
PAUL E. VANDOR

ILLUSTRATED  
COMPLETE IN TWO VOLUMES

HISTORIC RECORD COMPANY  
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

1919

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## PREFACE

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*History is the essence of innumerable biographies.*—CARLYLE.

*The idol of today pushes the hero of yesterday out of recollection; and he will in turn be supplanted by his successor of tomorrow.*—WASHINGTON IRVING.

*The happy historian has no other labor than of gathering what tradition pours down before him, or records treasure for him. Yet even with these advantages, few in any age have been able to raise themselves to reputation by writing histories.*—DR. SAMUEL JOHNSON.

*History, being a collection of facts which are multiplying without end, is obliged to adopt arts of abridgment to retain the more material events, and to drop all the minute circumstances which are only interesting during the time, or to the persons engaged in the transaction.*—HUME.

*In fiction the principles are given to find the facts; in history the facts are given to find the principles, and the writer who does not explain the phenomena as well as state them performs only half of his office. Facts are the mere dross of history. It is from the abstract truth which interpenetrates them and lies latent among them, like gold in the ores, that the mass derives its whole value, and the precious particles are generally combined with the baser in such a manner that the separation is a task of the utmost difficulty.*—LORD MACAULAY.

The pride in his own California of the native born and of the citizen that has adopted it as his state, is only too well grounded. The transient visitor is charmed by California, enraptured by her natural wonders, marvels at her wealth and potentialities. He beholds on every side nature's and man's verification of the wonderful and almost incredible tales that have been told of the new El Dorado; he ceases to wonder why it is held in such esteem and he comprehends why the pioneer located in this sun-kissed terrestrial paradise to end his wanderings and why "Eureka," the Greek motto, was exultingly adopted as that of the state to be perpetuated in its Great Seal.

California is the accepted Wonderland of the Far West; it is the Empire State of the Golden West, the diadem in the coronet of the Pacific Slope states, inseparably part of the greatness of the nation, close-bound by the transcontinental railways and more recently by the latest wonder-creation of the world in the Panama Canal, the work of American brains, enterprise and money. Once upon a time, upon the map of the world, California was an undefined thing without metes or bounds. Today it is America's western outpost of commerce with the East—the fabled Indies which the venturesome explorers strove to discover but in their failures stumbled on a new continent, while later enterprising navigators located the storied Californias of the Amazons whose very name was appropriated from one of the most picturesquely evolved fictions of a medieval poet.

There is not another state with a history such as California's, whether for entrancing poetical interest, picturesque romance, variety, adventurous character and originality of experiences and incidents, or, lastly, wondrous material development and wealth. It is a tale without precedent, without after-counterpart. Its outfictioned fiction itself, shadowed the poet's imagery, baffled the philosopher's omniscience. It is a narrative without parallel. It is an exuberant story of wonderful achievements, of great deeds, following grand aims, that has made California famous. Probably no state save the original thirteen can point to a greater anthology. California has been the favorite and inexhaustible theme for the industrious historian, the dreamy poet, and the imaginative and creative fiction writer. New works on the theme appear every year. No one of these has pictured all phases of California's claims to greatness and beauty. Like classic poem or tale, or familiar song, the tale of California never wearies or stales, but gains new charm and zest in the retelling.

In a modest work of the compass of these volumes, primarily the plain story of a county, such phases only of the state's history in its rapid development are touched upon to emphasize upon the reader the race and motive characteristics of the people that colonized the land and of those that conquered and developed it; to compare the "poco tiempo" era of the Spaniard with the "All right; go ahead" times of the American; the lagging, deferring "mañana" of the one, with the alert, wide-awake rush of the other in meeting obstacles and ever pressing forward. Who will say that destiny's hand did not retard colonization by one decadent race, for the swift evolution by a virile, red-blooded race, representing a comingling of many bloods?

Sanborn Book Co. #2500 (2 vols)

Sufficient early California history as a background is touched upon to prepare the reader for the main work of the History of Fresno County. The history of the state finds its counterpart in many of the older counties, fields that unfortunately have been only too lightly surface-scratched, so engrossed were the actors and the chroniclers of the day in the development of the material resources. There is a late awakening in research work to shed new light, to learn more of the history of the state and its counties. The regret is that the work has been delayed until after so many of the actors have passed away.

The writer of this History of Fresno County entered upon the work as a task; as it progressed over a period of years it became a labor of love. It was a stupendous undertaking, covering as it did a bird's-eye retrospect of sixty-three years. Necessarily there had to be abridgment. The scheme was adopted of presenting the history in popular narrative form, tracing the development of the county by industrial epochs, following a general chronological order, eliminating much of the dross of minor and passing events, to bring out the abstract, salient and permanent truths and results, while not suppressing the local coloring in the personal element.

So-called histories of the county have been many. For the greater part they have not been regarded as authoritative reference works. They have been the hurried labor of superficial hack writers, unacquainted with their subject, the historical subordinated to the commercial feature of the publications. No history of the county has been printed since "The History of Fresno County," published in 1882, by Wallace W. Elliott and Company, of San Francisco. It was a work of original research and a trustworthy authority.

The editor and publishers of these volumes present them confidently as a verified and authoritative history of the county—the result of conscientious labor in original research, and of information imparted by pioneers and their descendants, entered upon originally as a pastime and without thought of publication of the collated material. It essays to present county and city historical data that had lasting bearing on the times, but which with many of the picturesque incidents were ignored or overlooked in the publications that have gone before; and lastly it is an endeavor also to fill in the hiatus of the years since 1882, to bring to date the tale of the development and growth of a county which, from a small beginning with a rough and uncouth mining population and hardy pioneers, has become one of the richest, politically best governed and industrially typical of a great state.

Incredible as their development and growth have been, through successive industrial epochs, the mind cannot grasp the future of State and County when the twin Sacramento and San Joaquin Valleys will have reached the zenith of development and production. California is today a self-supporting empire in itself. It is dependent upon the world for only a few of the raw materials demanded for certain manufacturing and industrial enterprises. It is developing these. The zenith having been attained, Fresno County will be a leading contributor to California's greater riches, enhanced production, and to the unmeasured happiness and prosperity of its citizens. Fresno is the state's center. A remarkable past will be eclipsed by a more wonderful future—it is manifest destiny.

—PAUL E. VANDOR.



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# HISTORICAL

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## HISTORY OF FRESNO COUNTY

By Paul E. Vador

### CHAPTER I

CALIFORNIA A LAND OF WONDERS AND SURPRISES. FRESNO COUNTY AN EMPIRE WITHIN AN EMPIRE. AREA OF THE TWO DIVISIONS. STATE IS NOT A UNIT GEOGRAPHICALLY. ASSESSED PROPERTY VALUATIONS. THE VALLEY IS THE KEYSTONE IN THE ARCH OF THE STATE'S WEALTH. INTERIOR REGION LITTLE AFFECTED BY THE SPANISH AND MEXICAN REGIME SAVE IN THE NOMENCLATURE OF LANDMARKS.

California is a land of never ending wonders and surprises, a land that can only be described in superlatives.

Literally and figuratively, Fresno County is to the state an empire within an empire—imperium in imperio as the Latin phrase has it. This statement is not put forth as the declaration of a newly discovered fact, but to emphasize that an old one is incontrovertible as the result of a remarkable twin development of state and county.

California, thirty-first state of the union, is about 780 miles long, has a breadth varying from 148 to 235 miles, a sea-coast line 1,200 miles long through ten degrees of latitude, a total area of 158,297 square miles of which 2,645 comprise water surface, and an estimated 101,310,080 acres, in great part rough, mountainous country, or desert. The term desert is a relative one. The land now comprised within Fresno County's area was long considered desert, fit only for pasturage and worthless for agriculture. Much of it is yet regarded in that category, lacking the water to make it productive. Imperial Valley in the county of the same name, the southeasternmost in the state located between San Diego County and the Colorado river as the state boundary line is another notable desert wonder in the agricultural line. Other instances might be quoted to emphasize the declaration that California is a land of never ending wonders and surprises.

Approximately one-half of the land surface is under federal control, including the nineteen and one-half millions or more acres in the national forests. As to area, California is second among the states of the union. Texas alone exceeds it. It is larger than the nine combined states of New York, New Jersey, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, Maine, Vermont, New Hampshire, Connecticut and Ohio. It is one of the richest among the states, with a startling record of material achievements and with potentialities so varied and great as to stagger the mind in the contemplation of them.

Fresno, forty-first of the counties in the order of creation, has a land area of 5,950 square miles, or 3,808,000 acres. When organized, it was much larger, but in March, 1893, a slice of 2,121 square miles was taken off from the northern part to form Madera County, and in 1909 were transferred to Kings County 120 square miles of the southeastern portion. Even with these 2,241 square miles lopped off from the original 8,214 before partition, Fresno ranks

sixth of the fifty-eight counties in the state as to area. Only five exceed it, namely, Inyo, Kern, Riverside and Siskyou, San Bernardino leading. As to population, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Alameda and Santa Clara lead it in the order named. The 1910 census returned a county population of 75,657, and for the county seat, 24,892. An estimate of 29,809 for the city was made in July, 1914, and one of 45,000 in June, 1914. The latter is according to the 1916 report of the state controller, but manifestly too liberal for various reasons. Estimates made on the figured basis of school attendance, directory publishers and chamber of commerce advertising literature all give greater returns but must be accepted with allowances. It is not to be denied that there have been large annual accessions in the rural and urban populations, but a census enumeration and not theoretical surmises will be required to give reliable figures.

The county is fourth, with Sacramento a very close fifth, for total value of assessed property. Fresno is one of the very few counties in the state that had no public indebtedness. An estimate of the value of the county's public property is the following:

Courthouse Grounds and Jail.....	\$1,207,000
Hospital, Almhouse and Grounds.....	318,000
Fair Grounds and Buildings.....	100,000
Orphanage .....	30,000
County Library Equipment .....	10,000
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>\$1,665,000</b>

The county had no outstanding bonds and no floating indebtedness. It has \$150,000 invested in state highway bonds, \$300,000 in Liberty war bonds, \$19,490 in county school district bonds that buying speculators would not purchase because of the smallness of the issues, and in December, 1917, had \$590,200 of accumulated funds out on two per cent call loans, a sum that fluctuates from time to time. The statistical figures of the assessor give the county an acreage of 2,251,520.

### ASSESSED PROPERTY VALUATIONS

Assessed value of property for 1916-17 in the state, county and city of Fresno is exhibited in the following tabulation:

State	
Real Estate .....	\$1,851,485,421
Improvements .....	696,960,698
Personal Property .....	333,403,268
Money and Credits.....	35,005,709
<b>Non Operative Roll .....</b>	<b>2,916,855,096</b>
<b>Operative Roll .....</b>	<b>504,284,748</b>
<b>Railroads .....</b>	<b>157,006,590</b>
<b>State Grand Total .....</b>	<b>\$3,578,146,434</b>
Fresno County	
Real Estate .....	\$41,644,875
Improvements .....	11,421,988
Personal Property .....	9,892,398
Money etc. ....	110,547
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>\$63,069,808</b>

**Fresno City**

Real Estate .....	\$11,596,555
Improvements .....	7,764,385
Personal Property .....	3,039,137
Money, etc. ....	179,585
Total .....	\$22,579,712
Non Operative Roll .....	85,649,520
Operative Roll .....	13,980,567
County Grand Total .....	\$99,630,087

The 1917-18 county assessment roll shows the following valuations for taxation purposes, not including the segregated school district valuations for one of the numerically largest county school departments in the state, exclusive of the larger populous centers of San Francisco, Los Angeles and Alameda counties.

County Real Estate.....	\$ 56,792,585
(Fresno City, \$15,931,470)	
Improvements .....	20,075,245
(Fresno City, \$10,933,700)	
Improvements Assessed to Others than Owners .....	123,720
Personal Property .....	15,923,163
Money and Credits.....	427,310
Non Operative Roll.....	93,342,023
Operative Roll .....	6,044,386
Railroads .....	8,515,019
Total Assessed Property.....	\$107,901,428

Fresno City as the county seat is the largest incorporated municipality. The other eight incorporated towns are; Clovis, Coalinga, Firebaugh, Fowler, Kingsburg, Reedley, Sanger and Selma.

The county's apportionment by the State Board of Equalization of railroad mileage and property for state taxation is as follows:

Railroad	Mileage	Valuation
Southern Pacific .....	196.89	\$5,394,978
Santa Fe .....	96.30	2,311,200
Central Pacific .....	31.46	692,208
Pullman Palace .....	166.61	116,633

**KEYSTONE IN ARCH OF WEALTH**

Geographically considered, California is far from being a unit. It presents with its immense sea-coast stretch and its great breadth, traversing interior wide valleys, desert wastes and high mountain ranges, geographical conditions in remarkable variety. When in their variety in turn, the land surface features, climates and productions, the latter ranging from those of the temperate to the subtropical and the arctic zones, are further borne in mind. California may well be classified as an empire itself.

California's great interior San Joaquin Valley, an empire in itself, is the keystone in the arch of the state's wealth. The Mother Lode poured its millions of gold into the world's lap. Its plains were the public range during the cattle raising era of the boundless pasturage ground. It was once one of the world's granaries in the days of the vast grain ranch period. It is a leader today in the products of the intensive and diversified culture of the small irrigated orchard and vineyard farm. The oil industry confined to the Coast Range is an overshadowing one, and the San Joaquin valley has become the

state's oil producing region. Irrigation has transformed Fresno from a desert to an annual producer of over thirty millions.

Its potentialities are boundless almost. It is no dream that in the cultivation of rice and cotton as the latest taken up enterprises of the soil with demonstrated successes in the experimental efforts, California and its great interior valley are preparing to furnish the world with more surprises. Such an eminent authority as George C. Roeding has declared that Fresno must wake up and teach the world that "here in the central portion of the Golden State there is an empire worthy the attention of the man with the dollar." And there is a wonderful past to substantiate him.

The history of Fresno, and for that matter of the great interior valley also, was little influenced by the Spaniards or the Mexicans in so far as leaving imperishable impress upon the region that the gold seekers brought to the world's knowledge. There was no Spanish sub-stratum with the pictured life and customs as at the coastal mission establishments, so suggestive of medievalism and even feudalism, to give the quaint and picturesque setting for the American superstructure to follow and to recall the days before the Gringo came.

Of the Spanish and Mexican rule there is no lasting memorial, save perhaps in the melodious nomenclature of landmarks, and in the foreign words grafted on the English language. The name "Fresno," from the Spanish meaning "ash tree," was applied because of the abundance of the tree in the mountains of the county. It was first given to identify the river tributary to the San Joaquin and once embraced within the county, but now in Madera. It was so applied before Fresno County was organized, and even before the territory now so named had distinctive appellation as a part of Mariposa County. It was so appropriated to name the first big trees discovered by James Burney of Mariposa and John Macauley of Defiance, Ohio, in 1849. They were in Fresno territory that is now part of Madera County. Burney was of North Carolina and the first sheriff of Mariposa, elected after organization in February, 1850. The above named and two others made the find in the latter part of October on the Fresno-San Joaquin divide while pursuing animals that the Indians had stolen. This was at a time when Mariposa embraced, as one of the original twenty-seven counties of the state, nearly the entire San Joaquin Valley, south of the Tuolumne River.

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## CHAPTER II

CHANGES BROUGHT ABOUT BY THE MUTATION OF TIME. LINKING THE PRESENT LIVING WITH THE REMOTE DEAD PAST. THE DAYS OF THE SQUAWMAN. SURVIVING PIONEERS ANTEDATING DAYS BEFORE COUNTY ORGANIZATION. A FREQUENTLY CHANGING AND EVER SHRINKING ROSTER. CASUAL MENTION OF SOME OF THE LISTED PICTURESQUE CHARACTERS THAT HAVE PASSED AWAY. PIONEERS OF THE MINING PERIOD OF THE DECADE OF THE '50'S.

As a political entity, Fresno's history runs back to 1856. Prior to that and territorially long before that, it was unpeopled during the period that Bret Harte has so poetically described as "that bland, indolent autumn of Spanish rule, so soon to be followed by the wintry storms of Mexican independence." It was the undisputed domain of the Indian—the Digger as he was called, because he dugged the ground for edible roots, bulbs and insect larvae.

It was indefinitely located as the remote and farthestmost outpost of "that section of the mining region known as the Southern Mines" after carving



out from Mariposa and with it claiming Utah Territory as easternmost boundary. The Mother of Counties embraced almost everything in the easternmost interior between the Coast and Sierra ranges from Tuolumne on the north to San Luis Obispo on the south, with its celebrated central Fremont Grant concerning which alone a book might be written, its four great central gold abounding sections and quartz veins throughout the county, Mariposa as one of the original organized with formation of the state in 1850, was so rich in mining wealth that it was estimated as formed in 1856 that over 500 mills could be supplied with rock paying from sixteen dollars to twenty dollars per ton.

As to Fresno, years elapsed before "the reviving spirit of American conquest," gripped the land. With successive industrial evolutions, the transformation has been short of the marvelous. From the early primitive mining camps in canyons and gulches or along river banks, the transition from an inland cow county has been to a vast agricultural domain, the future seat of fullest activities in that line of a great commonwealth, and the upbuilding of an interior community that every prophecy holds out as destined to become one of the largest, most populous, influential and richest. It is well on its way to reach that goal.

Jonathan Swift, the greatest satirist of his age, philosophises through one of his characters that "he gave it as his opinion that whoever could make two ears of corn, or two blades of grass, to grow upon a spot of ground where only one grew before, would deserve better of mankind, and do more essential service to his country, than the whole race of philosophers put together." What then of the pioneers who on the barren nothingness of 1856 laid the basis of what is the wonderful Fresno county of 1919?

The changes that the mutations of time have wrought in the span of sixty-two years are not appreciated until they are brought to a realization by some homely yet startling illustration. The reader may measurably conceive the changes when contemplating the concrete fact that there are less than a dozen known living persons that have risen out of all obscurity in the growth of the county, or who, having removed from California, trace has been lost of them, and who were residents of the territory before and at the period of the county's organization in the year 1856.

### ROSTER OF LIVING EARLIEST PIONEERS

The following roster of surviving pioneers of pioneers was first compiled nearly two years ago. It has undergone five revisions to leave today in January, 1919, the submitted names, for be it borne in mind that the adult pioneer in the territory in 1856, or before county organization, must have been at twenty-one majority or close thereto, and with the sixty-two years added since, would need be, if surviving today, at an advanced age in the 80's. The living are believed to be the following named according to best research:

Henry F. Akers, of near Sanger; William Albertus Akers, of near Coalinga; Mrs. Sarah Akers-Chambers, of San Benito; Mrs. Mary Agnes Burns, of near Sanger; Mrs. C. P. Converse that was Mrs. Stephen Gaster, whose home is in Ishom Valley, Tulare County; Mrs. Lewis Leach, who was the first Mrs. C. P. Converse, and is a resident of Fresno City; Mrs. Mary McKenzie-Hoxie, born at Millerton in 1855; Hiram McDonald, who was chief of police of 5-Point Precinct, Phoenix, Ariz, at last accounts. The last two were in the county as juveniles at organization date.

Jasper N. Musick

1154033

Jasper N. Musick headed the above list for more than a year and a half as perhaps the widest known of the early pioneers, though the Akers family preceded him in the territory by some three years. Death removed Musick at

the age of eighty-five years on June 4, 1918, and two days later his remains were laid away in the little rural cemetery at Academy, where sleepeth so many of the pioneer men and women of the county.

Familiarly known as "Uncle Jess" because of his lovable character, Jasper N. Musick had experienced all the vicissitudes of early day pioneering, and as a boy the family located at what is now Jefferson City, Mo., at a period when St. Louis was on the map as a trading post. He was the sixth of fifteen children. A brother, Jeremiah, for whom a Fresno residence addition was named (he died in 1904) came to California after the war and engaged in stock raising.

Jasper and a brother crossed the plains, arriving in the fall of 1850. They made the journey to Salt Lake City with ox teams, but traded for horses as a swifter means of progress. Arriving at Hangtown (Placerville, Cal.), they were surprised to behold the traded off oxen that had previously arrived and in a much better condition than the horses. For six years, Musick mined in Amador County with reasonable success, in 1856 settled in Mariposa County, engaged incidentally in Indian warfare and participated in the skirmish on Tule River which quelled the outbreak. Settling at Millerton, he teamed to and from Stockton and the mines, hauling provisions to the latter for five cents a pound with ten days required on the round trip. In 1858 he moved the Fort Miller soldiers to Benicia Barracks on evacuation.

Later he located on Dry Creek in the stock business with J. G. Simpson, conducting a Millerton meat shop, and each spring drove a band of cattle to Sonora and other mining centers at profit. This partnership continued until 1865, when he took up the sheep business with ranch at Letcher. There he also pioneered in orange and deciduous fruit growing. His residence in Fresno city dated from 1892, and here in comparative affluence he lived a retired life after the whirl and excitement of his younger years. By a first marriage at Dry Creek with a native born of Millerton, Rebecca, daughter of James Richards, a pioneer settler, five children were born, three of whom attained majority. The second marriage in December, 1878, was at Lemoore to Nancy J. Messersmith, whose family came from Cole County, Mo., after the war.

Mr. Musick was for two terms a county supervisor and chairman of the board for a time. It was during his incumbency that the county-seat removal was effected, a change that he had championed. While a Dry Creeker, he was in 1872 one of the incorporators and organizers and the treasurer of the Dry Creek Academy with ex-Sheriff J. D. Collins as the first teacher, a school of acknowledged repute. Later, building and grounds were deeded to the school district of which Mr. Musick was a trustee for years, and school has never closed doors to its original purpose. In his younger days Mr. Musick was a leader of the Democracy.

As an evidence of the remarkable faculty that some men are endowed with in the recollection of dates, is cited the incident that on the day of the funeral, June 6, 1918, John C. Hoxie, the late pioneer, recalled on his way to the obsequies to attend them as a pall bearer, that the day of his friend's death lacked only forty-eight hours of the day, June 2, 1856, of his first meeting, as a small boy with Jasper N. Musick at old Millerton. Two days after the funeral was also the incident of the recording of a government land patent to Musick under date of August 30, 1877, and apparently long forgotten.

### Joseph Burns

At the age of eighty-eight years and three months on December 13, 1918, Joseph Burns died after an illness of five months at his home near Sanger. He was one of the last of the Old Guard, his coming antedating county organization in 1856. He had followed agricultural and pastoral pursuits nearly all his life in California, amassing a competency which permitted him to aid in the development of the county in humble fashion. He was a good citizen,

never in public life, never sought political preferment but remained content to follow the unobtrusive career of a farmer, drifting along with the time and the tide, his circumstances benefitted by the natural advancement and enrichment of the region in which he had chosen to cast his lot, undisturbed by the hurly-burly of changing epochs and living more in the historic dead past than the bustling, restless present.

Joseph Burns was a South Carolinian born, but as an infant removed with parents to Sparta, Randolph county, Ill. In early manhood and allured by the gold excitement, he came to California in 1852; according to another report in 1854. At any rate he settled in Mariposa county and was a resident of that county even after Fresno was carved out of that vast mining domain. There is little to be told of his early experiences, though after removal to Fresno after county organization it is recalled that like many others he was adopted according to a prevailing practice of the times into tribal relations through the daughter of an Indian chief with a place in history. Cowchiti, as he was known, had to do with the preliminaries of the treaty of peace signed up at Fort Barbour, April 29, 1851, with the rebellious tribes of the valley following surrender to the Mariposa Battalion under Maj. James D. Savage and with the last act in the drama—the bringing in of the captive and starved out Yosemitees from the fastnesses of the valley. Chief Cowchiti was the scout and interpreter that guided Capt. Boling's company to and from the valley in the pursuit, being the first visit by white men in number to enter and explore the scenic gorge and make its fame known. Cowchiti was looked upon by the soldiery not altogether without suspicion and doubt as to his motives and purposes, but proved faithful to his trust.

Burns settled on Willow creek, a tributary of Coarse Gold Creek, in Madera county now, setting out there what is said to have been the first peach orchard in this region. In 1862 he married Mary Agnes Lewis, whose father was a herb doctor at a time when graduate practitioners were few. In the year 1869, Burns pulled up stakes and moved to Centerville in the Kings river district and engaged in stock and sheep raising and farming, and also planted one of the first orange groves in that pioneer citrus belt. He and others were associated in the co-operative Sweem ditch enterprise. It was on any scale the first practical irrigation demonstration in the county and with its inclusion in the Church irrigation plan metamorphosed the parched grazing land of the plains into vineyards, orchards and farms.

The published Burns obituary recorded several glaring inaccuracies. The death was heralded as that of the oldest citizen and pioneer. This was manifestly incorrect. It was declared as "an outstanding circumstance" of his reported marriage in 1862 "that it was the first recorded in the new county of Fresno which up to that time formed a part of Mariposa County." This is obviously also an absurd statement. Equally far from the truth was the statement that "for several years he was the only Republican who cast his vote in Millerton, then the county seat of Fresno County." The distinction of having been the historical "Lone Republican" in the county has been fastened on various persons, now dead, among them the late Judge Charles A. Hart and the late Supervisor H. C. Daulton. Truth is that the subject of the obituary never did vote at Millerton because there were precinct polling places at Coarse Gold and at Centerville even before the Republican party came into existence. If there is a well authenticated historical incident it is the one that the "Lone Republican" of Fresno that gained a state wide name because casting the only Republican vote in his locality for that new party's first presidential nominee was "Dad" Aldrich, or Aldridge (the spelling is varied). He gained that publicity because of his vote for Abraham Lincoln at the election November 6, 1860, at the Coarse Gold precinct. The late Capt. R. P. Mace of Madera was the presiding officer at the polling place, and the late James G. McCardle and William Cunningham (brother-in-law of Mace by the latter's second marriage), escorted and protected Aldrich to the ballot box to vote, the three

cognizant of the threats made by certain roughs against Aldrich that "no damned Abolitionist would vote if they could prevent it."

Burns was undoubtedly one of the earliest voting Republicans in the county as he was also one of the 100 who subscribed for small stock holdings to start the Fresno Republican newspaper under the late Dr. Chester Rowell. It is not to say that in the activities of his day and time he did not aid and encourage the movements for the development of the county, for he did do so. It is however to record history that he chose to drift with the times and while encouraging these movements did not initiate any. He was not ambitious on these lines. He did not yearn to flash in the lime light of publicity. He had a competency and was content to let well enough alone. His competency dwindled with time but to the end he pursued a life of restful peace and quiet.

A widow, two sons and four daughters survive him. A member of the Presbyterian church from childhood, he was not bound by sectarianism in religious matters. Report had it that he took comfort before death from the 23rd Psalm and at the last recited it to the end:

"Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me  
"All the days of my life;  
"And I will dwell in the house of the Lord  
"Forever."

### Joseph M. Kinsman

During the year, 1916, Joseph M. Kinsman of Madera, a pioneer of 1848, headed the list. He and his brother, Albert, known as "Al," were of the clan of squawmen so numerous in the days when a white woman in the mining regions was a rarity. Joseph was the surviving brother and he died December 26, 1916. The story is told that a fad of later days was his collection of newspapers and prints with storied experiences of the pioneer times. He was himself a fountain of information and had a remarkable memory of what he had in his unclassified collection. It is said that he wantonly set fire to his shack and destroyed the collection that would have been a priceless treasure for the historian. Neither brother filled a place in public or historic life.

Joseph Kinsman died at his Northfork miner's cabin at the age of eighty-nine years and ten months. He was a sailor in youth, born in Boston in 1826, came to California in 1849 and mined on the Chowchilla, later went into business at Merced Falls, Mariposa County, and in 1875 settled at Hooker's Cove at Northfork and continued there until death. It was said of him that he was a life-long Democrat and a Southern sympathizer in the Civil War, although a Northerner born, and was known as "the Connecticut Rebel." It is recalled of him that he kept a diary of daily events from 1849 to 1875 when it was destroyed by fire, and then that he opened another.

### Capt. R. P. Mace and Wife

A notable death preceding that of Kinsman's, was that of Mrs. Jennie E. Mace, pioneer of 1855-56 and widow of Capt. R. P. Mace (April 24, 1894). She died July 17, 1916; he was a California '49er. Death, in the home of over forty years of residence, removed in Mrs. Mace the oldest pioneer woman of Madera County. Her first California home was at O'Neal's, and during her sixty-one years in the valley, she saw Fresno, Merced, Mono and Madera Counties come into existence and the cities of Fresno and Madera spring out of the plains. She was a native of Ireland, born in August, 1837, and with her father, Andrew Cunningham, and her mother, came to Indiana when only a few weeks of age. She married in 1855, John Gilmore, and the honeymoon was passed on the journey to California. She settled at O'Neal's, where she lived nineteen years and where a daughter (Mrs. Tillie Gilmore-Brown) and two sons were born. Her marriage to Capt. Mace occurred in 1866. She was

a much beloved woman, who was noted for many acts of charity and benevolence, was prominent in the Methodist Church, South, and in 1869 was one with others, to organize at Fort Miller, one of the first Sunday schools in the valley, the abandoned guardhouse being the place of meeting. In possession of her faculties to the last, she could talk interestingly of experiences from the viewpoint of the good wife, the respected woman and the honored mother of two families.

Capt. Mace's adventurous career started with a sea voyage as a cabin boy from Boston to New Orleans, thereafter with a companion he spent a roving season with a French trader among the Comanches. At Independence, Mo., he joined the trading train of the American Fur Trading Company en route to Bent's Fort on the Arkansas. He accompanied Robert Isher, noted scout, trapper and trainer of Kit Carson, on the volunteer journey to Taos, to convey important messages for 180 miles to Charles Bent, one of the four brothers, trailing through the hostile region of the Utes. The journeying was done by night with concealment in canyons by daylight. The return to the fort was with escort of trappers and hunters. Mace continued in the employ of Charles Bent for six years as a trusty scout, carrying express from Bent's Fort to Fort George on another dangerous trail and taking his life in hand on every journey and on one occasion holding five Indians at bay.

For two years with Kit Carson he hunted the buffalo for meat for the 400 employes of the fur company, chasing the bison over the present site of Denver, Colo., and also being at Pueblo, that state, when the first adobe was raised for a trading post. At twenty-three he returned to New Orleans, continued for three years as clerk in a wine house and at the outbreak of the war with Mexico was among the first to volunteer and for three months served under Gen. E. P. Gaines. Louisiana being requisitioned upon for a regiment, Mace returned to New Orleans on leave, recruited the first company for that first regiment, was appointed captain—hence the title that remained with him through life—was the senior in rank and served until the treaty of peace. He also served in quelling an Indian uprising in Yucatan. The gold discovery attracted him to California and the year 1849 saw him in San Francisco (Yerba Buena) camped in Happy Valley, south of Market street, afterward the manufacturing and foundry district, headed soon for Rose's Bar on the Yuba and with varying success mining for twenty years. Later at Millerton, he and a company spent three years building a race to turn the San Joaquin River for mining. They first struck it rich, making from a few buckets of dirt, \$900 and \$1,000 a day for several days, but the bed soon played out. He had also a quartz lead at Fine Gold Gulch. This was mismanaged and destroyed in his absence. The later No-Fence law practically ruined him so he killed his live stock to dispose of it. He rented and managed the hotel at the ambitious settlement at Borden which once aspired to be the county seat of Fresno County, continuing from 1874 until 1876, when Madera was founded and he was one of the first to buy town lots. Madera eventually crowded Borden off the map. In 1877 he built the Yosemite Hotel in Madera, stopping place for Yosemite Valley travel via Raymond, and when it was destroyed by fire he erected the standing brick structure that faces the railroad depot. Capt. Mace was justice of the peace for years and served for three terms in the state legislature.

Running allusion is made to his career to emphasize the spirit and character of the men who were the prominent pioneers of Fresno. They were men that did things. It was not the period for mollycoddles.

Thomas Sprecherman, also known as "Tom Jones," who came on the Chowchilla as a miner in 1849, and John Besore, of French descent and an early pioneer, have been on the list. They and Thomas J. Dunlap, popularly known as Jeff Dunlap, all Fresnans, became Maderans after county division because they lived north of the San Joaquin River line.

### The Akers Family

The Akers family group is a notable one of five brothers with many descendants. They came overland to the territory in 1853 via the southern route, heading straight for Millerton and settling on the Kings River at Centerville or Scottsburg as the first settlement was named. They were in the order of primogeniture; Harvey (died June 17, 1911), at the age of eighty-three, Smith and Anderson (both long since passed away) and the surviving two youngest, Henry F. and William Albertus. A sister is another survivor, a resident of Bitterwater in San Benito County.

The Akers made up an oxteam party of emigrants and it is related that when near where Tulare City is now located they found themselves almost out of provisions and facing starvation. Ahead of them trailed another party fairly well supplied with stock cattle. It bogged in crossing the Kings River, and what was its loss and misfortune proved the salvation of the others, for the Akers party rescued the mud imbedded cattle out of the river bottom and slaughtering them for beef was enabled to close in on the last lap of the long journey and to furnish itself with meat after arrival at destination.

### James N. Walker

Another who was once listed was a pioneer of the valley, influential in his day politically and financially, James Null Walker, who died January, 1916. His closing career is tinged pitifully when he is recalled in the days of the dandified and handsome personage of younger and middle age, in contrast with his Rip Van Winkle sloven, ragged and neglected appearance of the closing days. A day had been when none was too high not to court the friendship and acquaintance of the Hon. James N. Walker. A Missourian, born in February, 1829, he was brought up in the handling of stock and at fifteen was sent to the New Orleans market in charge of his father's cattle, and later was taken into partnership. He made his last trip to New Orleans as a drover in 1849 and netted enough out of the joint venture to purchase an outfit to come to California in 1850 and arrived in August, after the overland oxteam journey.

He mined in Grass Valley, Nevada County, and in Mariposa County following up mining with merchandising at Coarse Gold Gulch in Fresno County. He conducted a large credit business with the miners but had to close out at a heavy loss with the early giving-out of the mines. Walker's Store was a political and civic center in those days. Ranching at Fine Gold followed, and in the foothills, in 1863, he stocked a range with four dollar a head cattle and in 1867 located also on the north side of the San Joaquin. This was an establishment that was a show place in its day, it was added to until he had 1,300 acres on the river, first raising mules, then interested for twelve years in sheep and later in cattle. Prosperity favored him in this and other enterprises and he served two terms in the state legislature after 1861, was twice sheriff after 1866, and an assemblyman in 1870.

It was said of him in 1905, that he was then one of five left of the early settlers of Fresno County, manifestly as incorrect a statement as the popularly misconceived one that he was the first sheriff of the county. Still, Walker was a prominent and honored citizen in his day. There is in existence a remarkable photographic work of art by Frank Beck picturing him tuning up an old fiddle. The picture was one of twelve that won for Beck the first prize at the photographers' national convention exhibition at Chautauqua. Walker died at the age of eighty-six leaving a \$40,000 estate, a widow, Agnes J. Cranmer, and seven children, four of them daughters.

### Joseph Medley and T. J. Dunlap

Death removed from the list, in the summer of 1917, Joseph Medley and T. J. Dunlap. Medley, born in October, 1826, was a picturesque character, a



resident of the Auberry Valley section for upwards of sixty-six years, identified with activities in the Tollhouse lumber district, a miner of course in the first days, and a squawman as was his brother, Marion, whose death preceded his. Joseph went through life without achieving other mark of distinction than as the picturesque survivor of a past day, eking out an existence as a cattle and hog rancher, and removed only a degree above the Indian whose life long associate he had been. His remains lie buried in the little cemetery at Auberry Grove and, at the simple funeral (July 9, 1917) Rev. Hardie Connor of the near-by Indian Mission officiated. Surviving Medley were son and daughter, three nephews and a niece. Leaving no impress of his long life on the history of the county, yet talking interestingly of the very earliest personal recollections of it and its men, the most lurid events in his negative career are recalled in visits to the later founded Fresno City in its infant days to yield to the pitfalls in his path in the den that was dignified with the name of the Star Theater to squander with the prodigality of a Monte Cristo the returns of successive seasons from sale of hogs and cattle, returning to foothill haunts and squaw, bankrupt after wasting his substance on the bedizenized and short skirted damsels who welcomed him as long as his money lasted. Medley ended his days in the almshouse, decrepit and almost blind. The local print noticed his death in a twenty-five-line obituary, without revealing the picturesque identity of the character that had passed away.

Of another stamp was T. J. Dunlap of Madera, arrival of 1852-53, whom fortune favored at the very outset in making him strike it rich with a cousin in mining at the mouth of Kaiser Creek where it empties into the San Joaquin, later selling the claim for a big price after having profitably worked it for years. His later day home was on the ranch near Fine Gold; in the 70's he was in the lumber business with saw mill on the site of what is now Bass Lake in Madera County, one of the impounded water reservoirs for electric power generation and at the upper end of which is located The Pines resort.

Dunlap represented in the Fresno County board of supervisors the district north of the San Joaquin, made a campaign for sheriff, but was defeated, and was a deputy under County Assessor W. J. Hutchinson. He was a citizen of note and his death was at the age of eighty-nine. As with many others Fortune, fickle drab that she is, gave him cold shoulder in his last days; or perhaps times and conditions had changed and the pioneer of other days fell by the wayside in the swifter march of the day.

Passing allusion is made here only to earliest of pioneers in Mrs. Ann McKenzie-Hart who died in 1910, at the age of eighty-five and Dr. Lewis Leach who passed away at seventy-four, in March, 1897. Record of them is found elsewhere. They were of the very first white permanent settlers. Others might be recalled but they would have to be summoned out of obscurity. It is with sadness that it must be noted that in their closing days fate has been unkind, even harsh, with some of these pioneers of pioneers, for burdened with the ills and infirmities of age and poverty not a few have had to seek the sheltering roof of public institutions.

### John Dwyer and Robert Brantsford

Not overlooked should be one who, until his death in June, 1912, was a character in Fresno city. John Dwyer came to the territory with the soldiers to give protection to the miners against the hostile Indians. He came as a drummer boy and the tale is, that on the march through Death Valley he was carried, in an exhausted state, for two days and nights on the shoulders of Robert Brantsford, a stalwart and burly Virginian and soldier of the expedition. Dwyer labored on the hand-operated saw mill that turned out the logs and planks for Fort Miller, the soldiers first bivouacking at Fort Washington, further down on the river, where today the school district bearing the name is located.

Dwyer was also of the squawmen contingent. After leaving the garrison he became a freight carrier between Stockton and the Southern Mines; in this connection the story is recalled that as an expert horseman he was once a principal at Stockton, in a wager with thousands in gold dust at stake, as to who had the best horse to move a load of given weight over a marked course. The demonstration by his opponent foreshadowed his loss of the wager, but a quick thought saved the day. Dwyer jumped on his horse astraddle and with the added weight the animal was enabled to secure better foothold to start moving the load and the wager was won. Dwyer was known in Fresno as "The sand wagon man" from his vocation of carting and selling sand for mortar, plaster and other construction work.

Dwyer had passed his eighty-fourth year when death summoned him. It is to be noted as remarkable, the years that the men and women of the pioneer times attained after the hardships and privations endured. Dwyer as a teamster hauled the material in the construction of the Millerton courthouse, was a California volunteer in the Civil War, took unto wife the widow, Mary Friedman of Millerton, was a pioneer of Fresno city, and a member of the first volunteer fire company. His lot in life was an humble one but he shirked no duty.

Of Brantsford who also joined the squawmen, it is recorded that he died in September, 1890, and in his will, made liberal provision for a daughter Martha, the offspring of a Mono Indian mother, who was known as Mary Hancock because of having assumed other marital relations. Brantsford left for the daughter a trust estate, with Jasper D. Musick as executor of his will.

### James J. Rogers

Included in the list of survivors at one time, but eliminated in the course of revisions was also James J. Rogers, whose death was at the age of eighty-two. He was born in Illinois March 17, 1822, the son of Robert Rogers and Helen Patterson, and a direct descendent of Gen. Robert Rogers of French and Indian wars. Rogers served under Gen. Winfield Scott in the War with Mexico and was one of the twelve that carried the American flag into the capital, Mexico City, on the 14th of September, 1847, when the victorious army marched into the city and occupied the national palace. He married Cynthia Ann Stephens, born in Illinois December, 1830, daughter of William Stephens and Delia Short, the latter a descendant of Capt. Short of Revolutionary fame, and the parents of J. B. Stephens, who was a captain in the Mexican and Civil wars. James Rogers married at Little Rock, Ark., September 26, 1848, left for California April 1, 1850, via the southern route through New Mexico and Arizona, arrived at Los Angeles August 1, 1850, settled at Stockton in the spring of 1851, engaged in mining until 1857 and then removed to Fresno county where a large family was reared. The Rogers were the pioneer owners of the Rogers Hot Springs, known now as the Fresno Hot Springs. James J. Rogers died at Los Angeles March 6, 1904. Mrs. Cynthia A. Rogers, the widow, lived at last accounts (November 20, 1918), at Stockton, Cal., and though eighty-eight years of age is a wonderfully preserved woman, who despite her years is able to read and write without difficulty, goes wither and when the mood possesses her and has found time to knit for the American soldiers in France.

### BACK TO MINING ERA

In the rostered membership of the Fresno County Pioneers' Association are the following named living residents whose days go back to the mining era of the decade of the 50's, namely;

1856—Mrs. Mary A. Parker-Strivens, Charles E. Strivens, James T.

Parker, Henry Wells, Mrs. Sallie Cole-Sample (Obit., Dec. 17, 1917), and J. F. Boling.

1857—J. W. Holliday, G. W. Statham and Frank M. Lewis.

1858—John C. Hoxie (Obit., Nov. 21, 1918), Elizabeth J. Hoxie-Barth, Sewell F. Hoxie, Mrs. Tillie Gilmore-Brown and Charles Crawford.

1859—Lil A. and Led. F. Winchell (Obit., 1918), Mrs. Peter Parry and Mrs. Carrie E. Hoxie-McKenzie.

Some of these were children at the time. They are excluded from the pioneer list of territorial residents before county organization date. The association residence date qualification for membership is the removal year of the county seat of Millerton in 1874.

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## CHAPTER III

HISTORY OF STATE IS UNIQUE AND REDOLENT OF ROMANCE. ITS NAME AN ETYMOLOGICAL ENIGMA. RICHES OF CALIFORNIA GREATER THAN THOSE OF THE FABLED INDIES. LONG NEGLECTED BY ITS SPANISH POSSESSORS. PRACTICALLY UNPEOPLED WAS THE TERRITORY BEFORE THE DISCOVERY OF GOLD. SPAIN OVERLOOKED ITS OPPORTUNITY. "INFERNO OF 49" STARTLES THE WORLD. THE DAY OF ANOTHER CONTROLLING RACE DAWNS WITH THE SETTING OF THE SUN ON THE GOLDEN AGE OF THE MISSIONS.

California is a land redolent of romance in its early history of discovery and exploration. Its very name created in 1510 for a romance of medieval chivalry, "the most fictitious of fiction," is an etymological enigma to this day. Its source origin in a forgotten Spanish romance was not discovered until the winter of 1862, and then by Rev. Edward E. Hale in the course of Spanish archival researches at a time when he expected to become the reader and amanuensis for William H. Prescott, the historian. Melodious as the name is, the California poet Edwin H. Markham, observes that it is "as well also the oldest of any state save only Florida," given by Ponce de Leon in 1512, while in search of the fabled Fountain of Youth.

For long California was "a mere field of cosmographic conjecture," whether island, peninsula or part of mainland. Its location was placed somewhere between Mexico and India, with its boundaries vagueness itself. The fabled and the material California have in turn attracted a world's undivided interest. Her history is unique. Considered in entirety or in its successive phases, the record is one unequalled in variety, originality and interest by that of any other province of the New World. Whether regarded from the purely romantic or the positive, materialistic viewpoint, no state of the union has commanded more continuous notice and attention. Writers and historians ever return for a fascinating theme to California, land of gold, of perpetual sunshine, of natural blessings such as no other land has been endowed with in such prodigality.

The romancer of 1510 described his California as an imaginary island "located on the right hand of the Indies, very near the terrestrial paradise." He peopled it with black Amazons, who trained griffins for warfare and caparisoned them with gold. The only mineral on the island was gold, though it was fabulously rich also in precious stones and pearls. It was, as Poet Markham described it, "a rosy romance." Still the Spanish romancer's most extravagant dreams did not conjure up such a rich land as the real, materialistic California has proven to be. The California that the explorers placed on the map and named proved in truth to be the land of gold and of untold riches. Not of precious stones and pearls, but of gold and products of the virgin soil.

The gold was not unearthed until nearly three and a half centuries after the romance, and then by the Anglo-Americans, in whose veins throbbed and pulsed to action the admixed red blood of preceding generations of the adventurous and resistless Saxon.

The problem of Columbus' day was to reach "far Cathay" by sea, sailing westward—to open a new route to India. Ever the cry was India. This feverish quest for wealth was the impelling motive also of Hernando Cortez after his conquest of Mexico and the subjugation of Montezuma (1520-21). In the various explorations under him, of the California and North Pacific coasts (1532-37), whatever the specific moving cause of particular expeditions, whether in the alarm-spreading presence in the North Pacific of English buccaneer or freebooter to seize the annual Spanish treasure galleon from the Philippines, whether the threatened aggressions of foreign powers for territorial acquisition or commercial spoliation, or whether the location of a California relief port for the teredo-eaten hull or scurvy-stricken crew of the annual "great Manila ship."

It was all very nice for the history recording apologists for "these conscienceless gold-seeking adventurers" to advance the specious plea for them, of spreading the faith and win souls through religion, their real motive in the quest for the Indies was always gold, precious stones, the luxurious and costly fabrics—to find the shorter route to wealth, glory and the commerce with the Eastern El Dorado, fat and overflowing with the things precious for the increasing wealth and luxurious demands of the age.

Great would be the glory and great also the profit of the individual or the nation that would shorten the overland route to India, minimize its perils and difficulties, and pour into the receptive lap of Europe the priceless and coveted commodities of Asia in quantity unstinted. The very name of India suggested boundless wealth and riotous luxury. The Indian sea-route never was voyaged, via the fabled and long sought "Strait of Anian," because the early navigators had to learn that a New World continental barrier blocked the way. In the course of time and in a slow but gradual unfolding of a fore-ordained destiny, California astonished the world with her stores of gold and her succeeding greater material wealth in the soil and products thereof, and her name was acclaimed the synonym for a wealth incomparably greater and more substantial than all the fabled and dreamed of treasures of the Indies.

It was long the subject for wonder and amazement with early travelers and the sea commanders that California so rich and fertile, a great territory capable of sustaining such a large population, and a region so remarkably favored by nature in all things conducive to man's comfort, happiness and prosperity, should, for more than three-quarters of a century during the Spanish-Mexican regime from 1767 to 1846, be left neglected, remain practically undeveloped, its vast gold-besprinkled interior unknown and unexplored, and the stretch of country along an ocean highway so ill protected as to make it the easy prey of any nation that would have cared to seize it. The little known concerning the land and its isolation were the main safeguards against such forcible seizure.

During the later development periods, California's geographical isolation and position was relatively a less important controlling factor than in the times of discovery exploration. Stretching along the unknown Pacific, the right to control the commerce on which the Spaniards asserted, and next door neighbor to their Mexican province, it was natural that they should discover California and hold possession. No reason then to imagine that the English speaking settlers from the extreme eastern continental shore would come and control the most remote and isolated western border. Previous to the adventitious discovery of gold, in January, 1849, California was practically unpeopled, save for the few scattered Spanish settlements near the sea-coast by those who had come by the comparatively easier and shorter journey from

Mexico, helped out by occasional Americans and others landed or deserting from trading vessels, or wandering across the country as hunter, trapper or adventurer.

It required a transcendental event to bring about, as it did, California's phenomenally rapid settlement, to brave and overcome the physical obstacles and geographic barriers on the months' long and dangerous overland journey. But for the lure of gold, California might have long continued a sparsely populated country to be settled and developed slowly by a farming class as Oregon and Washington were in large part. The real, positive and unlooked for development of the state began with the discovery of gold. Only natural that Spain should be first to send settlers, but her error was in not practically following up her decided advantages in the presented opportunity. Existing conditions in a country of plenty and the easy life in a genial climate, without necessity for arduous toil "tended no doubt toward stagnation rather than progress." Had these pioneers and their descendants been of as progressive a race as those that were to dispossess them, the very barriers separating the west from the east would have been Mexico's most helpful agency in retaining her California province.

As established in the Californias, the missions were as much political as religious institutions, and they were accorded the protection of the king's soldiers, wretchedly equipped; ill-paid and frequently unpaid for long as they were. Kings of Spain and viceroys of Mexico made their entrances and exits on the world's stage, but California slumbered along and underwent little material change from the discovery days under Cortez, save for the fringe of civilization planted along the sea-coast and spread out thinly from the twenty-one missions from San Diego to Sonoma. In 1831 these missions had already lost much of their splendor and greatness. The downhill grade began in 1824, followed by secularization in 1845, sale of a number of missions for a song, and the neglected Indian converts scattered to run wild and wretched over the country.

Almost up to the time that the great immigration upon the gold discovery startled the world, ushering in an era so extraordinary in history that H. H. Bancroft, the California historian, has epitomized it in the trite phrase, "The Inferno of 49," the interior valley country, which has been the wealth basis of the state through every development stage, continued terra incognita practically. The little known concerning it was indefinite and much of this conjectural. The very purpose for which the information was gathered—if it was with a definite object in view—existed no more because secularization under the Mexican republic had sealed the doom of the missions and bereft the padres of power and property. The sun then set on the golden age of the missions, the day of another race dawned and with it was ushered in the real and too long held back advancement of a sadly neglected land.

## CHAPTER IV

CALIFORNIA'S COLONIZATION DELAYED FOR CENTURIES. SETTLEMENTS ALL LOCATED ON THE COAST. UPPER CALIFORNIA IMPERFECTLY KNOWN. NO INDUCEMENT TO EXPLORE THE INTERIOR. EXPEDITIONS UNDERTAKEN TO LOCATE NEW MISSION SITES. ENSIGN MORAGA THE MOST ENTERPRISING EXPLORER OF HIS TIME. PADRE GARCES STARTING OUT FROM YUMA, TRAVERSES THE VALLEY AS FAR SOUTH AS THE PRESENT LOCATION OF BAKERSFIELD, A REMARKABLE JOURNEY.

"And it all availed nothing."

Little effect on the substantial new conditions after the American conquest had all the impotent efforts to block manifest destiny during the three-

quarters of a century of the Spaniard and the Mexican, with the heroic work of the padres in their missionary and civilizing labors. The quoted phrase epitomizes in fitting epitaph the passing of the Spanish rule in California (1769-1828) with its ten vice-regal governors, of the Mexican rule (1822-46) with its thirteen governors, and incidentally the end of the efforts of the padres, at times arising almost to the sublimity of martyrdom, to convert the Indian and introduce an effete civilization.

The two periods cast over the early history of California a glamor of romance and the picturesque but added little or nothing to the real and materialistic. No effort in Upper California at colonization was made for a little more than two and one-half centuries after Juan R. Cabrillo's voyage in 1542-3 exploring the coast line, half a century before the discovery of Massachusetts bay, nor for more than 160 years after Sebastian Viscaino's, in November and December, 1602, when he set foot in the harbors of San Diego and Monterey.

To prevent Russian encroachment southward from Fort Ross and Bodega bay and to convert the Indians, successive land and sea expeditions sent out from Mexico eventually established a chain of twenty-one military and religious establishments located at intervals of a day's journey by horse along or near the coast.

The first of these was founded by Padre Junipero Serra in July, 1769, and the last in August, 1823, as one of two north of the Bay of San Francisco, blunderingly located by Gaspar de Portola in a search for Monterey Bay, but ignorant to the last that he had given the world one of its three greatest harbors. San Francisco Bay was long after its discovery mapped as Sir Francis Drake's Bay and was so shown in Colton's Atlas, published as late as 1855 for use in the public schools. In the very early history of California, Serra, the simple friar, was the greatest pioneer, the first civilizer of the western coast, the very heart and soul of the spiritual conquest, and he it was who "lifted California from the unread pages of geological history and placed it on the modern map."

Upper California's physical geography was imperfectly known until after American explorers and scientists investigated. Little attention was paid this subject further than to learn something generally of the country on the ocean border from San Diego to Fort Ross. This was a forty to fifty miles-wide strip comprising the white settlements concerning which anything was known with accurate particularity. So also as regards the boundaries. Not until the Americans seized Oregon was it that they, and not the English under claim of the Francis Drake (1579) and George Vancouver (1791-94) discoveries, were dealt with in settling the northern boundary dispute. The eastern line question was not determined until the entire country came into the possession of the United States after the war with Mexico. Even then the segregation was by the Americans themselves with California's admission into the union in September, 1850. Down to the American conquest, the Californians occupied only a negligible portion of the interior, yet while knowing nothing of the country east of the Sierras, save by report, they asserted claim to the land as far eastward as Salt Lake.

The coast mission sites were located with reference to sea harbors as San Diego, Monterey, Santa Barbara, Santa Cruz and San Francisco, while the others on the Camino del Rey (King's Highway), connecting them all, were selected with special regard to water for irrigation. California's climate was similar in general to that of Mexico and the solicitude of the padres was ever to chose well watered sites in fertile valleys for their establishments. Their judgment of sites was admirable. Settlements along the camino manifested no tendency to spread from the coast. The interior was so inaccessible and appeared so dry and inhospitable. The fathers discouraged mining—in short there was no inducement to explore the interior, while the isolation tended to self support and the development of a quiet pastoral life.



Barter there was none, except in hides and tallow with the periodical New England traders, and hence cattle raising became the industry. Geographic considerations determined the location of the settlements and the occupation of their founders. The seaports and valleys would probably otherwise have received most of the new comers, until they came to appreciate the necessity for irrigation, when they would gradually have spread to the interior. The search for gold in turn headed them from the agricultural districts into the gulches and canyons of the Sierras, and so with the great stampede, mining camps and towns sprang like mushrooms in the Sierra foothill belt. Locations were controlled by convenience to some rich bar or stream, often in narrow gulch or on steep mountain slope, rarely with regard to farming prospects or future lines of travel, activity or centers of population, accounting for the desertion of so many of them with the later changed conditions.

The Spaniards extended the exploration of California with exasperating slowness during the half century and more that they were in undisturbed possession. After Juan B. de Anza's time, in 1774, most of the information concerning the interior was gathered in the search for sites for a projected interior parallel line of missions, or by punitive military expeditions pursuing runaway neophytes.

Thus in 1804 Padre Martin crossed the range to the Tulares, which he appears to have explored as far as the Kings River. Gov. Jose J. de Arrillaga (March 1800-July 1814), an enterprising soldier and a more zealous religionist than any of his predecessors, planned in 1806, a more extensive exploration of the interior than any before undertaken. A party was sent out from each of the four presidios. The one from Santa Barbara headed direct across the range via Santa Inez to the neighborhood of Buena Vista and Kern lakes and passing eastward reexplored at least part of the region that Padre Garces visited thirty years before. It returned via Mission San Gabriel, reporting the Indians well disposed but only one available mission site.

In September, 1806, Ensign Gabriel Moraga, great Indian fighter and the most enterprising of the soldier explorers of his day, left Mission San Juan Bautista with a party of fifteen, crossed direct to the San Joaquin River which he had named on an earlier visit, striking the river near the northern line of Fresno County. Turning north, he discovered and named the Mariposa River and he found what he regarded as a fairly good site near the present city of Merced. Continuing north, he crossed three other rivers which he named, and then came upon the Tuolumne tribe of Indians—the first recorded mention of them.

At a large stream which some previous expedition possibly commanded by him had named, Moraga turned back on October 4, dividing his party by sending one section along the eastern side of the valley and skirting the Sierra foothills, while the other wended its way further westward. At any rate Moraga observed the entire valley to its southern limit more thoroughly than it had ever before come under human scrutiny. As the result of these expeditions, President Tapis, who had succeeded Lasuen as head of the missions, reported four or five good sites discovered, but that a new presidio would have to be provided to protect them.

In 1807 Moraga made another journey to the San Joaquin Valley with a party of seventy-five, going as far as the foothills of the Sierras: and in 1810 two more. On the first he started out from the Mission San Jose and returned via San Juan Bautista: on the other he revisited the Merced country in quest of runaways, captured thirty and brought back a few hostiles.

The accompanying padres said that they found the Indians generally tractable and well disposed. In the Tulare country many children were presented for baptism, but as no assurance was forthcoming that they would be reared in the faith the padres declined to administer the sacrament. They baptized however many old and sick people, who were in immediate danger of death, and remained with some of these until the end.

Moraga is admittedly foremost in the early exploration visits to the interior of California, but there is one other—Padre Francisco Garcés—to share honors for an intrepid undertaking. By this time eight missions had been founded, three more projected along the coast and Padre Serra had had his heart's desire gratified in the mission at San Francisco dedicated to St. Francis, patron saint of his priestly order. Padre Garcés was of the Portola first land expedition from Sonora in Mexico to Monterey in California in 1774, and one of the most remarkable of missionary explorers of the southwest. He was located at a frontier mission near the Apache country border, exposed to all the dangers from those daring marauders. He was left behind at Yuma "to teach religion" to the Indians until Anza's return from his second land expedition, in 1775-76, with settlers from the Colorado with which to found the San Francisco mission.

Without following up the itinerary, suffice it to say that, when ready in February to begin one of the longest and most dangerous journeys undertaken by him, it was with the hope of opening another route north of that which Anza had trailed across the inhospitable desert and more direct from the Colorado to the Mission of San Luis Obispo, or as far north as Monterey, if fortune favored.

On this journey he discovered the Mojave River at its sink and reached San Gabriel mission in March, crossing the San Bernardino mountains. In the Tulare valley he came upon Indians differing from any before met with in that they lived in enclosed camps, each family in its own house, walled, tule roofed and with nightly guard stationed at each house. These Indians aided him to cross the Kern River near the present site of Bakersfield. A five days northward journey brought him to White River, where, having no more presents for distribution and being dependent upon strange tribes for food, he turned back reluctantly, having reached the latitude of Tulare Lake, though he did not behold it as he was probably not far from the base of the mountains and much farther east.

To paraphrase Z. S. Eldredge's *History of California*: He was now in that great interior valley toward which the gold hunters of the world turned so eagerly three-quarters of a century later. Lightly concealed in the beds of the mountain streams farther north, lay more gold than Cortez had wrung from Mexico or Pizarro from Peru . . . and succeeding generations would find in the soil of the valley itself a far more permanent source of wealth. He had opened the way thither alone, unhelped by a single fellow being of his kind or kindred, he had explored it, braving the unknown dangers of the wilderness, the heat and thirst of the desert, the rush of mountain torrents, the ferocity of wild beasts, and the treachery of savages. He had reduced himself so nearly to the level of the savage that he was able to live as he lived, feed as he fed, on the vilest food, sleeping as he slept, in his filthy and vermin haunted camps, and exposing his life constantly to his treacherous impulses. And it all availed nothing!

On rejoining his Indian companions who had refused to proceed farther with him among the unknown tribes, Garcés set out by return route more to the east than the one by which he had come. He probably crossed the mountains at the Tehachapi pass, following the present day route of the Southern Pacific railroad to the neighborhood of Mojave, and thence made direct for the Colorado and Yuma country and following the Gila arrived at San Xavier del Bac in September.

In this long tour he was accompanied only by Indians, his one associate companion, Estavan Tarabel, a runaway San Gabriel mission neophyte, who had proven a failure as a guide on Anza's first Sonora-Monterey overland expedition. The Indians acted as interpreters but when they failed him Garcés had recourse to the sign language. To arouse interest in his story of religion he exhibited his pictorial banner. He also relied upon his compass which never failed to interest and delight the Indian, and his cross, rosary and

missal. In his rewritten diary, he furnished much information which should have been of moment to the authorities, "but it was not for the reason that they did not use it."

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## CHAPTER V

TULARE SWAMPS OF VALLEY THE RENDEZVOUS OF RENEGADE NEO-PHYTES AND OUTLAWS IN GENERAL. FREMONT HESITATED NOT TO BUY STOLEN HORSES. FAGES, FIRST WHITE MAN TO LOOK UPON INTERIOR VALLEY. PURSUIT AND SURRENDER OF REVOLTING SANTA BARBARA CHANNEL INDIANS. BATTLE WITH THE FUGITIVE SANTA CLARA MISSION CONVERTS IN 1829. VALLEJO COUNTENANCES A SHOCKING BUTCHERY OF HAPLESS PRISONERS. KIDNAPING OF GENTILE CHILDREN.

The unexplored interior, or that central portion that was at all known to the Californians, was named the Tulares, or the Tulare country, because of the immense tule swamps formed in the depression or slough between Tulare Lake and the great bend of the San Joaquin, and above it by the Kern and other small bodies of water from the streams from the Sierras on the east and south. This slough carried the surplus waters of lake and upper part of valley off into the rivers in flood seasons. The valley was dry under foot in summer and autumn seasons and in drouth periods. Around the lakes and sloughs for miles, along almost the full length of the San Joaquin and the lower half of the Sacramento and over a large territory of low ground about their mouths, extensive tule covered swamp lands formed, salty where affected by ocean tides but fresh or brackish where not.

The tule swamps, apparently one immense tract to the eye, were at intervals visited by the Spaniards and the Californians in pursuit of deserting Indians, and horse and cattle thieves. That region now embraced in Fresno, Kings and Tulare counties was inhabited by a warlike band of horse riding Indians, who not infrequently descended upon missions and ranches to run off stock and particularly mustangs, the Indian having a great fondness for horseflesh as an article of diet. The renegades piloted their wilder brothers on the forays and raids. These Tulareans were never subdued by the Spaniards, and the Tulares became in time a rendezvous for the runaway neophytes of the missions. They were also resorted to by horse thieves from New Mexico and elsewhere, and by Spanish and American adventurers to buy horses. John C. Fremont, concerning whom Senator Nesmith of Oregon once said that he had the credit with some people of having found everything west of the Rockies, had no moral scruples on his 1846 expedition to buy 187 horses from these Tulareans, despite the warning of John A. Sutter that he would receive stolen animals. A hunting knife and a handful of beads bought a horse.

Many were the expeditions sent to the Tulares. The first of which there is record was in 1773, when Pedro Fages with a few soldiers sallied out from San Luis Obispo across the Coast Range to the vicinity of Tulare Lake in pursuit of runaways. He was the first white man to look upon the great interior valley.

This Fages was a brave soldier, an undaunted explorer, a pioneer of pioneers and a gallant and picturesque figure of early California, who as a subaltern was prominent and foremost in the first land explorations of California as well as of the bay of San Francisco with Portola. He was California's first comandante of the military (1769-1773). He quarreled with Father President Serra, who had him deposed, but later retracted his

accusations as unmerited. He was the fourth governor (1782-1790) and during his regime the wife's accusations and actions involved him in a juicy scandal agitating Monterey social circles from center to circumference. The end all was to prove that Fages was more sinned against than sinning, and the donna a woman, whose tact and discretion left much to be desired. In his retirement days, Fages was never out but he was followed by a band of children, attracted by the candies that he stuffed his pockets with for distribution among them.

The Tulares as the refuge of outlaws and evildoers was not infrequently the scene of conflicts with them. In 1805 a small military party was sent out from Mission San Jose to punish gentiles (Indians that were never affiliated with mission) who had attacked a missionary who had gone on an errand of mercy to their rancharia, and one of whose attendants had been killed. This party pursued the malcontents as far as the San Joaquin River, recovering thirty or forty runaways and capturing a lot of gentiles.

The routed survivors of the general uprising of February, 1824, against the Santa Barbara channel cordon of missions, fled to the valley and were pursued in June following by 103 soldiers with two field pieces. The Indians when overtaken in camp at Tulare Lake displayed a white flag. A conference followed, the two priests acted as negotiators, and as a result unconditional surrender, pardon and enforced return to their respective missions. The number engaged in this revolt was upwards of 400. Had their secret conspiracy succeeded, there would have been massacre at all the missions. Its failure discouraged other attempts for a time. Santa Inez and Purisima with burning of the buildings and Santa Barbara were the missions attacked.

Not until the spring of 1829 was there another general uprising, this time of the neophytes of Santa Clara and San Jose, who deserted and fortified themselves with gentiles near the San Joaquin River. A San Francisco expedition of fifteen men under Sergeant Antonio Soto was dispatched to capture the fugitives and destroy the fortification, but it was repulsed in penetrating a thicket of willows and brambles and withdrew to San Jose, where Soto died from his wounds. The Indians celebrated their victory with feasting and dancing, while neighboring rancharias made common cause with them, and the uprising threatened to become a dangerous one, necessitating rigorous repressive measures. Jose Sanchez was sent with a second expedition of forty from the San Francisco presidio but retired to San Jose without risking a second storming of the inner works on finding that the Indians had set up several strong lines of wooden palisades, the first of which had been destroyed.

A third expedition of one hundred from Monterey under Ensign M. G. Vallejo joined the Sanchez force with Indian auxiliaries, and after a desperate fight the fugitives were driven from their intrenchments, unable to withstand the musketry and cannonading. After the fight, "a most shocking and horrible butchery of prisoners took place." The auxiliaries ranging themselves in a circle were permitted to exercise their skill in archery upon the hapless prisoners in their midst, others were hanged from trees with vine ropes and old women shot down in cold blood. Estanislao, the native alcalde, who instigated the uprising, escaped the slaughter, delivered himself up to Father Narciso Duran of San Jose who concealed him for a time and finally secured his pardon.

Finishing his bloody campaign, Vallejo returned to San Jose and Monterey. Father Duran attempted to have him prosecuted for "the greatest barbarity ever perpetrated in the territory." One soldier was sentenced to five years penal servitude for shooting down a defenseless old squaw, but Vallejo escaped trial. Duran, who as a Spaniard opposed the republic, as did all the missionaries, wielded less influence than Vallejo, who as usual ranged himself on the popular side and was in the line of promotion, wherefore

according to Historian T. H. Hittell "by degrees the bloody story was sup-  
planted in the public mind by matters which were supposed to be of more  
immediate importance."

Gen. M. G. Vallejo, as he was later known, was a man who has been  
given much prominence in the written early history of California, as well  
under the Mexican as the American regime. He was a delegate to the Mon-  
terey constitutional convention, honored politically then and afterward, a  
leader and spokesman for the California-born Spanish speaking population,  
lived the life of a feudal lord and baron at Sonoma with the history of the  
region north of San Francisco largely that of his own family, held the  
military title of General to his dying day yet never commanded more soldiers  
than would make up the complement of one company, revelled in wealth  
and luxury in the halcyon days and lived his later days in comparative pov-  
erty, was as proud as the most blue-blooded Hidalgo until the very last, was  
honored by the Society of California Pioneers, having arrived July, 1808,  
and by the Native Sons of the Golden West, a quoted authority on early  
California history, a friend at one time and the opponent at another, of the  
dominant Roman Catholic church, importing and collecting for private read-  
ing and library in his younger days the very books that were forbidden by  
the church, and foremost as an influential individual in yielding to and advoc-  
ating the change under American territorial acquisition.

A reading between the lines of history impresses one that he was a very  
accommodating spirit, best described by the present-day term of a "political  
trimmer." His advocacy of the American regime was at a time when his  
opposition might have been feared for its possible results when the popular  
sentiment was not over friendly to the American cause.

But what mattered it that a few Indians, more or less, were wantonly  
massacred? Some of the whites were no more considerate or humane.

Towards the end of 1833, because of the frequency of raids by Indian  
horse thieves, it became the custom to send monthly expeditions, aided by  
rancheros, to overawe the marauders. It was not unusual for them to make  
slave prisoners of gentile children, wherever met with. An instance came  
under the notice of Governor Figueroa in the early part of 1835 as the result  
of a San Jose expedition and the kidnaping of seven children. He de-  
nounced the outrage in unmeasured terms, ordered the papooses placed in  
the mission until the parents could call for them, directed that no more  
expeditions be sent except in actual pursuit of horse thieves, and then only  
with express governmental permission. Figueroa had great sympathy for  
the Indian, due as much to his humanity as to his Aztec blood. He was so  
well thought of that he was called the "Benefactor of the Territory of Alta  
California."

Lieut. Theodore Talbot, U. S. N., who had been left in command with  
nine men at Santa Barbara in September at the outbreak of the Californian  
insurrection, following the raising of the flag and after the retaking of Los  
Angeles, was called upon to surrender by one of the California military  
commanders. Talbot refused, but unable to resist the force of 200 against  
him retired to the mountains. His little party fought the pursuers, and fire  
was set to the woods to burn them out. Talbot and men escaped the flames  
and eluded the pursuit. An old soldier of ex-Governor Micheltorena, who  
was unfriendly to the Californians because of their expulsion of his former  
chief, piloted the pursued ninety miles across the mountains into the Tulares.  
From here they groped their way for about a month, mostly on foot, endur-  
ing hardships and suffering, for some 500 miles to Monterey, arriving  
early in November and rejoining Fremont after having been given up  
for dead.

## CHAPTER VI

FRESNO COUNTY IS THE HEART OF THE SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY. THE CITY IS THE STATE'S PRACTICAL GEOGRAPHICAL CENTER. PHYSICAL FEATURES OF THE GREAT INTERIOR BASIN. CLIMATE A MOST VALUABLE ASSET. DEVELOPMENT CHANGE DUE TO IRRIGATION. DESTINY IS TO SUPPORT A MUCH LARGER FARMING POPULATION. FULLEST GROWTH WILL BE ATTAINED WITH CONSERVATION OF WATER AND FORESTS, AND NAVIGABILITY OF ITS MAIN WATER COURSE.

Fresno County lies in the heart of the San Joaquin Valley, and the latter is the central portion of the state. Fresno City is practically the geographical center of the state, as it is the central spot of the valley. As valley or county, the region is one with many claims to distinction and not a few to supremacy. Fresno is one of the five richest agricultural counties in the United States.

Between the San Joaquin and the Kings rivers, streams that rise in the perpetual snows of the Sierras, bringing the life-giving waters out upon the parched plains, to yield in orchard, vineyard and alfalfa fields, returns greater than ever did the local gold placers, lies a broad-backed divide, known as the Fresno plateau, though to the eye it is a part of the undulating fertile plains of the great valley. The plain-like Sacramento-San Joaquin Valley—The Great Valley of California—was once a vast inland sea. Geological proof of this is not lacking. The plain is 400 miles long and fifty to seventy wide, in the very heart of the state, nestling at the foot of the Sierra Nevadas, or Snowy Mountains, and according to scientists is one of the oldest, present day, existing physical features of California. Sparsely settled as yet, the prophetic predict that it will some day support the bulk of the state's agricultural population.

The Sierra Nevada is a range of extreme scenic grandeur and natural beauty, some of its valleys, as the Yosemite, the Forks of the Kings, and the Hetch-Hetchy, presenting sublime scenic spectacles. The range protects from the east the long, central, fruitful valleys of the San Joaquin and of the Sacramento. The Coast Range parallels the sea coast line and protects from the west. They unite near the 40th parallel and combined, extend northward into Oregon as the Cascade Range. The Great Valley is a basin between the two first ranges, gradually rising to them through foothills. The northern branch of the trough-like plain is known as the Sacramento; and the southern as the San Joaquin Valley, each drained by a river of the same name, heading from opposite directions, uniting in the valley's western center and coursing westward to empty into San Francisco Bay.

There was a time when the combined stream went out into the ocean through the Golden Gate, but owing to the sinking of the coast, in a great convulsion of nature and the earth, of which there is a hazy Indian tradition, the river was "drowned." Tidal influence is felt now no further inland than at Sacramento and Stockton. The coast subsidence once flooded the lower part of the valley, as even now at the junction of the rivers an overflowed delta and marsh is forming and slowly being made into dry land by silting, the surface overgrown with tules. These reclaimed marshlands have proven remarkably productive. When the gold seekers first appeared, the Feather River was navigable by small boat to Marysville in Yuba County, and the Sacramento as far as Red Bluff in Tehama County. Today they are scarcely



navigable above Sacramento. The San Joaquin carries less water than the Sacramento, although dredging could make it navigable.

Time was when the San Joaquin was navigable for freight scows, towed by light draught tugs, in spring high water, above the present railroad bridge across the river at Herndon in this county. Miller & Lux provisioned their big cattle ranches thus, and by water sent to market hides and spring wool clips. Millerton, the old county seat, was at times so provided with merchandise as a cheaper means of transportation than hauling by freight wagons from Stockton. The river was a navigable stream as far as Sycamore Point, above Herndon, and was so delineated on the old maps. So well recognized was the fact that when a bridge was put in at Firebaugh, it was made a draw so as not to impede navigation of the stream. A demonstration river journey from Stockton with a light river steamer was successfully made in the summer of 1911 in connection with an abortive agitation for a reduction of railroad freight rates and a congressional appropriation for the dredging of the river as a navigable stream as in the days of yore to near Fresno.

The Coast range streams flowing eastward into the San Joaquin are small and dry in the summer. Those from the Sierras, flowing westward, are large, permanent and supply the water for irrigation. The main drainage line of the valley is consequently forced over to the west side by the delta accumulations on the Sierra side. In evidence of this, the Kings has silted up so large a delta as to block the one time continuous drainage of the valley and form Tulare Lake behind the dam as a permanent body of water. Later so much water was taken for irrigation that with the evaporation the lake almost went dry and the lake shores were farmed. A few years ago, six in fact, the water accumulated again and the lake was reproduced but of reduced size. The Kern River's debris also dammed the valley, creating Buena Vista and Kern Lakes at the extreme southern end, though in high water stages Buena Vista discharges northward into the Tulare basin and also southward into Kern Lake.

The western sides of the valley are much drier than the eastern because of the Coast range barrier, and therefore are in greater need of irrigation. Much of this land will bear good grain crops in average rainy years. Other large areas are semi arid and suitable only for grazing during the spring months. Nearly one-third of Fresno County's area is on the dry west side, which if ever brought under irrigation would yield results to duplicate the agricultural wonders of the past and add immensely to the productive wealth of the county.

The climatic extremes of the valley are greater than in the coast region. The summers are hot, but the air is dry and the temperature is borne therefore with less discomfort than the summer eastern weather. In this dry summer heat, the valley counties have a most valuable asset. It ripens crops earlier and forms saccharine in the fruit, while it enables the grower to dry it with the aid of the sun. The lack of humidity prevents dew at night and thus maintains the drying process by night and day. The humidity is at times as low as six percent, and while the mercury may register 110 degrees this temperature is felt less for discomfort than one twenty or thirty degrees lower in a region of humidity. This desiccating summer heat has made Fresno the world's raisin district, an extensive citrus fruit grower and a leader in sun-dried fruit. Sunstroke is as great a rarity as a snowstorm. The mean daily average maximum temperature from May to September is eighty-one degrees, and the mean minimum during the remaining period fifty-eight degrees.

Experiment has demonstrated the existence of an orange belt extending practically the entire length of the eastern side of the valley from Bakersfield, in Kern County to Oroville, in Butte County. In this connection there is the interesting fact to be noted that oranges ripen earlier than in Southern

California by one month to six weeks, probably because the southern belt is not protected from the ocean winds and cooling fogs as the central is, and the growth and maturation of the fruit is slower. Latitude has apparently little influence on the climate. Near the coast there is in reality only a few degrees difference between the northern and southern temperature, yet there is an earlier appearance of spring fruit, and in the ripening of oranges in the north than in the south. One must seek for other modifying local conditions in the ocean, the wind and in mountain barriers to account for the anomalous climatic variations.

The semi-arid plains were once considered valuable only as stock ranges. Grain was sowed, but with disastrous results in dry years. An industrial change came about with irrigation, and great ranch tracts were subdivided into small ones, which could be better taken care of and yielded larger returns. Fresno County is proof of what irrigation will do and has done. It is one of the pioneer irrigated regions of the coast, the first experiment having been made in the early 70's near Fresno with four sections in wheat. Fresno is pointed out today as the typical California irrigation district.

Describing this district system, Department of Agriculture Bulletin 237 on "Irrigation in California" said of Fresno: "Considering its area, it is the most highly developed district in the state." It added:

"Before the first irrigation of grain was attempted near Fresno, the land could scarcely be sold at \$2.50 an acre, but as soon as the results of irrigation became known, land sales increased and twenty-five dollars to thirty dollars an acre was given freely for the raw land, which now when in deciduous trees or vines is worth \$250 to \$500 per acre. The citrus lands of the foothills that now sell for \$1,500 to \$2,000 per acre when in full bearing groves would be valueless without irrigation."

California's great valley is exceptionally located and conditioned for a much larger population than it now supports. Encompassed as it is by mountains, the drainage channels converge at Carquinez straits, from which there is freightage with the world by deep sea vessels, receiving their cargoes "at the very door of the valley." It is maintained that when the Sacramento will have been navigably deepened to Red Bluff and the San Joaquin dredged and by a canal tied in with the more southern Tulare and Kern basins, the great region will be in a position to begin a supplemental development without bounds. The scheme has been given serious thought and tentative plans for it studied. To help out this water transportation project, the valley is at present served by two transcontinental railroads with numerous feeders.

The student of history cannot overlook the fact how little the waterways influenced the exploration and settlement of California, or even to aid in the transportation of crops. Save for irrigation, the streams of the state have not assisted inland development, excepting the lower Sacramento, the San Joaquin in the days gone by, and the smaller arms of San Francisco Bay. Yet the economic importance of the streams as sources of power to be developed for commercial and manufacturing enterprises cannot be ignored. The electric energy to be generated and transmitted to any point is limitless. There is a woeful waste of the flood waters, so that with the agricultural development of the valley for the greater population to come conservation is imperative, because even now the increased demands require such storage for use in summer, a time when water is needed most and is scarcest.

Of the three largest rivers of the state, the San Joaquin-Sacramento is the most important irrigation water provider with its many branches heading in the snow-covered Sierras. The Sacramento in the northern arm of the valley carries water in abundance, it is thought, for all future agricultural needs, besides navigability. The San Joaquin with the other streams of the southern arm carry not so much water as will be required for the larger

area to be irrigated. The fuller development of this region, and of California for that matter, will be governed in large measure by careful and rational conservation of the forests and streams. The government has taken up this important subject.

The Great Valley is well adapted for water transportation, and the statement is not such a wild flight of fancy that there will be a day when the natural water courses will have been deepened, and light draught vessels will dot the plains of the interior basin. There is no insurmountable engineering difficulty against a canal from Buena Vista Lake at the extreme southern end of the valley northwest through Tulare Lake and via the San Joaquin to tide-water. Indeed such a project in part was once in the air in Fresno County to connect Tulare Lake with the San Joaquin River.

Articles of incorporation of the enterprise were filed, and the town-plat of Fresno City was recorded as on Fresno Slough, or the South Branch of the San Joaquin, by A. J. Downer as the agent for C. A. Hawley and W. B. Cummings, on April 25, 1860. The plat pictured an ambitious town of eighty-nine blocks on both sides of the slough channel, located a mile or two from what is today Tranquillity town in the big farm colony of that name. La Casa Blanca (White House) the principal structure of the town on paper, occupied as headquarters and the upper floor as a hotel, stood for years a landmark on the slough after the project was abandoned.

About the time of this enterprise two men, Stone and Harvey, attempted to reach Tulare Lake with the small stern-wheeler, Alta, descended the San Joaquin and the Kings River Slough as far as Summit Lake, near the southern boundary line of the county and bordering on the Laguna de Tache grant, but there it was stranded in one of the slough branches and abandoned upon subsidence of the water in the slough by drainage consequent upon the dredging of the section nearest the San Joaquin, upon the proof of which labor land patent had issued.

Noncompliance however with the law in other respects in the disposal of the reclaimed land resulted in successful litigation in San Francisco to void the patent, and the enterprise came to naught, leaving the stern-wheeler with its smoke-stack as another strange landmark to excite the curiosity of the mail-stage passenger and of the lone traveler or wanderer on the inhospitable and drear West Side plains.

Later the stack was removed and did service for years for one of the steam sawmills in the mountain forests in the county.

The only craft that ever passed from Tulare Lake to tidewater was in 1868, when Richard Swift took a small scow-boat, 16x18, through, loading it with a ton of honey at the mouth of Kings River, passing through Summit Lake and Fish Slough, thence through what was known as Fresno Slough into the San Joaquin. It was with the hope of the successful issue of the canal enterprise that on January 21, 1860, the steamboat, Visalia, was completed on Tulare Lake for the navigation of the San Joaquin between Stockton and Fresno City, where the overland stages halted and near which at the head of Fresno Slough steamers landed freight up to a few years before the valley railroad extension from Lathrop.

The 1911 agitation to open the river to navigation came to naught because the government engineers reported that the traffic in promise would not warrant the expense of dredging and improving the river channel to make it navigable. At any rate the community succeeded some years later in doing away with the discriminatory terminal freight rate against Fresno and river navigation was left as a matter for agitation for future years. It is like harking back to the dim past to read the following newspaper publication of forty years ago (June, 1878) of practically the last attempt at river navigation:

"The steamer Clara Belle, Capt. Jack Greier, unloaded lumber and posts for Gustavus Herminghaus at Parker's old store, last Monday. This is only

fourteen miles below the railroad on the San Joaquin at Sycamore and is the highest point on the river ever reached by steamer, and the only time a steamer has come up so far since 1867."

And in explanation thereof the following:

"Gustavus Herminghaus, who owns a very large tract of land bordering the San Joaquin River and the Fresno Slough, has already received 250,000 feet of lumber by steamer, from San Francisco and will fence in some 15,000 acres of fine grazing land. The fence will follow the line of surveyed road from White's to Fresno, and will force travel from its present and long used route along the river."

## CHAPTER VII

"THE HELL OF '49". MANIFESTED SHIPMENTS OF GOLD. DISPUTED DATE OF DISCOVERY. NO HINT IN LEGEND OR TRADITION. ALL FLOCKED TO THE MINES. PREVIOUSLY REPORTED FINDS. VALLEYS EXPLORED AS NEVER BEFORE. CALIFORNIA STAMPEDE LIKENED TO THAT OF THE CRUSADER DAYS. A WILD AND RECKLESS POPULATION GATHERS. SOME FIGURES ON THE EXTRAORDINARY ACCESSIONS BY LAND AND SEA. ARRIVALS FAR EXCEED DEPARTURES FOR THE YEARS 1852 TO 1856.

Total manifested gold shipments from California ports via Panama from April, 1849, to the close of 1856, not including unascertained sums taken on privately, are given as \$365,505,454. Estimated yield is reported as \$596,-162,061. Known receipts from this state foot up \$522,505,454, not including foreign shipments other than to England, nor quantity manufactured in the United States, indicating a state total yield after analysis of the figures of about \$600,000,000. Estimate has been made that since discovery, gold bullion in an amount exceeding \$1,500,000,000 in value has been produced in California.

Singular it is that the exact date of Marshall's discovery near Coloma, on the south fork of the American River, should be a disputed question. Hittell gives January 19, 1848, as the date. Bancroft says on Marshall's authority that the find was made between the 18th and 20th, but that the 19th has generally been accepted as the date. Marshall was so confused as to time that Bancroft by other records fixed the day as the 24th. And yet the event has been ranked second only in importance to California's discovery and later settlement by the padres.

A commission had been appointed by Gov. William D. Stephens of California under the authority of a legislative bill, the inspiration of that exclusively Californian fraternal order, of three members of the Native Sons of the Golden West, to make research of historical data to ascertain, if possible, the date of the discovery of gold and also to correct the date of inscription on Marshall's monument at Coloma. Under Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 25 (42nd Session) the committee named by the governor, Phillip B. Bekeart representing the Pioneers of California, Fred H. Jung the N. S. G. W. and Grace S. Stoerner the N. D. G. W., made report October 15, 1918, based on entries in historical diaries, recorded statements and conclusions drawn therefrom, to find that January 24, 1848, and not the 19th, is the correct date of the discovery of gold in California and to recommend that the inscription on the monument of Marshall at Coloma in El Dorado County be corrected accordingly.

Little dreamed the Mexicans of the value of the land they ceded, other than as to its probable future value commercially. As little, the buyers

how fat the soil with wealth untold and that rivers flowed over golden beds. Between the discovery and cession periods of the territory, many examinations were made by enterprising and inquisitive officers and civilians, but none discovered that the Sierra Nevada streams poured golden sands into the valleys of the Sacramento and the San Joaquin. No hint of it in legend or tradition was learned from white or red man. As Historian John Frost remarks: "A nation's ransom lay within their grasp but strange to say it escaped their notice—it flashed and sparkled all in vain." Capt. Sutter, despite a residence of ten years in the vicinity of the discovered placer regions, was none the richer or wiser for the treasure about him lightly concealed under the surface soil.

It is a remarkable fact, which has been more or less commented upon, that with the insatiable greed for gold the Spaniard, and those that followed him, never made investigation to ascertain the existence or non-existence of it, or that if they did and made discovery that the secret was kept inviolate. The fact is, however, that the existence of gold was unknown by them and the Indians. The latter had no golden ornaments—in fact did not know of the value of gold, until the white man taught him it in barter at the trading post stores, and then further presumed on his ignorance by exchanging gold ounce for commodity or whiskey ounce, glass bottle included.

Governmental examinations had been made but no discoveries of minerals resulted. True, there was conjecture that from the region's undoubted volcanic origin and peculiar geological features gold or other valuable mineral deposits might exist. Chance disclosed what inquiry had failed to reveal, and in a few weeks California was agitated to fever heat, nearly all the population became infected and flocked to the mines. By August some 4,000 people, including Indians, were washing the river sands and gravel for gold, the washings confined to the low wet grounds and the margins of the streams and the daily yields from ten dollars to fifty dollars per man but often much exceeded.

Every stream in the valleys came under scrutiny. Gold was found on almost every tributary of the Sacramento, and the richest earth on the Feather and its branches, the Yuba and the Bear, and on Weber's creek, a tributary of the American fork. Prospectings in the valley of the San Joaquin also resulted, but later, in gold discoveries on the Cosumnes, the San Joaquin, Fresno, Chowchilla, Merced and Tuolumne, besides in lesser quantities in the ravines of the western Coast Range as far as Los Angeles.

The valleys were explored as never before, and with the spread of the contagion man came to know the San Joaquin Valley, up to now the stamping ground of wild Indians and outlaws, the grazing ranges of immense herds of elk, antelope and wild mustangs, with the plains in their wake foot-printed by the stalking grizzly bear and the loping coyote. The territory now comprising Fresno County was absolutely unknown and with state government was yet to be a part of Mariposa until independent county organization in April, 1856.

There had been reports of gold discoveries before Marshall's, but if true they created little more than local stirs and did not come to the knowledge of the enterprising and wide awake Americans. That Capt. J. D. Smith found gold in 1826 on his first crossing of the Sierras "near Mono Lake" may be true, but if he did it was on the eastern side of the range. In 1841 gold was found in Santa Clara County on Piru Creek, a branch of the Santa Clara, but the find in March, 1842, at San Francisquito near Los Angeles, as mentioned elsewhere, was a genuine one, and it may be said that considerable gold was extracted in all the region from the Santa Clara River to Mount San Bernardino.

In greater or lesser quantity, it has been found in almost every part of the state, but nowhere and never in such deposits as on the western slope of the Sierras in the quartz veins, in the gravel and clay of ancient

river beds and in the channels of existing streams. It is another remarkable fact that geology has not been able to explain that gold should be found on the one side and silver on the other of the Sierras. The gold occurs in virgin state, the silver in various ores. The western slope of the Sierras rich in gold, the eastern in silver, the Coast range is equally rich in quicksilver in red cinnabar, especially at New Almaden (1845) south of San Jose, later found at New Idria in San Benito (in a corner formerly of Fresno) and about St. Helena in Napa County.

There never was and has not been since, in history, such a stampede as was started by the discovery at Coloma. In twelve months it attracted to California more than 100,000 people of all nationalities, and commerce sprang up with China, Mexico, Chili and Australia, while yet in governmental confusion. The world was wild and delirious, and while only another remarkable incident in the state's history, it did hasten as no other event could have the assumption of state sovereignty and the development so certain to follow acquisition of the land. There was a wild scramble for the mines, the daily gold accumulations ranged from \$30,000 to \$50,000, the discovery wrought a marvelous and almost incredible change in the character of the country, laborers, professionals and tradesmen tramped the crowded trail for mountain gulch or ravine, soldier and sailor deserted, and there was a social upheaval with excesses and lawlessness for a time, with labor commanding fabulous wages and prices of commodities and foodstuffs prohibitive, even when they could be had. The exodus to California has for its magnitude been likened to that of the Crusades of the Middle Ages. The Annals of San Francisco, published in 1854, records that there was soon gathered a mixed population of the "wildest, bravest, most intelligent yet most reckless and perhaps dangerous beings ever collected into one small district of country." Thousands came after the American occupation not to stay but to pick up a fortune quickly and return home. It was no longer the place "for a slow, an overcautious or a desponding man."

California was in complication over land and mining claims. The Indian resented the taking of his hunting grounds by the miners, and with the uncertainty of things the old regime bewailed the coming of the Gringo, and lamented the discovery that attracted the horde as a green pasture field does the locust or the grasshopper. The dreamy days at the haciendas, life at the old missions with the patriarchal padres, all the idle days were no more. A feverish excitement prevailed with gambling, drunkenness, horse-racing and stealing, claim jumping and worse things. The days of '49 "beheld one of the most reckless, heterogeneous societies ever brought together."

In January, 1849, according to a memorial of Senators Gwin and Fremont to Congress, while waiting for the state's admission to take their seats, the estimated population was:

Californians, 13,000; Americans, 8,000; Foreigners, 5,000; Total, 26,000.

As a result of the gold find, a population of at least 107,000 was claimed for the state as follows:

Estimate as above.....	13,000
Pacific ports sea and Sonora land arrivals	
January-April '49 .....	8,000
San Francisco sea arrivals, April-December	
1849 .....	29,000
Other ports .....	1,000
Southern overland .....	8,000
From Mexico .....	7,000
Deserting sailors .....	3,000
Overland via Salt Lake.....	25,000
<hr/> Total .....	<hr/> 107,000



All enumerations of the day may be accepted as inflations and little better than wild-eyed estimates because of the shifting character of the population as well as because of the other difficulties in making any reliable canvass. The variance of the various reported figures is irreconcilable. The figures emphasize though the immensity of the Californiaward movement of the day. The world had been inoculated with the gold fever, California had a heterogeneous population, but no government, save the makeshift authority exercised by a small and utterly inadequate military force.

California had leaped into world wide importance with Marshall's discovery of gold in that mill race on that disputed January day in 1848. The excitement and immigration and the insistent demand for a state government furnish a chapter in history without like in the world. Somewhere someone has written that the brilliant audacity of California's methods for admission into the union is without parallel in the nation's history. Brilliantly audacious it was, truly, but only characteristic of California and the Californians and of the abnormal condition of the times.

Minerva, the mythological goddess typical of endowment of mind and prominent and distinctive as the figure in the foreground of the Great Seal of California, is emblematic and illustrative of its sudden springing into the maturity of statehood as no other before or since of the United States of America.

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## CHAPTER VIII

FIRST REPORTS FROM MINES EXCITE INCREDULITY. OFFICIAL CONFIRMATION IS GIVEN THEM. COLONEL MASON'S EXTRAVAGANT IDEA OF FIGURES. EVERYBODY IN THE EAST TALKED CALIFORNIA, AND PREPARED FOR THE GRAND RUSH. THE PLACERS ARE VISITED AND REPORTED ON. STATE GEOLOGIST TRASK'S PROPHECIES. FRESNO'S CAMPS OF THE SOUTHERN MINES. EARLY PROSPECTORS WERE A RESTLESS LOT. FIRST LOCAL MINING SETTLEMENTS. VARIATIONS IN GOLD DUST VALUATIONS.

First reports from Coloma and other placers excited general incredulity. The California Star on March 25, 1849, announced that gold dust was an article of traffic at Sutter's Fort. In size and character of nuggets the mines were pronounced much richer than the fields of Georgia, where gold was first discovered in the United States, also more so than anything ever placered in Mexico. A half pound parcel offered in San Francisco, in April, in payment for provisions was accepted at eight dollars per ounce, and the store was stamped to stare on the golden dust. On May 29, the Californian, and on June 14, the Star suspended, because the printers had vamoosed for the mines. Every sacrifice was being made to reach the mines.

Thomas O. Larkin, who had been consul at Monterey and secret agent of the government in the intrigue for the acquisition of California, wrote to Secretary of State James Buchanan, at Washington on June 1, 1848, describing conditions at San Francisco, from which then 200 to 300 had gone to the mines out of a population, according to the census of August, 1847, of 459, exclusive of the military and the Mission Dolores, and that about \$20,000 of dust had been exchanged for merchandise. Half the houses in the town were closed. Spades and shovels that sold for one dollar commanded ten dollars each in the mines.

In a second letter from Monterey of June 28, Larkin wrote that he had visited the mines and found them all and more than he had anticipated. Miners were scattered over one hundred miles of country from the Sacra-

mento to the San Joaquin, between which the placers extended. According to the best estimates, there were then 2,000 people at the mines, nine-tenths of them foreigners. Larkin believed that a few "thousand people in one hundred miles square of the Sacramento would yearly turn out the price that the United States was to pay for the new territory." Three-fourths of the houses in San Francisco were then empty, and were being sold for the cost price of the land. Even Monterey, sleeping the sleep of a Rip Van Winkle, had caught the infection.

The gold discovery had been made during the governorship of Colonel Mason, who on June 17, from Monterey, accompanied by Lieutenant Sherman, visited the mines, finding en route San Francisco almost deserted and everything going to waste and idle until arrival at Sutter's Fort on July 2, where there was life and business bustle. Mason visited the Lower mines at Mormon Diggings on the American River, where 200 men were at work. At Coloma, a little more than three months after the discovery, upwards of 4,000 were mining. Gold dust was abundant in everybody's hands. He estimated that the yield from the mines was from \$30,000 to \$50,000 daily, and as they were on public land he seriously debated whether or not to secure a reasonable fee for mining. He resolved not to interfere unless broils and crime demanded. Crime was infrequent though in the mines, and theft and robbery unknown in the early period, despite the insecure deposit places for treasure.

Mason was carried away by the excitement, and while acknowledging in an official letter to the adjutant general that he could not earlier bring himself to believe the reports concerning the wealth of the gold district he wrote:

"I have no hesitation now in saying that there is more gold in the country drained by the Sacramento and the San Joaquin Rivers than will pay the cost of the present war with Mexico a hundred times over."

No capital was required to obtain gold, as the laboring man required nothing but pick and shovel and tin pan with which to dig and wash the gravel, and many frequently picked gold in pieces of from one to six ounces out of the crevices of the rocks with butcher knives.

Mason's letter was published with President Polk's congressional message of December, 1848, and with the exhibited gold and cinnabar specimens from New Almaden, sent on by special messenger, the news was spread in official and authoritative form. The gold assayed over eighteen dollars an ounce.

In a letter to Commodore Jones at Mazatlan, Mason wrote that, treaty or no treaty, the gold discovery had decided California's destiny, and he raised his estimate that the yield would pay the war cost 500 times over. The war appropriation was \$10,000,000, with \$15,000,000 as the consideration for the land cession and \$3,000,000 assumed as a damage debt due Americans, a total of \$28,000,000, saying nothing of other expenses of the war. 100 times \$28,000,000 equals \$2,800,000,000. 500 times \$28,000,000 equals \$14,000,000,000. Mason was a little off on his figures: so was Larkin.

Many foreigners were at work at the mines, so many that certain localities were named after nationalities. The collection of the foreign miner's tax, afterward repealed, caused not a little friction, but the reported race hostility against the foreigner was exaggerated. Until the government should act in the matter, which it never did, General Riley upon his later visit said he would not disturb anyone in mining, nor would he countenance one class attempting to monopolize the workings of a mine or drive out any other.

The earliest important notice of the discovery was published in the Baltimore Sun of September 29, 1848, by which time private letters were arriving telling of the wonderful story. Soon all the newspapers were full of the subject and consignments of gold confirmed the tidings. Everybody talked California. The adventurous prepared for a general grand rush by land and sea, by latter route long before the great overland tide of '49 began. The Pacific Mail Steamship Company organized in April, 1848, and its first

steamer on the semi-monthly route between Panama and Astoria via San Francisco was the California, which arrived at San Francisco on February 18, 1849.

The early influx in the emigration flood to the gold placers was of Mexicans from Sonora, then Chilians and some Chinese. These assembled principally in the Southern Mines, which included the San Joaquin and its tributaries at the lower extremity of the Mother Lode originating in Mariposa County. Colonel Mason so much feared wholesale desertion of the garrisons that in contemplation of the thought that the laborer earned in the mines in a day more than double a soldier's pay and allowances for a month he added in a report: "I really think some extraordinary mark of favor should be given to those soldiers who remain faithful to their flag through this tempting crisis."

During the latter nine months in 1849, 233 vessels arrived in San Francisco from United States ports, besides 316 from foreign ports—a total of 549, averaging two daily and many unseaworthy, veritable "floating coffins." The overland caravans started in spring began to arrive in a continuous stream almost across the continent, and crossing the Sierras landed for a few years their human freight in the Sacramento and San Joaquin Valleys to scatter over the country. A great and unparalleled spectacle was this immigration of 1849.

### NORTHERN AND SOUTHERN MINES

In July, 1849, General Riley visited the mining regions by way of San Juan Bautista, crossing the San Joaquin near the mouth of the Merced and examining the principal camps on the Tuolumne and Stanislaus and their tributaries, then those on the Calaveras, Mokelumne, Cosumnes and American, returning to Monterey by way of Stockton. The mining country had by this time been divided in two sections, commonly known as the Northern and the Southern Mines. Sutter's Fort, or Sacramento, was the interior point from which the Northern Mines were reached, and Stockton, the new settlement on Mormon Slough of the San Joaquin, for the Southern, being also the distributing points for the districts and both accessible from San Francisco by water. The traffic was enormous. The rivers, naturally clear streams, had already commenced to become turbid, but they had deep, well-defined channels and navigation for vessels of considerable draught was as yet easy.

Many of the mining camps in the Sierra foothills became little towns, some to be abandoned with the impoverishment of the placers, others to advance from tent aggregations to villages of rough boarded houses, and yet others to permanency as towns. Not a few as in the San Joaquin Valley that had arisen to the dignity of county seats lost in time even that distinction with the advent of the railroad and the removal of the seat and were abandoned as in Merced, Fresno, Tulare and Kern Counties.

In 1856 Dr. Trask, the state geologist, reported that mining was successfully prosecuted in twenty-three counties. The aggregate area in which gold was known to exist was estimated at from 11,000 to 15,000 square miles, adding that "when this is compared with the area actually occupied (probably not exceeding 400 square miles and one-fourth of these old placers) the latter will be found to comprise a mere mite of our available resources. With our present population of the mining districts and the broad expanse of territory over which they are spread, they appear like mere specks dotting the surface of an inland sea, so indistinct as scarcely to be appreciable on the broad expanse by which they are surrounded." Trask described the gold region as extending from the Oregon line north to the Kern River south—460 miles long by from ten to 150 in width, and he classified the region into three distinct ranges—the Upper or Eastern, the Middle Placers

and the Valley mines. It was in the second range that the greater proportion of the mining community was located, more particularly in the central and eastern portions. The third range comprised the districts among the foothills extending westward into the eastern edge of the plains of the San Joaquin and Sacramento three to five miles and having a linear distance of about 250 miles.

The valley mines were on what constituted the high terraces of the plains composed mostly of alluvial drift. They were the most shallow of any of the discovered ranges and the most easily worked, though nearly coextensive with the middle or upper districts, and falling little short of the latter. In a review of the ranges, Trask said incidentally: "It will be seen that we have still enough and to spare for all who are present, and for all that may hereafter arrive, for at least the next half century. There need be but little fear of their failing to yield their annual crop of gold, as long, perhaps, as our valleys will yield their crops of grain."

The placers in the Fresno region were almost at the extremity of the Southern Mines. The accepted dividing line between the Northern and Southern Mines was the ridge on the north side of the north fork of the Mokelumne. All the rivers of the Southern Mines were tributaries of the San Joaquin. In extent of territory, population and yield, the Southern were almost the equal of the Northern mines in the early period, but they "petered out" more rapidly, and in a few years were comparatively exhausted, except for quartz outcroppings, and were favored by the Chinese and Indians more.

The rivers of this southern mining region were the Mokelumne, Calaveras, Stanislaus, Tuolumne, Merced and the San Joaquin (in the foothills and mountains), with their forks. Spots in favorable locations along the creeks as far south as the San Joaquin, where it comes down in a westerly direction from the Sierras, repaid the miners with good returns, but neither the placers nor the quartz veins were comparable with those further north. The fact is the mines in this locality gave out at the San Joaquin, as they did in the north where the Pitt River, tributary of the Sacramento, came from the same mountain chain, and yet according to general tradition Millerton on the San Joaquin in its palmy days of 1853 of the mining period was as lively a miner's village with as many saloons and as much drinking, as much gambling and as much roistering as any, isolated as it was in a pocket of the foothills out of the line of travel.

The gathered gold in gravels and sands was not of uniform value, size or shape. The variance was so great that an expert could readily distinguish them. The poorest usually came from the Kern River, much mixed with silver. It improved in Fresno County, and even here the gold varied much. It was better in Mariposa, and had a high standard in Tuolumne, Stanislaus and Calaveras. The main original deposits were in quartz or limestone veins on the western slope of the Sierras at elevations of 1,000 to 4,000 or 5,000 feet above sea level, and the chief of these was the Mother Lode, traceable at or near the surface, from Mariposa to Amador County with frequent branch veins. The Merced, Tuolumne, Stanislaus and Mokelumne Rivers, with some of their tributaries, cut the lode at points where it branched, eroding the quartz veins and depositing the gold down stream far or near.

### REMEMBERED EARLIEST CAMPS

Among the best remembered earliest mining camps in the northeastern Fresno County region were Coarse Gold Gulch, discovered in the summer of 1850, Texas Flat, Grub Gulch, Hildreth, Fine Gold Gulch, Temperance Flat, Rootville the immediate predecessor of Millerton on the San Joaquin and one mile below the fort, "Soldier Bar" and "Cassady's Bar" on the bend of the river above the fort. The channel of the river with its small tribu-

taries from the bridge at Hamptonville, below Millerton, was worked for forty miles up into the mountains. The Kings, which contributes to the wealth of the county as the provider of the water for irrigation and has its rise as high in the Sierras as the San Joaquin, has never witnessed any mining operations, though some placer mining was once upon a time conducted at or near what is now known as Piedra where the magnesite mine in an entire mountain is located. Quartz locations on its banks have been made many times, though no notable mine has been developed.

It is conceded that during the early mining period, as well as in subsequent years and as late as the 70's and up to the 80's the gold placers and the surface outcroppings were well worked over and exhausted. No portion of the county but has been prospected by the grub-stake miner. Discoveries are being made to this day and quartz mine locations are frequent occurrences. Even the old mining district boundary lines are adhered to as a reminder of the past. These locations prove to be little more than chance discoveries of pockets or vein outcroppings, raising great expectations with no realization save in a few exceptions. No systematic development of the mineral deposits has followed for self evident reasons in the too great risk of investment, cost of or lack of transportation and remoteness of the locations.

A marked map of the county would show it peppered in spots as remote and inaccessible as the upper precipitous gulches of the Kings River forks with mining locations and punctured with prospects holes and developing tunnel openings with their dumps. Late in the 70's there was sporadic effort at a development of quartz mines, but no rich or lasting ones resulted from the labor and money investments. Even the picturesque and extravagant names of the most notable of these have passed from memory. On the Madera side of the river in the drift gold gulches districts of earliest days several mills were erected, but the life of the enterprises was evanescent. In the end they were all money losers, encouraging though the first prospects. The names of them if recalled are reminders of wasted effort and misspent money. Not all were absolute failures, though all were abandoned and are only memories now. The number of them spells legion.

In Grub Gulch district was the Josephine, owned by an English syndicate, fourteen miles northeast from Raymond, located in 1880; also Les Mines d'Or de Quartz Mountain, a Belgian corporation that sank, without any returns, a fortune of the stockholders in erecting and locating a costly plant that has been idle for many years in charge of a watchman and given over to the bats and owls. The Raymond quarries have furnished granite for the state buildings at Sacramento, for miles upon miles of street curbing in San Francisco and after a period of comparative inactivity were drawn heavily upon for the rebuilding of the San Francisco public and other buildings after the great disaster, and the later Panama Exposition. The quarries at Academy in this county have and are furnishing granite rock for ornamental architecture and grave stones and monuments. In the inaccessible Minarets section, north of the San Joaquin there are said to be on the southern slope inexhaustible iron deposits in practically a mountain of almost pure metal, one of the known largest and richest iron ore deposits in the world.

The Kniepper copper mine, in the Big Dry Creek district, was later developed as the Fresno, and a first successful development of a copper ledge was that of the Ne Plus Ultra, on the Daulton ranch on the Madera side and it actually for a time sent mats to Swansea, Eng., for refining. It paid for a time but in the end petered out and another costly experiment was charged up to experience and corresponding loss. It was never resuscitated, evidence, however promising its fair prospects, that the jig was up. The Copper King and the Fresno copper mines near Clovis swallowed up small fortunes in exploitation and extravagant management.

The Copper King, originally the Heiskell mine, cost the British share-

holders \$400,000 in the exploitation. Under the spectacular regime of Manager Daley, an F. F. V., there was a move to erect smelter works, but neighboring fruit growers blocked it by injunction. Expensive tractors were operated to convey ore to the railroad station, and were abandoned after arousing the opposition of the county supervisors because of the damage in cutting up the roads. Luxurious quarters were fitted up for the manager, provided with electric lights, porcelain baths and other costly appurtenances. The story is also authenticated that at the Palace Hotel grill in San Francisco the manager would order three canvas-back ducks, and enriching the third with the sanguinary juices of two of them as extracted in the grilling, feast solely on the breast meat of that costly third bird, with a five-dollar bottle of champagne as accompanying beverage. The high priced machinery and tractors were "after the burst up" sold for old junk, and years later a nice profit was made by speculators, who bought up the ore on the neglected dump-pile when copper jumped up to twenty-six cents a pound with the demands on account of the war in Europe. The Copper King property has been taken over by a Texas corporation, organized in 1917, which having transferred its interest to California incorporators, the latter will operate it under a lease and royalty arrangement with option to buy after a given time for a stipulated price. It resumed operations in January, 1918, after long years of inactivity.

As late as 1865 gold dust was the medium of circulation in Fresno, rather than coin, as the Civil War had created a scarcity in circulated metallic coin and paper money being a curiosity and practically unknown in California even for many years thereafter.

Property values were estimated in ounces of pure gold rather than in dollars and cents. Gold dust was acceptable for taxes by special authority of the supervisors, and in business according to valuations as per this publication on March 8, 1865, in the Millerton Times:

#### NOTICE

On and after the 1st of March, 1865, we, the undersigned, pledge ourselves to receive and pay out GOLD DUST at the following rates only:

San Joaquin River or Bar dust, where it is not mixed with other dust, at \$15.50 per ounce.

Fine Gold Gulch, Cottonwood, Long Gulch, and all taken out in small gulches between the San Joaquin and Fresno Rivers (except Coarse Gold Gulch) at \$14 per ounce.

Coarse Gold Gulch dust at \$16.50.

Big Dry Creek at \$16.50.

Temperance Flat dust, and dust taken out at the head of Little Dry Creek, at \$14.

Sycamore Creek dust, free from quicksilver and not mixed with other dust, at \$17.50.

Fresno River dust, taken out below McKeown's store at \$15.50.

The above rates are as near as we can come at the value of the various kinds of dust in gold coin, and after this date, we do not intend to receive or pay out anything that is not equal in value to United States gold or silver coin.

(Signed): Geo. Grierson & Co., J. R. Jones, Lewis Leach, James Urquhart, Ira McCray, Wm. Faymonville, Wm. Fielding, S. W. Henry, Robert Abbott, C. F. Walker, T. A. Long, Jno. White, Thos. Simpson, W. Krug, Geo. S. Palmer, Clark Hoxie, S. J. Garrison, T. C. Stallo, W. S. Wyatt, S. Gaster, J. Linnebacker, Geo. McClelland, J. R. Barkley, Henry Henricke, Chas. A. Hart, Tong Sing, Hop Wo, Daniel Brannan, H. W. Clark, D. H. Miller, C. P. Converse, L. M. Mathews, C. G. Sayle, Ira Stroud.

There were 138 quartz mills in operation in the state in 1856—eighty-six propelled by water, forty-eight by steam and four by horse power, moving 1,521 stamps. The cost of the machinery was \$1,763,000.



## CHAPTER IX

PRACTICAL DISAPPEARANCE OF THE INDIAN. HE WAS IN THE LOWEST SCALE AS A HUMAN BEING. CHARACTERISTICS OF VALLEY TRIBES. GENTLE AND FRIENDLY IN DISPOSITION. POLYGAMY WAS NOT UNCOMMON. AT STARVATION POINT FOLLOWING RESERVATION LIBERATION AFTER THE 1850-51 UPRISING. SIXTEEN TRIBES SIGNED THE TREATY OF PEACE OF 1851 IN FRESNO.

Kit Carson, the scout, said that in 1829 the valleys of California were alive with Indians. On again visiting the territory in 1839, they had measurably disappeared. In 1851, James D. Savage, of whom more anon, gave the number of Indians on the coast as 83,000, an inflated figure, as were all the census estimates on Indians.

In October, 1856, the number of Indians on the reservations was reported to be:

Klamath, 2,500; Nome Lacke, 2,000; Mendocino, 500; Nome Cult, 3,000; Fresno and Kings River, 1,300; Tejon, 700: total 10,000.

Today the redman has practically disappeared from the haunts where he was once most numerous. It is a repetition of the old story with this doomed, unfortunate race. The passing of the Indian was hastened on by the gold diggers and the first settlers. He was an inoffensive being, but he was in the way of the white man, and the latter did not seek far or long for cause or reason to put him out of the way.

The California Indian was a nomad, moving with the seasons in the search for food, subsisting on acorns, seeds, berries and nuts, roots, fungi and herbs, fish, fowl and game—in fact nothing was overlooked as a diet. Grasshoppers, worms and the larvae of ants and insects were delicacies, and mustang horse flesh a dainty. Along the coast, sea-fish and mollusks were important dietary additions, and a dead, stranded whale was a prize to warrant general feasting. They lived in the most primitive habitations, dressed in skins, or woven bark or grass fibre, and used stone implements. The women did all the laborious work and wove beautiful baskets.

While the tribal individuals bore a general resemblance, there was a remarkable diversity in language. Their racial origin is an interesting problem. Living in a pleasant clime, with the food supply abundant in ordinary years and demanding no great exertion to procure—and then by the slavish squaws—the Indian was an indolent, shiftless creature, and there is a general consensus that in California he represented the lowest scale of human development. He did not take kindly to the labor of the civilization that the padres enforced, wherefore the frequent uprisings. With the confinement that they were subjected to in the close mission buildings, herded like so many cattle, and in the general demoralizing association with the whites, their decimation was rapid enough.

At the close of 1802, the Indian population at the eighteen missions is placed at 7,945 males and 7,617 females. In 1831 it was placed at 18,683, and in 1845 the estimate was that, while the white population had increased to about 8,000, the domesticated Indians, who twelve years before numbered close to 30,000, scarcely represented one-third of that number. There are no statistics of the wild Indians—gentiles as the Spaniards called them. Guesses ranged from 100,000 to 300,000. Yet another classification was made. All save Indians were gente de razon—rational people—in contradistinction to the natives, who were considered only as beasts—unable to reason.

The secularization of the missions with the return of the neophytes to

savagery and wretchedness was their perdition. It also marked the decline of ecclesiastical power and influence in California. But no material loss was suffered by the Indians. They were no worse off than under the mission system, which held them as slaves, abject and groveling. The missions themselves and the missionaries were the relic of a medieval age, and long had outlived their usefulness.

In 1856, when Fresno was organized as a county there were six reservations in the state under the superintendency of T. J. Henley. The Fresno and Kings River farms were, in this county, on the streams so named. They were established in 1854 and covered about 2,000 acres in extent, 1,000 under cultivation to wheat, barley and vegetables. The Indians gathered on the two farms numbered 1,300. M. B. Lewis was sub-agent of the Fresno reservation, with E. P. Hart as foreman, appointed in July, 1856, at \$1,500 and \$1,200 salaries, with J. B. Folsom as chief hunter. William J. Campbell was sub-agent at the other farm with one "Judge" John G. Marvin as quartermaster furnishing all the supplies, Charles A. Hart his wagonmaster and D. J. Johnson an employee.

The number within the state jurisdiction was estimated at 61,600, of which 16,000 were on the reservations in March, 1857. Cost of maintenance in the state for 1855 was \$236,000 and for 1856 \$358,000. The idea of making treaties with them or "recognizing in any way the rights they claim to the soil" was a policy "rejected entirely" by the department, and according to Henley his wards were everywhere highly pleased with the policy proposed, "except in locations where malicious or interested persons have by false representations prejudiced them against it."

Henley was severe against this class, asserting that it had been "the cause of most of the Indian difficulties which had up to then occurred in the state," and that in "almost all cases where the Indians have been guilty of aggressions it has been to avenge some outrage committed upon them by the class of persons in question."

The late Galen Clark, who in 1854 mined in Mariposa, assisted in government surveying of west side San Joaquin Valley land and of canals for mining in the celebrated Mariposa Grant, who first visited the Yosemite in 1855 and in 1857 on a hunting trip discovered the Mariposa grove of big trees, for twenty-four years was the state guardian of the Yosemite Valley, and lies buried near Yosemite Falls, where, with his own hands, he dug his grave and quarried his own tombstone, came, by reason of his long associations, to know much of the traditions and customs of the Indians of Yosemite and of the tribes that once peopled this valley.

According to this authority, the tribes in the region of the Yosemite were affiliated by blood or intermarriage relationship. Before the coming of the whites, they had defined tribal hunting limits, though the higher Sierras were common ground. There was reciprocal barter between them, as on the west with the Paiutes on the east side of the range, in salt blocks from Mono Lake, and with the Mission Indians on the coast, in hunting knives and shells for ornament or money, beads, blankets and the like. They had an efficient relay courier system for 100 miles for the transmission of news, and a signal code with fire by night and smoke by day. Their winter conical huts, holding a family of six with all property, canines included, and with a fire in the center, were covered with cedar bark and had entrance on the south side. In summer brush arbors were occupied, the winter huts used for storage.

Their clothing before the reservation period was scant. Young children went naked. Males wore a skin breech-clout or short skirt; females, a deer skin skirt from waist to knees, at times fringed or fancily decorated. Both sexes wore deer or elk skin moccasins.

Clark said of the Sierra tribes that "They are naturally of a gentle and friendly disposition, but their experience with the white man has made them distant and uncommunicative to strangers." And "as a rule also they are

trustworthy, and when confidence is placed in their honesty it is very rarely betrayed."

Large game they hunted with the bow and obsidian arrowheads. They followed the stealthy still hunt, or went on the general hunt, covering a large area and driving the game to a common center for indiscriminate slaughter. Fish was caught with line and bone hook, with single bone tine spear, by weir traps in stream, or scooped out in baskets after polluting the water with soap-root plant juice. Acorns constituted the main staple breadstuff, the nut ground to a meal and the bitter tannin laboriously leached out of the thin gruel poured out in clean sand. The dog was the only domestic animal.

The Indians of the Yosemite region were of religious or superstitious temperament, devout in their beliefs and observances, and easily worked upon by their medicine men. They had elaborate symbolic ceremonies with dancing an important feature. Both sexes took part, but they never danced as a recreation. The ceremonial around a fire was accompanied by drum beating and a monotonous chant, the dancer circling until falling exhausted. The great dance occasions were before going to war and when cremating the dead. They had also tribal festival gatherings.

Polygamy was not uncommon among the Mariposa and other county Indians, with two and three and even more wives. Chiefs and headmen established relations of amity with other tribes by taking wives out of them. The young wife was bought, payment for the chattel constituting a chief part of the marriage ceremonial, and the wife becoming personal property to be sold or gambled away according to the mood. Clark says that in the marriage relation the Indian was as a rule strictly faithful. If the woman was found to be unfaithful, the penalty was death. Man whipping or wife beating were unknown, whipping was not resorted to even for disobedience by children, being considered a more humiliating and disgraceful punishment than death. Disobedience was a fault rare among children.

It is Clark, who is authority for the statement, that after the 1850-51 hostilities and liberation after four years of confinement on the reservations—the Yosemite and other tribes on and north of the San Joaquin placed on the Fresno reservation and those south of the river on the Kings and Tejon reservations—with tribal relations and customs almost broken up, the food supply reduced with the settlement of the country, life was more precarious and many at times were near the starvation point.

"In these straitened and desperate circumstances," recites Clark, in a publication of 1904, "many of their young women were used as commercial property and peddled out to the mining camps and gambling saloons for money to buy food, clothing or whiskey, this latter article being obtained through some white person in violation of the law."

The universal practice was among the Sierra foothill tribes to burn the bodies of the dead with their effects and votive offerings. This was a semi-religious practice to cheat the evil spirit of his prey in the spirit or soul, the body being burned to set the soul free the sooner to the happier spirit world. In later years the burial custom of the whites was adopted, but the things that were once burned as offerings were cut into fragments before burial, lest some white desecrate the grave by digging them up. These Diggers—a name given them in derision because not good fighters and from the practice of digging for tuberous roots of plants for food—held such sacred reverence for the dead that after reservation liberation they impoverished themselves for years by burning their best belongings at the annual mourning festivals. One of their beliefs was that the spirits of the bad served another earth life in the grizzly bear as punishment for misdeeds, wherefor no Indian would knowingly eat bear meat. In certain lines of artistic work, the Diggers excelled all others, notably in basket work and bow and arrows, which were of superior workmanship and fine finish.

A great fund of mythological lore was in their possession, handed down

orally from generation to generation, but they were reluctant to tell the whites these often pretty and poetical legends.

The warlike valley tribes were the Tulareans of Tulare Lake, the Yosemite of the valley of that name, the Monos from the other side of the range, and the Chowchillas of the river valley of that name. At the signing of the Fort Barbour treaty, the second and third named tribes had neither signed, nor surrendered, nor been rounded up. The best known tribes were the Pohonoches living near the waters of the Pohono or Bridal Veil Creek in summer and on the south fork of the Merced in winter about twelve miles below Wawona, the Potoencies on the Merced, Wiltucumnes on the Tuolumne, Nootchoos and Chowchillas in the Chowchilla Valley, the Honaches and Mewoos on the Fresno and vicinity and the Chookchachanees on the San Joaquin and vicinity.

The original name of the Yosemite Valley was Ah-wah-nee, meaning "deep grass valley." The word "yosemite" signifies "a full grown grizzly bear." The valley portion of the Sierra region was inhabited by a peaceful people, who indulged in few controversies and were less belligerent than any on the Pacific coast, usually settling disputes by talk in general council.

The treaty of peace and friendship submitted in council at Fort Barbour, and afterward repudiated by the government by the way, was signed up on April 29, 1851, by chiefs representing sixteen tribes. Of tribal names other than those mentioned, only one has been perpetuated—that of the Pitiaches, whose home was in the vicinity of the site of Fresno city and whose one time existence is recalled by the official designation of Pitiaches Tribe No. 144, I. O. R. M. of Fresno.

The Fresno Indians of today court the seclusion of their foothill or mountain rancherias. In the fruit season, they mingle with the whites on the plains to seek employment in orchard or vineyard; otherwise they are not seen save on the days of the visiting circus or for the Fourth of July parades and celebrations. Such a moving appeal was made to the supervisors of the county in March, 1917, that they authorized H. G. Brendel as superintendent of Indian missions to provide medical service for the poor Indians and Dr. Charles L. Trout of Clovis to attend the sick in the mountains and present bills to the county for payment. It was the first step the county has ever taken to render a service to the Indians, but the relief was like the locking of the stable door after the horse was stolen.

The missionaries school them and give them religious instruction, afford them medical attention according to the means provided them, and prevail on them when they have lived in the marital state according to loose tribal customs and have borne children to accompany them to the county seat and for the sake of the children take out license and be wedded according to the law of the land. The Indians have had intercourse long enough with the whites to have lost faith in their medicine men, though one of these charlatans was haled into court about a year ago for manslaughter in the killing of a tribesman in giving the blood sucking treatment to a patient resulting in death. The charge was in the end dismissed. The missionaries have done all they can in the medical line until the demands on them became too great without money for medicine and mileage for the physician. Measles, pulmonary and bronchial troubles are the principal ailments, especially among the children.

"I have watched men, women and children die because of no medical service," said Superintendent Brendel in his appeal to the supervisors. "It is a long way back into the hills and an Indian will ordinarily not earn enough or more than to provide the merest necessary food to keep up life. Why during winter they almost starve and when sickness comes they generally die. Once there were many Indians back in the hills, but now we have only 687, a slight increase over last year. The diseases they are subject to eat up the population fast. I often wonder how it is that we have any left,

for the government has neglected to give them the aid that reservation Indians are entitled to."

Back in earlier days, the government's agents signed treaties with the Indians providing that they gave up the valley lands for reservations in other prosperous sections of the country. Congress never ratified these treaties, the white man seized the valley lands and the Indians were left to content themselves with the barren foothill or mountain sections in which to build their homes in. The government as the only thing that it does for them gives two days of school sessions weekly. The state of California does nothing for them. Patents are granted by the general government for mountainous land—none other being available—to Indians that have severed the tribal relations, but the title is paternally held as a protection to the Indian in trust for twenty years.

The Indians are said to be good laborers, reliable, better than the Japanese, willing and docile but the squaw must hold the purse string, because strong drink is an allurements that the buck cannot resist. The county provision out of the public fund, small as it is, was made on the theory that the Indians are indigents to be aided as are the other poor of the county, and thus on a small scale a work as a mission charity effort was initiated for fees that little more than defray automobile mileage charges, while improving the general health and living conditions of the Indians. The surviving aborigines in the county are assembled on rancherias on Sycamore Creek, at Indian Mission, Table Mountain and in the foothill sections near and about Auberry.

The Indian population of California in 1915 was returned at 15,034. Indians are located in fifty-five of the fifty-eight counties of the state. In dealing with the California tribes, the government did not follow the policy pursued with the wild tribes of the plains in making treaties or giving them remuneration for lands acquired by whites. Allotments number 2,592 of 82,162 acres with 430,136 unallotted. The California Indians are of at least fourteen different linguistic stocks. They are located on twenty-six reservations, twenty-two of these mission reservations. Most of the mission tribes of different tribes are located on scattered small reservations over Riverside and San Diego Counties. The Tule River reservation of seventy-six square miles in Tulare County shelters the survivors of the one-time warlike Tulares that were once monarchs over all they surveyed on the San Joaquin plains.

The last and most remarkable and also the most formidable uprising in California was the 1872-73 Modoc war. That tribe defied and resisted government troops for months from their lava beds near the Oregon state line and treacherously assassinated at a peace council on April 11, 1873, Gen. E. R. S. Canby and Rev. Eleazar Thomas of Petaluma, Cal., one of the commissioners. The tribe was finally subjugated, four of the ringleaders in the murders hanged on October 3, 1873, two sentenced to life imprisonment at Alcatraz Island and the others—thirty-nine men, fifty-four women and sixty children—deported to Quapaw agency in Indian Territory.

## CHAPTER X

INDIANS GIVE MUCH TROUBLE IN 1850. SQUAW DISCLOSES GENERAL TRIBAL CONSPIRACY. TRADER SAVAGE OUTMARSHALED IN DIPLOMACY AND IS THE PRINCIPAL SUFFERER IN HOSTILITIES. MURDERS AND PLUNDER FORAYS IN RAPID SUCCESSION WITH MUTILATION OF THE VICTIMS. STATE IS APPEALED TO FOR PROTECTION. MARIPOSA BATTALION OF RANGERS IS FORMED COMMANDED BY SAVAGE. HOSTILITIES HALTED FOR RETARDING PALAVERS BY THE INVESTIGATING AND DELIBERATE COMMISSIONERS. INDIAN RANCHERIAS SURPRISED.

There was none of the heroic and much of the inhuman on the part of the whites, with some of the pathetic on the side of the redmen in the Mariposa Indian War, which footed up a bill of \$300,000 as the cost of the extermination of the valley mountain tribe of the Yosemite (estimated at some 200) with incidental discovery of the famous scenic valley on the Merced River.

During the year 1850, the Indians of Mariposa County, which then included all the territory south of the Tuolumne and Merced divide within the San Joaquin Valley proper, greatly harassed the miners and few settlers. Their depredations and assaults continued until U. S. commissioners came in 1851 to exercise control over them. Treaties were made in the end with sixteen small local tribes and all were placed on reservations. Among the settlers was James D. Savage, of whom more anon, who in 1849-50 had located in the mountains near the south fork of the Merced, about fifteen miles below the Yosemite Valley. He employed Indians to dig gold for him and early in 1850 the Yosemite, a band of mountain tribe outlaws and fugitives, attacked his trading post and mining camp, claiming the territory and attempting to drive Savage off, though plunder was probably the real object.

The assault was repelled, but the location was no longer deemed a safe one and Savage removed to Mariposa Creek, twenty miles southwest of Aqua Fria, near the site of an old stone fort. He also established a branch post on the Fresno, above what was known later as Leach's old store, where the mining prospects were better with subsidence of the water. Here a prosperous traffic was built up, the miners and prospectors dealing with him rather than spend the time on the journey to and from Mariposa village, exacting though his prices were. In the midst of prosperity, one of his squaw wives disclosed a conspiracy-hatching among the mountain tribes to kill or drive off all the whites and plunder them, the Yosemite leading in the plot. He pretended to disregard the report but gave general warning against a surprise.

Savage gave out that he was going to San Francisco for a stock of goods and ordering strict caution, he started, accompanied by two squaws and an Indian chief, Jose Juarez, really one of the leading plotters, to impress him with the sights at Stockton and San Francisco of the futility of an uprising in view of the superior numbers and resources of the whites. Juarez, being liberally supplied with gold, was stupidly drunk while in San Francisco, and being reproved by Savage retorted in abuse, disclosing the secret of the war. Savage lost his self control and knocked him down. After remaining to witness the celebration on October 20, 1850, of California's admission and arranging for the forwarding of goods as he might order, Savage started back for Mariposa. On arrival at Quartzburg, he learned that the Kaweahs were exacting tribute from immigrants passing through their territory, and that



one Moore had been killed not far from his station. Savage "scented danger to himself."

Learning that Indians were numerous at Cassady's Bar on the San Joaquin and not far from his Fresno River station, he hurried to the latter point, found everything quiet apparently, and the Indians congregated only for barter, among them two chiefs of tribes from which he had taken wives. Pretending indifference, Savage sought to assure himself of the progress of the conspiracy, and calling an impromptu council, passed the pipe of peace and speechified on the damaging results of a war and the advantages of peaceful intercourse, being familiar with the dialects. He referred to Juarez to confirm his statements.

The cunning Juarez answered, but to the surprise of Savage advocated a united war for their self preservation, the speech evincing "a keenness of observation inconsistent with his apparent drunken stupidity," while at the bay city. His speech met with approval, others joined him, and an appeal to cupidity in a common plot to plunder had its effect. Savage was outgeneraled and withdrew to prepare for the hostilities he felt certain would follow. The miners and settlers ridiculed and belittled his warnings.

Soon settlers at Indian Gulch and at Quartzburg learned that Savage's Fresno post had been looted on Christmas night 1850 and two men killed, and that his squaw wives, who had refused to abandon his interests when importuned, were carried off by their tribespeople. "Long Haired" Brown, the courier, had been warned by a friendly, carried by him across the Fresno and escaped barefooted and in his night clothes, dodged arrows in the pursuit and outdistanced his pursuers, being a man of strength and agility. On the heels of this report came another from the miners' camp at Mariposa Creek that Savage's establishment there had been plundered and burned and all save the trader killed.

Another murderous assault was reported January 15, 1851, by Frank W. Boden, whose arrival at Cassady's post with shattered right arm and on panting horse excited general sympathy. A party at once started for Four Creeks to aid his companions, whom he had left fighting the Kaweahs. Boden's arm was amputated by Dr. Lewis Leach of St. Louis, Mo., who had come in with him. Boden and companions had halted at Four Creeks to rest and graze their horses, and while there Kaweahs demanded tribute, banter followed and all at once there was firing. In the melee Boden was four times arrowed in the arm. He fired his last shot, resting rifle on broken arm, and then with bridle rein in teeth and carrying broken arm in the other hand sped at top speed for Cassady's. The attack was made near the site of the present Visalia—Dr. Thos. Payne's place. The mangled bodies of Boden's mates were found, one of the four by unmistakable signs having been flayed alive.

Cassady & Lane kept in January, 1851, a trading post several miles below Rootville (Millerton), and were engaged above the fort site in mining at Cassady's Bar, employing about thirty men. The camp was protected by a stone fence, the post by ditches. Indian hostilities hereabout included the murder of two teamsters at Fine Gold Gulch and the driving off of stock, and by two other man killings below Millerton. Cassady's post was visited by Indians on the 20th of the month, Savage being there on a warning call. The employes had maintained vigilant night guard and dug ditches and embankments, but Cassady ridiculed these preparations. No guards were put on that night, Savage sleeping in a covered wagon within the enclosure. In the morning an arrow was found in the canvas of the main tent, arrows in several of the horses and mules, and fresh moccasin tracks along the river bank. Cassady, who was "a very Georgia Major," foolhardy and a swaggerer, would not heed warning, but persisted there was no real danger. Next day Savage and Leach rode to Mariposa to be at the organization of the battalion, and in a day or so Cassady paid the penalty for his foolhardiness. A detachment of thirty men under Kuykendall, with Leach a private, came to seek the

remains and found them on the river bank below the post, with legs cut off, tongue cut out and pinned with arrow over the heart and the body otherwise mutilated. It was buried near where found.

Reports of these and other raids and murders were forwarded to Gov. John McDougal by Sheriff Burney and other officials, urging immediate measures by the state for the protection of the people. It being in the air that the Indians were rallying for concerted operations, a volunteer force made rapid and toilsome march among the wooded mountains in pursuit and came up with the retreating Indians high up on the Fresno. A skirmish followed, with one man killed, and other casualties. Unorganized and with no supplies, the pursuers were worsted, the pursued elated and the volunteers returned to the settlements for reorganization under John J. Kuykendall.

About 100 took up the war-path and pursued the Indians to near the north fork of the San Joaquin, encamped at an old rancharia on a round, rugged mountain, oak and brush covered. Protected by trees and rocks, they taunted the whites and called upon Savage to come out and be killed. He was kept in safe reserve as his knowledge of the country and of the Indians and their dialect could not well be spared. The leaders of the hostiles were Juarez and Jose Rey, the special pleaders at Savage's council. Eight tribes were represented, chief among them the Chowchillas, Kaweahs and Yosemites—some 500 against not to exceed 100 whites, the latter under Boling and Kuykendall, Doss and Chandler.

The plan was for a daylight attack, setting fire to the village before the surprise assault. The camp was routed, Rey was among the first shot down and the Indians took flight. All was done so quickly that there was nothing left for the reserve under Boling and Savage. The village fire spread so fast as to endanger the camp supplies. The Indians escaped in the smoke, twenty-three killed, no prisoners taken, number of wounded never learned. The whites had only minor hurts. Further pursuit was useless.

A general uprising being evident, the state authorities were aroused to action with the result of the Mariposa Battalion of 200 men being mustered in on January 24, 1851, the settler's organization forming the nucleus of the volunteer force with Savage riding on to Cassady's Bar to make up the complement. The volunteers provided horses and equipments, the state camp supplies and baggage trains, and maintenance was expected at the expense of the United States under the direction of the commissioners. Major Ben McCullough was offered the command in the hope of drawing the Texas Rangers in the county, but he declined, having a lucrative position as collector of the foreign miner's tax. The officers as commissioned on muster in were:

Major—James D. Savage.

Company A, seventy men—Captain, John J. Kuykendall; Lieutenants, John I. Scott, T. T. Rodgers and Elisha M. Smith.

Company B, seventy-two men—Captain, John Boling; Lieutenants, Reuben T. Chandler, T. J. Gilbert and T. J. Hancock.

Company C, fifty-five men—Captain, William Dill; Lieutenants, H. W. Farrell, F. W. Russell and Fletcher Crawford.

Adjutant—M. B. Lewis. Surgeon—Dr. A. Bronson, succeeded by Leach on resignation. Assistants—Drs. Pfeiffer and Black. Field and staff, seven; company officers and men, 197; total, 204.

Incidentally, it may be noted that there is not in the state office any official record of the battalion, nor of this "war."

The particular duty assigned to the battalion was to subdue the Indians on the east side of the San Joaquin and Tulare Valleys from the Tuolumne to Tejon Pass. Ready to start, an order came to halt hostilities and the battalion was visited by Wm. Neely Johnson, the governor's aid and himself governor later, and the United States commissioners—George W. Barbour for whom the temporary fort was named; Redick McKee afterward Indian agent, and "the genial and scholarly" Dr. O. M. Wozencraft, who was a member of

the constitutional convention, the party escorted by a detachment of United States dragoons.

The commission proceeded first to investigate the cause of the war and condition of affairs. Mission Indians were secured to notify as couriers all tribes to come in and surrender, presents were distributed, powwows held, and promises made of food, clothing and useful things, and while awaiting answer horses and mules were stolen from the vicinity of the camp and in the field. A reservation was selected on the Fresno near the foothills, a few miles above the present Madera, eighteen or twenty miles from camp, and headquarters established.

No active operations were undertaken, aside from scouting parties, so deliberate were the commissioners. But the mountain would not come to Mohammed, and so Mohammed went to the mountain. The mountain tribes would not come in, and so it was resolved to go after them, Major Savage and Boling's and Dill's companies to scour the region of the San Joaquin and Merced, and Kuykendall to operate on the Kings and Kaweah. A Noot-choo rancheria on the south fork of the Merced was the first to be surprised, Bishop's Camp or fort was established and the Indians transferred to the Fresno. Runners were sent to the mountains, a small band of Pohonochees from the Merced divide came in, and next Tenieya, chief of the Yosemite, in response to a special envoy. Surrender? Perish the thought! Forward, March! to the village to bring them in, even to follow them to their lurking places in "the deep canyon."

## CHAPTER XI

MARIPOSA INDIAN WAR CAMPAIGN OF STARVATION AND VILLAGE BURNINGS. CHIEF TENIEYA OBSTRUCTS ENTRY INTO THE VALLEY. CHOWCHILLAS AND YOSEMITES REMAIN OBDURATE. DISCOVERY OF THE GREAT VALLEY. FAVORITE SON KILLED AND TENIEYA HELD CAPTIVE AT THE END OF A ROPE. END OF THE WAR. YOSEMITES EXTERMINATED BY THE MONOS FOR ILL-REQUITED HOSPITALITY. THEIR CHIEF IS STONED TO DEATH. RESERVATION SYSTEM UNPOPULAR.

Tenieya was a wily, voluble and rascally old fellow, who with one plea or another prevented or delayed the march to the valley. Had the rangers been left to themselves, they would have made short work of the campaign, but they were bound by the orders of the commissioners, and much time had been frittered away with powwows and procrastination. Patience at last ceased to be a virtue.

Volunteers were called for the "Deep Canyon" Party and Boling's and Dill's companies stepped out as if on parade, but the select were chosen after a footrace in the snow, the inspiration of Boling. A camp guard was left behind of the distanced. At last the start was made in the snow, trailing in single file, Savage leading, Tenieya an unwilling guide, and the party entered the valley on March 21, 1851, the first appearance of the white man.

This was the very thing that Tenieya had tried to prevent, because of a traditional prophecy. A great medicine man, a friend of his father, induced him to leave the Mono tribe of his mother, and as their chief establish himself in the valley of his ancestors with a few descendants of the Ahwahneechees and other renegades, who had been living with the Monos and Paiutes. The patriarch had prophesied that while in possession of the valley the tribe would increase and become powerful, he cast a protective spell upon it, but cautioned that, if ever the horsemen of the lowlands (the Spaniards) entered,

the tribe would be scattered and destroyed, his people taken captive and he be the last chief. The rangers' stay in the valley was limited to three days, because the provisions were exhausted, and the return to camp was taken up with some 350 Indians, including seventy-five surrendered Yosemite, all of whom save one, escaped from Boling and nine men, on the night before the last day's march to the reservation. Most of the runaways were retaken on pursuit.

But the Yosemite and Chowchillas refusing to leave their haunts, new campaigns were necessary against each, first against the Chowchillas encamped on the north fork of the San Joaquin. The march was taken via Coarse Gold and a circuitous route on which Crane Valley was located and named. Savage was called away as interpreter to treat with Kaweahs sent in from the south by Kuykendall, who in season ended the campaign against the Tulare valleyites by vigorous operations in the valleys, foothills and mountains of the Kings and Kaweah Rivers, chasing them even into the high Sierras.

Boling in command headed for the Chowchillas' camp. They fled demoralized, Rey, their chief, having died from his wounds. They surrendered, subdued by hunger and swift pursuit, and though after the Yosemite the most warlike they proved the most tractable and reliable of the mountain tribes.

For the second valley expedition some of Kuykendall's men at headquarters volunteered with the supply train, Dill, with part of his company, was retained at headquarters as guard, while Gilbert with part of his, reported to Boling. Dr. Pfeiffer was placed in charge of a temporary battalion hospital, Surgeon Bronson resigned to reap the returns of his negro slaves mining on Sherlock's Creek, Leach succeeded him and Dr. Black went with Boling, who marched on against the Yosemite into the valley, sending out scouting and searching parties, burning wigwams and acorn stores to starve out the band after it was evident temporizing had no results. This was the plan throughout the Mariposa Indian War, as it was called. Three sons of Tenieya were the first captured in the valley.

Escapes of individuals from camp left two captives, who were fastened to an oak tree, tied back to back, while scouts went out to surround and seize Tenieya. The captives loosened themselves, deliberately observed by the guards, and starting to run were fired upon, and one who was killed proved to be Tenieya's youngest and favorite son. Lieutenant Chandler and scouts returned with the captured chief, and the latter's first sight in camp was the body of his son. It broke the old chief's heart, and he manifested it in moody silence, or alternative laments and tirades, so that "hardly any one could help sympathize with him in his great sorrow."

Tenieya was "a greedy and filthy glutton" though, and it is related by Dr. Lafayette H. Bunnell, M. D., volunteer surgeon of the battalion and its historian, that surfeited with fat pork and beans and soldier rations he became dyspeptic and begged to be put out to grass in the meadows. The novel sight was presented of the chief staked out at the end of a rope in the hand of his guard grazing upon young clover, sorrel, fresh ferns and bulbous roots.

The rangers remained in the valley for about one month, ever on the move to locate and bring in recalcitrants, and Bunnell as the most sentimental one naming most of the valley points of interest. About June, and no more Yosemite to be located in the valley, Boling advanced higher into the mountains to a large lake on the north fork of the Merced ten miles northeast of the valley, observing which Tenieya employed every artifice to divert him and made several escape attempts. Here on June 5, the remainder of the tribe was found and made captive, half starved and in a miserable state from the privations of the close pursuit. There were thirty-five, nearly all part of Tenieya's family. Off to the reservation they were marched, and

the lake was named for the old chief. The "war" was ended. The commissioners had gone to the Kings River Farm to treat with the bands collected there. There being no more hostiles from the Tuolumne to the Tejon, the battalion was mustered out on July 25, 1851, at Buckeye Creek, midway between Bridgeport and Mariposa. . . . The reported last survivor of the battalion was Robert Eccleston, pioneer resident of Forbestown, Butte County, who died in Oakland, Cal., on February 1, 1914, at the age of eighty-one years. He came overland and was a cattle raiser near Forbestown. The muster roll shows that he was a private in Company C, enlisted as a New Yorker at the age of twenty-one.

At the reservation Tenieya was never much in favor. He was "set in his ways, obstinate and exacting"—"cranky" in other words—and the other Indians taunted him with his downfall. He chafed under the contemptuous treatment and asked for leave of absence, pleading that he could not endure the heat of the sun and preferred his acorn diet to the government rations. Nothing loath to be rid of him with the endless squabbling, he was released and trailed back to the valley with the remnant of his relatives. Others were allowed in time to go and early in May, 1852, some of these ticket of leave absentees ambushed Coarse Gold Gulch, French prospectors, who had entered the valley.

Rose and Charbon were killed and Tudor seriously wounded but escaped and arrived at Coarse Gold later in August. The news spread alarm and there was fear that the excited Indians at the reservation would desert and another outbreak would result. In fact those encamped outside hurried to the agencies for protection lest they be picked off in revenge for the latest murders. Lieutenant Moore from Fort Miller was sent with soldiers to punish the Indians and entered the valley by night. One of his volunteer scouts was A. A. (Gus) Gray, who had been in Boling's company and afterwards was a captain in Walker's Nicaragua filibuster expedition. The party captured five of the murderers. Tenieya apprised by a scout of all that followed kept in seclusion. The murderers did not deny the accusation and wearing part of the apparel of the dead Moore did not bandy words but summarily pronounced judgment and ordered them shot, which was done.

To justify himself or to allay public curiosity, Moore published a letter in the Mariposa Chronicle descriptive of the expedition. In this letter the word "Yosemity" was for the first time written "Yosemite." It attracted attention and the changed orthography has continued since. The "autocratic power" assumed in shooting the Indians was at the time the subject of public criticism. To Moore attaches the credit of being the first to draw the attention of the scientific and literary world to the wonders of the Yosemite Valley, his position as an army officer establishing a reputation for the facts that another correspondent might not have commanded.

Tenieya had fled across the range to the Monos. He had nothing to do with the murders but Moore followed in close pursuit. Tenieya knew the mountains better and escaped, skulking among the cliffs and chasms, driven from pillar to post. Moore finally gave up the pursuit and Tenieya returned, late in 1853, to the valley, followed by some of his veteran incorrigibles. The Monos and Paiutes returned one day from a successful Southern California foray, and the Yosemite ill repaid the hospitality of their former hosts by making off with some of their stolen horses. The Monos in revenge set upon the Yosemite with Tenieya as the principal object of attack, while at a horse meat banquet. One young Mono chief, having spent all his arrows, hurled a rock with such force as to crush in Tenieya's skull, and others cast rocks upon the prostrate body until in accord with the Paiute custom he was literally stoned to death and buried under a pile of rocks. All but eight of Tenieya's young braves were killed.

Hittell describes the finale: "The Monos then pursued the other Indians and killed all, except some very old persons who were allowed to escape

and some young women and children, whom they carried into captivity across the mountains. There was no longer any Yosemite tribe, nor so far as known any living being of Tenieya's blood. He was in truth the last of the Yosemitees." The Independent Order of Red Men tribe at Madera has taken for its name that of the Last of the Yosemitees.

Success did not crown the labors of the commissioners in treaty making and establishing reservations. There was a lurking but strong suspicion that they knew little about the country and much less concerning Indians, that everything they did was a mistake and not infrequently in excess of their powers. They travelled in style like a circus caravan and at considerable public expense, with dragoon escort and accomplished little of importance or lasting benefit, while making presents and being lavish in promises for little or no return value. Their treaties were disapproved and nearly all the debts contracted were repudiated as unauthorized. The established reservations were almost useless, and very unpopular. Governors McDougal and Bigler opposed them in the legislative messages, McDougal favoring removal of the Indians beyond the state, and Bigler denouncing the reservation system as wrong, fraught with evil to whites and Indians, calculated to irritate collisions and imposing heavy burdens on the government.

The work and its results proved so unsatisfactory that the commission was abolished and Congress adopted a new system with Indian agents as managers, and the valley reservation Indians were liberated after about four years of restrictions. The Indian question was one which gave the legislatures of the 50's much concern, but the old state of affairs continued and the extermination went on.

During the summer of 1853, Dr. Bunnell and E. G. Barton traded and mined on the Merced on the north side, several miles above the north fork, but that winter the place was plundered, desolated and the two men in charge murdered. The body of one was pierced nine times with five arrows still quivering in the flesh when found. Boling was then sheriff of Mariposa County, but the case was beyond his jurisdiction, the supposition being that the crime was perpetrated by Tuolumne renegades once under Tenieya and that they were on the Upper Tuolumne.

The last serious Indian outbreak in the valley was in the summer of 1856, when the Four Creeks of Tulare went on the warpath. Volunteer companies ran them down in six weeks, and there has not been another uprising since. Fresno County contributed some fifty rangers for this campaign, the Millerton and vicinity company under Ira Stroud and the Coarse Gold and Fresno River company under John L. Hunt.

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## CHAPTER XII

**SAVAGE A PICTURESQUE CHARACTER. THE MOST ABLE OF THE SQUAW MEN. CONSORTED WITH INDIANS NEARLY ALL HIS LIFE. HE HAD FIVE SQUAWS AS WIVES. WIELDED GREAT INFLUENCE AMONG THE MOUNTAIN TRIBES. A THUMBNAIL SKETCH OF HIM. WAGERED HIS WEIGHT IN GOLD ON TURN OF A CARD. INDIAN AFFAIRS IN HANDS OF A POLITICAL RING. SAVAGE COWARDLY MURDERED IN DEFENSE OF INDIANS. SLAYER RELEASED AFTER A FARCICAL INQUIRY.**

This Major James D. Savage, so prominent in the Mariposa Indian War, was one of the remarkable and picturesque characters connected with the early days of the valley. His death was a violent one. It was said of him that he was of those "not unfrequently found upon the confines of civilization,



who combined great, though uncultivated, strength of intellect with great, though not unkindly, coarseness in the conduct of life."

Before the day of the white woman in California, some of the early residents took up relations with squaws, even to marrying them. Most of these men were described as "coarse in manners and low in character, but some were in various respects superior men," who had yielded to their environments. Savage, it is agreed, was "the most prominent and perhaps the most able" of all these so-called squaw men. The marriage of Indian women by white men involved the latter's degradation to the Indian's level, and never in a recorded instance elevated the woman to anything like social equality with the whites. It also meant for the white man racial and social ostracism.

Savage emigrated overland to California in 1846. The earliest mention of him is as a member of Company F, Fremont's California Battalion in the California insurrection. He is named in a directory of New Helvetia (Sutter's Fort), and also as one of the most troublesome malcontents in the battalion, necessitating a general courtmartial of them in December, 1846-47. He had been a trapper and mountaineer and consorted with Indians the greater part of his life, familiar with their customs, readily mastering their dialects, wielding wide influence among them, besides later acquiring wealth by his business methods. He was one of the Philadelphia party that located, with Rev. James Woods on the Tuolumne at Wood's Crossing or Wood's Creek in the early summer of 1848.

He also worked the Big Oak Flat diggings, fifteen or twenty miles south of the rich Sonora gold placers, so named on account of a big oak tree on one of the main travelled routes to the Yosemite and later so familiarly known. At the Flat mining in 1849, he employed Indians, whom he paid in blankets and provisions, constituting himself also protector of their interests against white encroachments. He developed a faculty for dealing with the Indians and contracting domestic relations with them. While doing a lucrative business as an employer and supplier, a quarrel arose at the rancheria and a Texan was arrowheaded to death. The whites rushed to arms. Indians were killed, strained relations resulted looking to a war, but Savage pacified the Indians and they moved higher up into the mountains.

Afterward, in 1850, he opened a trading post on the south fork of the Merced, employing Indians and marrying according to mountain men custom the five daughters of as many capitanejos. By reason of the connections with as many tribes, he commanded general influence and strengthened his personal safety among the Mariposa Indians. His wealth was reported to be not less than \$100,000. He was such a powerful agency that the governor hesitated not to commission him major of the ranger battalion. His services moreover were indispensable as interpreter in the treaty making negotiations with the surrendering or captured tribes. The lawless and predatory Yosemite on the headwaters of the Merced alone were beyond his authority and persuasion.

At the Merced post he did business on the principle of hiring every Indian that would work, taking all the gold dust but scrupulously paying in hardware or whiskey, ounce for ounce, pound for pound. Not alone was he a man of mark, widely known in the district but throughout a considerable part of the state. The Yosemite drove him from the Merced to Aqua Fria on the Mariposa in 1850, and he established a branch post on the Fresno as related. Galen Clark, who died in Oakland, Cal., March 24, 1910, at the age of ninety-six, said that Savage was perhaps the best friend of the Indians while in captivity.

A letter written from Hart's ranch on January 16, 1851, by T. G. Palmer of Newark, N. J., as a member of the battalion to his father gives this thumbnail sketch of Savage:

"From his long acquaintance with the Indians, Mr. Savage had learned

their ways so thoroughly that they cannot deceive him. He has been one of their great chiefs and speaks their language as well as they can themselves. No dog can follow a trail like he can. No horse can endure as much. He sleeps but little, can go days without food and can run 100 miles in a day and a night over the mountains, and then sit and laugh for hours over a campfire as fresh and lively as if he had just been taking a little walk for exercise. He pointed out their fires, could hear them sing and could smell them, but his eyes were the only ones that could see, his ears alone could hear and his nose smell anything unusual."

As illustrative of the ways of the man, it is related that at the Fresno branch he kept an electro magnetic battery and with its mysterious operation worked upon the superstition of his Indian hangers on. Also that on the visit to San Francisco in October, 1850, when he took along 600 pounds Troy weight of gold to safe-deposit and to make purchases, the lure of the gaming table seized him, and presumably in the famous El Dorado tent at Washington and Kearney Streets he leaped on the table and setting foot on the card wagered his weight in gold on the turn of the wheel—and lost. He was an ignorant man, but naturally shrewd, unable to read or write, but one of such positivism that he made many warm friends as well as implacable foes. Though in directing command of the battalion, Savage gave most of his attention to the palavering commissioners. The business connections with the treaties were transacted principally through him as the medium. The mission interpreters translated the Indian dialects into Spanish, these were rendered into English by Spanish interpreters of the commission, while Savage conducted the preliminaries and acted as a check on the dialect translations.

After the war, Indian affairs fell into the hands of politicians and a ring, and the pot was kept simmering to influence congressional action, or the war department, for liberal estimates for the California Indian service. The excitement was largely local, the Indians remaining quietly on the reservations, as they did for about four years, under a loose supervision. They were envious for the possession of the Kings River Farm, and a few whites were ready to squat on the land whenever the redman was driven off. This element was headed by one Walter H. Harvey, who was the first county judge of Tulare. Handy hangers-on asserted claim to the reservation, the Indians on the rancheria warned them off, they were fired upon and several squaws were killed.

Savage denounced the agitations and murders, asserting that Harvey was the responsible cause of them. Mariposans knew little concerning the affair as the Kings River was such a distant outpost. There had, however, been strong opposition against the commissioners' location of two reservations in one county and the selection of the best farming land for them. It was openly declared that the reservation system, pretty in theory, was so mismanaged as to be one of neglect of the Indians and a fraud on the government. Bunnell asserts that while Tenieya and family were in the mountains subsisting on acorns the cost of their rations and support at the reservation was regularly charged up, and that estimates for appropriations were deceptive and "ten times more than the truth would warrant," so well established was the "California Indian Ring."

Savage successfully pursued his trade with the miners on the Fresno and surrounding territory and the Indians of the reservation, besides those of the Kings Farm, exciting jealous ire. Self interest prompted him to keep the Indians pacified, but nevertheless he denounced Harvey and his associates as deserving punishment, all of which came to their ears. Harvey and Sub-agent Campbell in common cause denounced Savage in return. Harvey assailed Savage's integrity and boasted that he would not dare visit Kings River while he (Harvey) was there. Savage rode over on the forenoon of August 16, 1852. He demanded a retraction of the offensive personal re-

marks. Harvey refused, saying that Savage had been talking about him. "Yes," replied Savage, "I have said that you are a murderer and a coward."

Harvey retreated a pace and passed the lie. Savage struck him in the face and his pistol fell out of his shirtwaist. Quartermaster John G. Marvin picked up the weapon and Harvey asserted that Marvin had disarmed him, but the latter corrected him. Instantly Harvey fired with his own pistol five times, and Savage fell mortally wounded at the first shot. Marvin stood by during the encounter with Savage's pistol in hand too scared or too cowardly to interfere.

Harvey was discharged after a farce of an examination by Joel H. Brooks as the justice, a personal friend of Harvey and a fellow who had fed on Savage's bounty. Brooks was specially appointed to conduct the examination. Afterward he fathered a series of articles assailing the Indian management, but was silenced with congenial employment at one of the agencies. Harvey left the country later in mortal fear that the Indians would avenge Savage's murder. According to Bunnell, "the ghost of Major Savage seemed to have haunted him, for ever after he was nervous and irritable and finally died of paralysis"—and drink.

The body of Savage was, in 1855, exhumed and removed to the Fresno near his old trading post on the J. G. Stitt Adobe Ranch, a few miles east of Madera. A ten-foot shaft on a pedestal was there erected to his memory by Dr. Leach, his successor in business. The shaft is of Connecticut marble, cost \$800, and the monument weighing many tons was shipped from Connecticut by water to Stockton and from there transported overland on a specially made truck, drawn by eight horses. It bears the simple inscription, "Maj. Jas. D. Savage."

Dr. Bunnell relates as a conversation had with Savage over a prospective business connection this:

"Doc, while you study books, I study men. I am not often very much deceived, and I perfectly understand the present situation, but let those laugh who win. If I can make good my losses by the Indians out of the Indians, I am going to do it. I was the best friend the Indians had and they would have destroyed me. Now that they once more call me 'Chief' they shall build me up. I will be just to them, as I have been merciful, for after all they are but poor ignorant beings, but my losses must be made good."

Bunnell gives credit to Savage for many noble qualities—manly courage, generous hospitality, unyielding devotion to friends, and kindness to immigrant strangers, but admits that he had "serious defects but such as would naturally result from a misdirected education and a strong will." He seemed to justify his course in using the opportunity to make himself whole again, while acting as a trader and in aiding others to secure "a good thing," by the sophism that he was not responsible for the action of the commissioners or of Congress.

## CHAPTER XIII

## PERMANENT SETTLING UP OF FRESNO A SLOW AND TEDIOUS PROCESS.

EARLY RECORD OF LOCATORS IS SCANT. MILLERTON WAS AT ITS ZENITH IN 1853. FIRST LOCATIONS OF TRADING POSTS AND MINING CAMPS. CENTERVILLE A PIONEER FLOURISHING COMMUNITY. A REMEMBERED OASIS IN THE DESERT. EARLIEST GLIMPSE OF THE FUTURE COUNTY SEAT. ESTABLISHED INDIVIDUALS AND PARTNERSHIPS ACCORDING TO FIRST ASSESSMENT ROLLS OF 1856-57.

Permanent settlement of Mariposa county's Fresno territory was slow and tedious. With only a narrow fringe of placer mines, confronting a great expanse of arid plains in the center and on the west, and backed by an equally uninviting ruggedness along the Sierra slopes, it was deemed to have few attractions for the white settler. The Indian troubles tended to hold back settlers, and so the few were restricted to the northeastern placers, with a light sprinkling of stockmen and farmers elsewhere.

In connection with General Riley's visit to the placers, a reconnoissance of the Sacramento and San Joaquin Valleys was made with a view of establishing military posts to defend the miners and settlers. From the character of the mining population and the nature of their occupations, Riley advised that unless a strong military force were maintained on "the frontier," it would be impossible to prevent the outrages upon the Indians, and these in turn avenged by murders of isolated parties of whites. He urged that a military post be speedily established in the Kings River neighborhood, because the new gold discoveries being made in this vicinity were attracting miners, while the rapidly increasing population of the northern placers was gradually forcing the Indian to the south to congregate on the waters of Lake Buena Vista in the Tulare country. The later Fort Miller was one result, and it was the only military protection afforded the entire valley "frontier" as far south as Fort Tejon.

The record of early settlements and events in the Fresno territory is scant. Up to 1856, it is officially a part of the archives of Mariposa County. Newspaper there was none until the Millerton Times in January, 1865. It lasted two and one-half months, and then there was a hiatus until April, 1870. Both were weekly apologies, which gave what little news they chose to gather and color in the presentation after it had been popularly threshed over during the week and was as stale as a last year's bird nest. What newspaper publicity may have been given was in far away journals by volunteer correspondents when the mood took them to send them a few lines. The actors, who participated in the early events, have nearly all passed away, and the story is necessarily a patchwork of fugitive-recorded recollections of the pioneers and the traditions handed down through their descendants. These are not always reliable because the memory of man is at best treacherous.

This slow settlement-process was due to various natural causes. It was scattered because the first comers located in the mountain gulches and on streams where there was gold, and the farmer where there was soil and water. Moreover the population was of the floating class, with little thought of permanency in location. Besides, the territory was so isolated and so remote from the county seat that actually for years there were communities without the semblance of authoritative government, unless in the repressive representation by the military at the fort, and it having nothing to do with

matters civil. No wonder that there were excesses and that human life was valued at so little in those wild and woolly times. For years, there was unrest because of the Indians. The nearest populous stage points were Stockton, 140, and Visalia, 120 miles, by the routes traveled then. Yet Millerton was a lively enough mining village in 1853, during which and for later years it was at its zenith, but with some of its glory and life departed on the abandonment of the fort and the removal of the soldiers in September, 1856, not to be reoccupied until August, 1863, because of rumored activities in the valley during the Civil War by adherents of the southern cause.

### EARLIEST TERRITORIAL SETTLEMENTS

The earliest settlement in the territory was of course Savage's trading post of 1850, above Leach's old store on the Fresno River, which was afterward part of the county's northern boundary line. Next was very likely Rootville, the mining camp on the San Joaquin on the later site of Millerton, antedating even Fort or Camp Barbour, temporary headquarters of the commissioners during a part of the Mariposa Indian War and succeeded by the permanent Fort Miller. The peace treaty was signed in the camp on April 29, 1851. Upon return from the starvation campaign against the Chowchillas before that date, Fort Miller was being built for the protection of the settlers. It was named for Captain Miller, its first garrison commander, but was not established until 1852, and Rootville and Fort Barbour changed names accordingly. There was a Fort Washington further down the river on the site of a vaquero corral of 1849, according to tradition; but this is little more than a tradition.

This fort was below Rootville at Gravelly Ford on the river, and was the location of Cassady & Lane's post, where Cassady was killed and a previous massacre of several persons had occurred in the series that led to the Mariposa Indian War. It was hurriedly thrown up as an earthwork defense in expectancy of hostilities and was located above the present Lane's (Yosemite) bridge and below Little Dry Creek on land afterward of the V. B. Cobb ranch. The school district there still bears the name of Fort Washington. Cassady was surprised and killed while beyond reach of succor in search of stray stock. Certain it is that Cassady & Lane had post and camp operating in January, 1851, and possibly before.

After peace on the treaty signing, Savage put up a second store in the summer of 1851 on the Fresno, moving in the winter further down the stream to Bishop's camp or fort, before which the Fresno reservation had been selected on the Fresno. That summer Coarse Gold Gulch was a bustling mining camp, and Texas Flat was booming, Rooney & Thornburg keeping a store there. Fine Gold Gulch was probably also in existence then. Another Indian war threatening in October, 1851, Coarse Gold was depopulated by the miners, save for a half dozen, including William Abbie, but before December they returned and C. P. Converse and T. C. Stallo opened a store one and one-half miles below Texas Flat in charge of Samuel H. P. Ross, nicknamed "Alphabetical" Ross, afterward district attorney of Merced County.

Asa Johnson came then, with three negroes and a wench, in the summer of 1852. He killed Thomas Larrabee and upon acquittal left the country. Stallo & Converse discontinued their store in the spring of 1852 and were succeeded by the Walker brothers, James N. and C. F., who continued until 1859. James was twice in the legislature in 1863 and 1871, and was sheriff and tax collector, elected in 1867 and in 1869.

In 1852 John Ledford and Geo. M. Carson erected a store at Fresno Crossing, but soon sold to J. L. Hunt, elected in 1856 as one of the first county supervisors and four times reelected between 1860 and 1865, and to J. R. Nichols, who sold to J. M. Roan, who did not qualify in 1856, wherefore

Hunt's special election but who went to the legislature in 1858. In October, 1854, Jefferson M. Shannon and S. B. Coffee engaged at Coarse Gold in the hog business, making large profits in selling pork for three years at twenty-five cents a pound and more, to Chinese miners. In 1854 T. J. Payne had a store at Fine Gold in charge of J. S. Ashman and one Julius William Aldrich. Ashman was sheriff four times, elected in 1865, 1871 and 1875 and appointed in 1874. In 1856 T. J. Allen kept restaurant and bar at Roan's store on the Fresno, officiating also as justice of the peace and being a law unto himself in holding a trial before a jury of three for a civil debt of \$350 when the jurisdiction of a justice of the peace was limited to \$299.99. But almost anything "went" in those days.

Among some of the foremost at Millerton were in 1852-53: Dr. Lewis Leach, C. P. Converse, T. C. Stallo, Hugh Carlin, T. J. Allen, Hugh A. Carroll, L. G. Hughes, Ira Stroud, Charles A. Hart, first county judge and subsequent owner of the Millerton townsite and of the fort, which was his home until death, Dr. Du Gay, Henry Burrough, John McLeod, William Rousseau, besides others. In 1854 Ira McCray and George Rivercombe, first elected county treasurer, and again in 1859 and 1860, engaged in the hotel and livery business at Millerton, Rivercombe retiring early, leaving McCray to "coin money" over his bar, his gambling tables and his ferry directly opposite the court house entrance. In 1855 George Grierson, Otto Froelich and Gomer Evans located as general merchants, Grierson returning with family in May, 1868, to Denmark, Evans removing to San Francisco as bookkeeper and cashier for Parrott & Co., the bankers, and Froelich continuing until 1872, when with the general exodus he came to Fresno and became prominent in banking and commercial circles.

On the Upper Kings, about 1852, was a thriving settlement with John Poole establishing the first ferry across the river and located there was William Y. Scott, the second sheriff of the county elected in 1858, for whom the place was named. Scott was popularly known as "Monte" because when he and Hazleton came to these parts they brought with them a monte layout. Scottsburg was washed away by a flood, but the settlement was rebuilt on higher land. It named itself Centerville and was in its day a flourishing community, but because of a like named older village in Alameda County it locked horns with the postal authorities and was not recognized officially save as "Kings River." Centerville as the name staid, was at one time the most populous village in the county, saving Fresno, the seat, and held the balance of political power. Today it is a collection of weatherbeaten rookeries, and little more than a memory of the past, having been superseded by the bustling town of Sanger in the Kings River bottoms in the center of the pioneer orange and citrus belt of the county. Among the earliest Centervillians may be named: W. W. Hill, supervisor in 1863, and treasurer from 1867, until his death in 1874, the Smoot and Akers families, P. W. Fink, A. M. Darwin and E. C. Ferguson, John A. Patterson, William Hazleton, C. F. Cherry, Jesse Morrow of the Morrow House, which stood so long on the site of the federal building in Fresno, Richard and William Glenn, William Deakin, William J. Hutchinson, the village blacksmith and county assessor from 1883 to 1891, and others engaged in agriculture and stock raising.

Another busy settlement was the New Idria quicksilver mine on the West Side (now in San Benito County) with its Cornish and Mexican miners. Its development was long retarded by protracted litigation over the William McGarrahan claim, which was prosecuted in the end to the United States supreme court. It was about 1854 that L. A. Whitmore established the first ferry across the lower Kings at where the town of Kingston was located. He was killed and O. H. Bliss succeeded him and maintained it but discontinued it for a bridge and sold the property after a time to John Sutherland. Mr. Bliss had flower beds, green hedges, arbors and bowers



about the ferry station, it being remembered as a veritable garden oasis in the desert. He announced his activities in the following fashion:

O. H. BLISS  
Notary Public  
and WELLS, FARGO & CO'S AGENT  
KINGSTON FERRY  
Mr. Bliss has a fine and commodious  
LIVERY STABLE  
For the accommodation of travelers  
BLISS' FERRY at Kingston is the best and safest crossing on King's River.

### A FIRST GLIMPSE OF MILLERTON

The earliest glimpse of Millerton is furnished in the itinerary notes of Mineralogist William P. Parks, who, in 1853, was with the Williamson government topographical survey of the California interior for a transcontinental railroad route. The party left the United States arsenal at Benicia Barracks, July 10, 1853, coming up the valley via Livermore Pass and Elkhorn and camped several days at Fort Miller on arrival July 25. The itinerary notes:

"Gold is found in the bed of the river in considerable quantity. It is mostly very fine scale gold and it is difficult to separate it from the black sand, which is abundant and heavy. Groups of gold washers and Chinamen were engaged along the banks, either washing out the gold in a common pan or using the 'cradle.' A panful of sand and gravel taken up anywhere on the surface of the first bench of the river would 'show color' on being washed out. This term 'color' has passed into general use among the miners, denoting the presence of just sufficient gold to be well recognized. One of the miners was working his claim with a cradle and employed two Indians to dig and bring the auriferous earth and gravel. He was obtaining about one ounce per day.

"Some of the officers of the army at Fort Miller were constructing a canal along the bed of the stream into which they were intending to turn the water of the river when at its lowest stage and thus be enabled to obtain the sand of its bed which was supposed to be extremely rich in gold.

"The Indians collect about the fort in great numbers during the winter, as many as five or six hundred being there at one time. They live in the usual manner—in brush huts—a short distance below the fort. They make beautiful baskets or trays of a strong round grass, which they weave so tightly and evenly that the baskets will hold water, and they are sometimes used to hold water while it is made to boil by throwing in heated stones. One mile below the fort is the ferry across the river. The trade is chiefly with emigrants, miners and the Indians.

"During our stay at camp, Captain Love at the head of a party of rangers arrived, bringing with him the head of the notorious robber chief, Joaquin Muerto (Murieta). They had surprised Joaquin with his party in a pass of the Coast Range and after a short fight, shot him through the head. (Note was also made that the rangers had been obliged to swim one of the sloughs in what is now called the West Side and that one of the prisoners was drowned.)

"The temperature of this valley or at least of our camp ground is worthy of note. Each day was like the preceding and the unclouded sun seemed to have a remarkable heating power. The high hills on each side prevented a free circulation of air and reflected back the heat. The thermometer during the middle part of the day seldom indicated a temperature lower than 96 degrees F. and generally stood from 100 degrees to 104 degrees in the shade, in some localities 115 degrees."

## LISTED ON ASSESSMENT ROLLS

It goes without saying that in those unsettled early days of the 50's directories were unknown. In fact none was published in the county until the small affair of the spring of 1881, the names for which were "chased up" by R. W. Riggs, the photographer and historian of Pine Ridge, and S. L. Pettit, a nephew of Petroleum V. Nasby, the humorist philosopher. The pretentious county directory was in 1899-1900, but the assessment rolls for 1856 and 1857, unearthed for this history, list the subjoined established individuals and business partnerships for the first two years of county organization, and it is to be presumed that few were overlooked. Incidentally the rolls disclose the fact that canines were assessed \$1.50 for the male and \$3 for the female dog. The listed are:

1856—B. A. Andrews, Harvey Akers, Henry Adams, Frank Armstrong, Aaron Arnold, R. A. Appling, Thos. J. Allen, J. B. Aldrich, Fernando Ardero.

1857—Ah Sam & Co., Ah Quie, John Anderson, J. S. Ashman, Wm. Adshead, Ah Kow, C. Abell.

Wm. T., Jerry and Chas. Brown, Wiley and Henry Burroughs, Brown & Hadden, David Beebe, Thos. Boyce, Benj. M. Branson, Leo. Boldero, W. W. Bourland, John Besore, John Bostick, J. H. and Alex Ball, A. C. Bullock, F. L. Barthold, Isaac Baker, Geo. F., J. W. E. and Q. M. Brown, T. B. Brown & Co., Robert Bransford, A. H. and W. C. Bradley.

1857—M. D. Bullard, P. A. Banta, C. Benbrook, Bufford & Bullock, Burroughs & Hughes, M. Bergen.

W. J. and Samuel B. Campbell, Hugh A. Carroll, E. J. Curry, W. D. Chapman, Wm. P. Cruikshank, Geo. M. Carson, S. M. Cunningham, S. B. Coffee, J. G. Clark, Samuel Chidester, Hugh Carlin, Chung Chong & Co., Carman, McIntosh & Wilson, Ocenitio Coetro, S. F. Cummings, Chas. P. Converse, Andrew Cathay.

1857—A. Coffey, Carson & Parks, Coffee & Shannon, Crow & Thwing, J. P. Cruikshank, Hewlett Clark, Homer Cogswell, A. Chambers, E. G. Campbell, C. Castro, Carman & Co., J. G. Collins, W. C. Carville, A. P. Cromble.

Samuel Dinley, Moses Damron, Jack Delo, Donelson & Linton, Wm. & L. D. Douglass, F. B. C. Duff.

1857—A. Drumm, Wm. Darwin.

Gomer Evans, Raphaelo Europo, F. M. Edgar, F. M. Eagan, Selander Eubank.

Levi D., Josiah and Wm. Ferguson, Mathew Frouth, Fitzgerald & Co., Robt. I. Finch, Samuel Frakes & Co., J. B. Folsom, Fisher & Gill, Geo. N. and Robt. J. Finch, Fort Miller W. & M. Co., reduced from \$25,000 to \$10,000.

1857—Frakes & Yancey, Faust & Parish, Wm. Faymonville, Richard, James M. and W. Glenn, Geo. M. Garish, John Gilmore, Stephen Gaster & Co., Jos. R. Gashwiler.

1857—A. B. Groverny, Pat Gibney, Geo. Grierson, A. Gore, Geo Goforth, Daniel Gibbs.

Thos. Huckleby, Wm. J. Harris, Jacob Howell, John R. Hughes, Hughes & Co., John L. Hunt & Co., Chas. A. Hart, Herold & Harrison, Hildreth & Rea, W. W. Hill & Fink, John Hughes.

1857—Henry Hickman, Hunt & Nichols, Ly Mon Mong, J. T. Hamlet, Geo. S. Harden, H. E. Howard, Hazelton & Patterson, Henry Hays, Thos. and J. E. Haddon, J. F. Hitchcock, David Huckleby, Clark Hoxie, Harrison & Herrill, Thos. Hurst, A. Heath, E. P. Hart, Henrice & Co.

1857—Wm. and Robt. Innes.

Jacobs & Co., Henry Jewett, Johnson & Co., John Johnson.

1857—D. J. and E. Johnson, Martha Jones.

Ah Kong, Sin Kay, Keith & Ridgway.

1857—Edwd. King.

John Ledford, Samuel S. Lovejoy, A. Layne & Co., Dr. Lewis Leach, S. H., M. B. and Jonathan Lewis, Levi Loler.

1857—Robert Larrimore, J. H., T. M. and W. M. M. Lewis, P. Lynch, Samuel Langdon, Samuel McClatchey, Henry Matterson, Gabriel Moore, A. McRobinson, Mayfield & Co., J. R. Munn & Co., Samuel McIntosh, Levi Mitchell, J. Y. Moore, Ira McCray & Co., W. A. McCreary & Co., Andrew McKenna, Bertha Mathew, Robt. Murray, Beveano Moraga, Labran Mathews, Herman Mathews, Herman Masters, R. P. Mace.

1857—Henry Myers, Henry Mann, J. D. Mace, Thos. Maguire, Jesse Morrow, Montgomery & Co., James Mathews, Wm. Martin, W. T. and J. P. Moore, Chas. Mitchell, H. R. Nobles, Neleigh & Co., 26,660 acres at \$33,330.

P. B. Neal, Jose Orevania, J. B. O'Reily, Domingo Ortego, Ramon Oyasa.

John Poole, John A. Patterson & Co., Leonard Patton, H. S. Pope, Chas. Peterson, Parsley & Faust, H. E. Parrish, Frank Phillips, K. L. Perry.

1857—Edwd. Pratharo, Billy Patterson, W. H. Parker, Henry F. Pitts, W. E. Price, Rodgers & Laverty, James Richards, Harry Rickard, Andrew Reinlein, Reed & Swan,

Leonard, Daniel and James B. Reed, J. Y. Ross & Co., J. M. Roane, Jos. Raggio, Wm. Ramsey.

1857—A. M. Rogers, J. R. Richards, R. Robbins, Royal & Gaster, Jonathan P. Ross, Rhoades & Co., Hugh Regan.

Geo. Sharpton, Albert H. Statham, Smith & Crumley, John L. Stewart, Levi Steinhoff, John P. and John Simpson, M. E. Sinsabaugh, Ira Stroud, Stroud & Co., L. C. Shackford, M. M. Saxton, Henry Strong, Noah Stilts, Alex. Saier, David Swan & Co., Geo. Sovereign, Wm. Y. Scott, Stewart, Neleigh & Crosby, nine leagues of land \$50,000, Domingo Salinger, Cyrus Sanford, R. Sheldon, T. C. Stallo, James Sayles Jr., Wm. Savage, Chas. Simpson.

1857—J. S. Smith, Sim Kee & Co., Stroud & Bowles, Samuel Smoot, James Smith, E. D. Seales, David Selander, C. D. Simpson, John Sylvester, F. Smith, Wm. Sutherland, A. Strickard, J. G. Simpson, Jas. F. Stewart, Steinhoff & Mitchell, G. W. Stall.

Jas. Tucker, W. H. Thompson, G. B. Taylor, Chas. R. Thurman, Stacy Taylor, A. Thibault, Peter Tracy, W. B. Taylor & Cormack, Frank Temple & Co.

1857—J. A. Tivey, Wm. Neely Thompson.

1857—James Urquhart.

John Villet, L. D. Vinsenhaller.

1857—Thos. Vinsenhaller.

J. W., Geo., John, James E. and A. Williams, Ah Wong Lee, Wan & Co., Walker & Co., J. N. and C. F. Walker, Levi Womack, Jas. W. Waters, B. Wilson & Sanford, Woodworth Wallace, Waters Paris, Woodworth & Co., H. A. and Jas. Wallace, Morgan J. Wells, John G. Ward, M. D. Wilson.

1857—Michael Woods, H. B. Workman, L. A. Whitmore, Enoch Wright.

1857—J. A. Young.

## CHAPTER XIV

MEMORIES CLUSTER THICK ABOUT MILLERTON. A MENTAL PICTURE OF THE FORT. PICTURESQUENESS OF THE MINING DAYS. FREIGHT TEAMS, MOUNTED EXPRESS AND STAGES ENLIVENED THE VILLAGERS. A RED LETTER WEEK IN 1853 FOR EXCITEMENT. ENFORCING STATE FOREIGN MINER'S TAX AND CONSEQUENT RESULTS. JOAQUIN MURIETA AND HIS STATE REIGN OF TERROR. GARCIA AS THE MONSTER OF THE BANDIT BAND. CAPTURE BY RANGERS NEAR TULARE LAKE. REWARDS OF \$6,000 PAID BY THE STATE, WITH REJOICING GENERAL.

About Millerton and its protecting appendage, Fort Miller, the first of these for a decade and a half after county organization, the social, political, governmental and population center, cluster most of the memories of the long ago. No more alluring natural spot than the fort site could have been selected. It was on the shelving, grass-grown, south bank of the river at one of the widest reaches, so that it was never in danger of flood such as twice visited Millerton, the last on a Christmas eve washing away nearly half the village and causing a property loss from which it never recovered. In that flood the water in the river rose a full twenty-four feet, maintained with little appreciable fall for as many hours. Fort site was a garden spot in spring and autumn, but in summer because in a pocket of sheltering, surrounding low hills, a perfect bake-oven.

Fort Miller was located at the highest practical point on the river, all things considered. Above it and Fine Gold Creek, the stream is impassable, rushing out of a mountainous precipitous gorge. It was to place it within easy reach of the hill country beyond, and especially to afford protection to the miners at Cassidy's Bar, across the range and due east and south of the fort on the river bend, that the ancient trail, traversable to this day, was laid out across the hills back of the fort. At Millerton the river runs due east and west, the fort facing the stream to the north. Its northern edge was built up to and partly hung over the river bank in early days. It is

not to say either that the river at the fort was always confined to the present bed. The fort is at the mouth of a long and serpentine ravine running far above and back into the foothills and mountains beyond.

The site was originally thickly covered with oak trees. These were felled for the logs in construction, as well as to leave a clearing as a military prerequisite. The fort enclosure was a quadrangle, surrounded by a stone and adobe wall, five or six feet high, and faced the river. From Millerton, the fort is not visible, the western view being shut off by a rocky promontory which projects to the river bank about halfway between fort and village, which are a mile or more apart. The nearest courthouse eave-corner is barely discernible from the fort. The latter was not unlike many another.

The guardhouse was long ago razed, leaving only the rock-walled, iron-barred, ventilation-holed excavated dungeon. It stood at the northwest corner of the quadrangle and near it was presumably the main fort entrance from town. Facing the parade ground and at the upper edge, with the flag staff in the center, was the roomy, one-story headquarters and commandant's residence with veranda, and on the line to its left two smaller adobe officer's quarters. The parade ground was enclosed on the right by the long, low, wooden barracks shed and on the side backing the river were the stables and the quartermaster's department sheds in continuation of the barracks. In rear of headquarters, the sloping hillside was dotted by the post garden, the smithy, the bake-oven, powder magazine, the two-story, sunny hospital, and nearly on top of the hill spur the little post cemetery.

The ancient blockhouse, the oldest standing building in the county today, in the construction of which not a nail entered as the logs were dove-tailed and mortised, stands outside of the quadrangle. A group of military and farm structures clustered on the blockhouse side at one time, so that the fort surroundings had the appearance of being quite a pretentious settlement. Blockhouse, standing now in solitude, is often overlooked by sight-seeing visitors. Indeed many labor under the delusion that Millerton and fort site are one and the same thing, and that the courthouse was a jail instead of a general county government building, jail included in the basement.

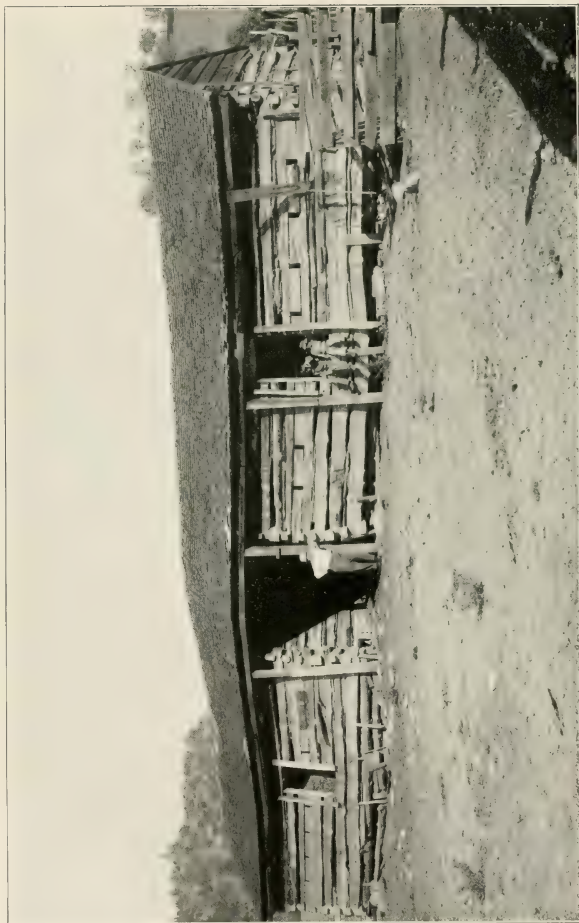
The post had accommodations for a garrison of two cavalry troops or two batteries of artillery serving as infantry, with detachments in charge of light field pieces. Its military history is brief and comparatively speaking uneventful.

The kitchen addition to headquarters, and connected with the dining room at the eastern angle, is a blockhouse of hewn timber, held in place by uprights and the interstices filled with mud to make solid walls. Under roof protection, the soundness and preservation of these oaken logs showing the marks of the hewer's ax are worthy of note. In the garden in the rear of headquarters are umbrageous and prolific orange trees, which in earlier days were a seven day's wonder, to see which people travelled miles. They were, so it is said, the first orange trees set out anywhere in the valley, this side of Stockton.

The blockhouse was erected in 1851 as a temporary defense in advance of the actual construction of the fort. At about the height that a man within would hold a rifle in the act of aiming the weapon on a rest, runs around the building a thick plank pierced with loopholes, each about a foot square.

All the habitable reservation structures have, in their day, been used as private dwellings, even to the barracks and hospital, for Millerton never had a building boom and accommodations for the visitor or newcomer were often at a premium. After abandonment of the fort it became the home of Judge C. A. Hart, was so occupied for years, and there he died. Having all been in almost continuous occupancy, fort buildings are fairly well preserved, though the boards protecting the adobe outside walls have been punctured by





THE OLD BLOCK HOUSE—FORT MILLER

Erected 1851.—The oldest building standing in county—original building constructed without use of nails



generations of wood-peckers for the storing of acorns. The blockhouse, sad to tell, is relegated to the base use of a cowshed.

The enclosing wall has long ago disappeared, so have the stables and quartermaster's sheds. The cemetery graves, with a few exceptions where **no one** came forward to make claim, were emptied long ago also, and the **military dead removed to the national cemetery** at the San Francisco Presidio on final evacuation of the fort. The disinterments were principally among the later graves in the newer portions of the cemetery nearest the fort buildings. The last exhumation was that of the remains of the old-time sheriff, J. S. Ashman. The grave of the little Stiddam girl is the only marked sepulcher left in the burial ground—the rust eaten, iron fenced sunken grave of an infant, Frances E. Stiddam, who died October 21, 1861, and concerning whose kin all trace or knowledge has been lost.

The fort is used now as the farmhouse of the 14,000-acre cattle ranch, including townsite, of the W. H. McKenzie estate, taking in land on both sides of the river and in two counties as the San Joaquin is the boundary with Madera on the north.

### THE PICTURESQUE WAS NOT LACKING

The picturesque was not lacking at Millerton in the mining days. Indians were a common-place sight in times of idling peace, to fill out the picture, what with one rancheria below the village and another on the bare bluffs on the other side of the river, facing the town. They begged for food, pilfered small things, did chores for money or a meal, or came to sell salmon speared in the stream, or small game snared or shot in the hillsides, while the squaw with papoose strapped on back in chokoni (canopied basket), came to barter her handiwork in beaded belts or moccasins, or woven reed baskets.

The rough and sun-blistered miner was of course very much in evidence in flaming red shirt, whatever the thermometer, heavy water-proof topboots with pantaloons tucked in them, and ostentatiously displaying pistol and bowie knife in belt, whether arriving new comer with pack on burro looking for a prospect, or whether one already located and at the village with pack animals to stock up provisions, and never forgetting a goodly supply of aqua fortis for snakebites, or as a sovereign preventive against chills and colds as the result of working in the wet slush about rocker or cradle on river or creek bank.

The swarthy Sonoran was there in his wide sombrero, gaudy colored neckcloth and often in serape covering his shoulders, gliding about furtively because he was not always looked upon with favor. The meekest, most docile and unobtrusive was the blue-bloused, cow-hide booted, bowl-shaped, bamboo-hatted Chinaman, working over the tailings that others had abandoned after winnowing the surface "color." A few Chinese women there were also, and never did one amble down the village street from Chinatown at the upper end of it beyond the later courthouse but she attracted general notice, even admiration, for woman was yet a curiosity. And last but not least during the days of the fort occupation, there were the off-duty soldiers killing dull time and not looking the trim and natty men at arms as of the days long after the war. The Indians regarded them as veritable demi gods though, sober or not.

The arrival in dust cloud of freight team, mounted express or passenger stage was always an event that assembled the villagers. Steamers later landed at the head of Fresno Slough on the West Side and teams hauled freight to Visalia and other southern points, or eastward to Millerton or into the mines. The mounted express for the conveyance of gold dust, mail and small packages was the rapid transit means to the mines, for post offices there were at first none, and express companies handled the mail.

Adams & Company succeeded by Wells, Fargo & Company were in their day the carriers and did an immense and profitable mail and passenger business that was practically a monopoly for years. For the conveyance of dust or bullion, they were the only safe and responsible agencies, every coach carrying shotgun messengers to guard and protect the treasure. In 1857 Thomas M. Heston ran a stage (called the Rabbit Skin Express) from Hornitas to Visalia via Millerton, and the Silman lines made regular stage trips from Stockton to Millerton via Tuolumne City, Paradise City, Empire City, Snelling and Plainsburg. Later Silman & Carter also ran a stage from the Slough City to Visalia via Millerton.

Thomas M. Heston was represented to be "a whole-souled fellow and a good citizen." He was elected an assemblyman, and attended the eleventh legislative session in 1860, and in those days to be a successful stageman one had to be a popular idol—a very lacquered tin-god on wheels. Heston was believed to have been murdered afterwards near Esmeralda Mining District, his remains having been identified by the gold filling in his teeth. But the California State Blue Book records that he was drowned in the Kern River in 1863.

The isolation of Millerton is not sufficiently appreciated in these days of hourly trains and of rapid transportation by Owl, Limited, Angel and all the other lightning express trains, in these hurry-scurry days of telegraph, telephone, long distance phones, special delivery mail, parcels post, wireless telegraphy and flying machines. This isolation was an inconvenience as late as February, 1871, in that it took then three days to go from Millerton to the near cities as follows: One day to Hornitas in Mariposa, sixty miles; one day from Hornitas to Modesto, forty miles, and then on the third day by the cars to San Francisco or Stockton. It was declared in all sobriety that under the existing schedule and if one were in a hurry to go to San Francisco one could do so more quickly by stage riding to Visalia, sixty-five miles south, and then staging it to destination, gaining nearly two hours in time. The railroad had then built as far only as Modesto, with finishing work on the railroad bridge across the Tuolumne. Snelling was then the county seat. It was changed to Modesto with the advent of the railroad.

In May, 1870, a mail route from the New Idria quicksilver mines (now located in San Benito County just beyond the Fresno County line) via Panoche Valley, Firebaugh Ferry, Arcola (now Borden in Madera County) and Millerton, with an office at Arcola, was urged because as represented then the mine residents must come twenty miles to Millerton for their mail, while mail from Millerton to the New Idrians and Panoche Valleyites went to Stockton, thence to Gilroy in Santa Clara County, thence to the place of destination, journeying nearly 500 miles in a circle to cover about sixty or seventy in a direct line.

The people of Buchanan (a deserted copper mining camp now in Madera County) were as urgently in need of a postoffice. They were forced to come to Millerton, fifteen miles distant, for their mail and this too in the face of the fact that it passed through the camp to go to Millerton for distribution.

### A RED LETTER WEEK FOR EXCITEMENT

A red letter week for unwonted excitement must have been the closing one in July, 1853, when the railroad route topographical survey party and its train of baggage wagons raised the dust of town towards a camp at the fort, followed in a day or so by Harry S. Love's dust-powdered cavalcade of twenty rangers, in redhot from the killing of Bandit Joaquin Murieta, whose head was brought in pickle, also the hand of Manuel Garcia, "Three Fingered Jack." Garcia was also decapitated but the skull was so shattered with Love's shots that it could not be preserved and was cast to the coyotes.

The survey party was protected by a detachment of dragoons, commanded by Lieut. George Stoneman. Little dreamed he then of the honors in store for him as a cavalry and corps commander ten years later in the war, or that in 1879 under the new constitution he would be elected one of the state's first railroad commissioners and on his masterly negative record as the minority member of three he would pave the easy way for the 1883-87 governorship of the state.

Certain, however, that a vermilion hued dash of color was given to the picture when there came into the village the sunbrowned gun fighters of Love, deputy sheriff of Los Angeles, a Texan, who had served as scout and express rider in the Mexican War and inured himself to border dangers and hardships. Bancroft describes him as "a law abiding desperado who delighted to kill wild men and wild beasts," a leader "with bright, burning and glossy ringlets falling over his shoulders," one who "wore a sword given by a Spanish count whom he had rescued from the savages," a personage the "way and walk of whom were knightly as of ancient cavalier," while "savages he had butchered until the business afforded him no further pleasure." That in the rude frontier settlement of rough men as at Millerton, Love was lionized goes without saying. Among his gun men were Harvey, who murdered Savage, and Philemon T. Herbert, the California congressman (1855-56), who distinguished himself by shooting an inoffensive negro hotel waiter in Washington.

Truth to tell, the end of Murieta, with his pickled head as evidence of the fact, and the extermination of his band of cutthroats were events of state wide moment, the importance of which cannot be measured in these staid days of governmental regulation. The end of Murieta, described by Bancroft as the "King of California Cutthroats," and the "Fra Diavolo of El Dorado," merits more than passing reference, because a state verily rejoiced in his death.

One unquestioned result of the enforcement of the foreign miner's tax law was the prejudice which it fomented, depriving many of employment and driving them to theft and even murder. This prejudice was evidenced in the passage, by the first legislature in April, 1850, of this tax law. It forbade anyone mining in the state, unless holding a thirty-days' twenty-dollar license, the sheriff empowered to assemble a posse of Americans to drive him off on nonpayment, and the governor's appointed tax gatherers receiving three dollars out of every license collected, to make them active and persistent. In March, 1851, this trouble-making law was repealed, but subsequently another was enacted fixing the license at four dollars per month and making the sheriffs the collectors. Except for harassing the inoffensive Chinese, it was not always strictly enforced. Persecution in 1850 growing out of this tax, in being driven from the Stanislaus River, followed by binding to a tree and public flogging in Calaveras, on an unfounded charge of horse stealing is said to have prompted Murieta to take an oath of vengeance that was relentlessly kept, sparing not even the innocent, such an implacable foe of every Gringo American came he to be.

Besides the tax, there were laws prohibiting mining by any save such as could or intended to become citizens, and regulations of this character were not unusual in the Southern Mines until the four-dollar tax law was passed. But it was when the Chinese began to flock into the mining regions that the most violent hatred of the foreign element was aroused by their thrift and industry and the withdrawal of gold for which, as claimed, they left no compensating return. Driven from the mines, the Chinese accommodated themselves to the situation and became house servants, work hands and railroad builders, working more injury to white labor than if they had been left undisturbed in the mines among only a restricted class as to number.

For some years in connection with the tax collections, the waste upper San Joaquin Valley region, and especially that west of Tulare Lake was

roamed over by bands of Spanish speaking vagabonds, whose nominal vocation was running mustangs, but whose real activities were robbery and the protection of robbers. In October, 1855, the evil had so grown that on the Merced a company of rangers was formed and a bloody fight was had on the Chowchilla River with a band of horse and mule thieves. Sheriff's posses after these bands were not infrequent, nor sanguinary encounters either.

It is an interesting coincidence that in his career Murieta came in early contact with Ira McCray, who was such a notable and conspicuous personage in the history of Millerton. It was about 1853 in Tuolumne County, at Sawmill Flat that McCray was a store keeper and obnoxious to Murieta and his band, and that attempt was made to poison the spring furnishing drinking water. Fortunately the poison was so liberally applied that the project failed. McCray and others, it was said, had been marked for death and report had it that the store was to be robbed on a certain night. A messenger was sent to Columbia for aid, and in response came, with a little field piece that was discharged at frequent intervals to announce its approach, a military company under Thos. N. Cazneau, who was state adjutant general under Governor Haight in 1870-71, but removed from office. There was no robbery attack on the store, but there was such a cleanup of eatables and drinkables at the Flat by the soldiers after the day's march that it was a debatable question whether a raid by the robbers would not have been preferable to the protection of the soldiery.

### THE NAPOLEON OF THE CANYONS

To quote Bancroft, "Murieta stood head and shoulders over all knights of the road in California, if not indeed superior to the most famous highwaymen recorded in the annals of other countries." He was only a few months more than twenty-one when he died, after "a brilliant career of crime" of less than three years. Bancroft asserts that "the terms brave, daring and able faintly express his qualities," drawing then the far-fetched comparison that "in the canyons of California he was what Napoleon was in the cities of Europe." It is needless to recite details of his many crimes. Educated in the school of revolution in Mexico, it was an easy gradation for him to consider himself the champion of his countrymen rather than an outlaw.

The terror of the Stanislaus, his history "though crimson with murder, abounds in dramatic interest." In a few months he headed an organized band that ravaged in every direction, and he "gave proof every day of possessing a peculiar genius for controlling the most accomplished scoundrels that had ever congregated in Christendom." They operated principally in Calaveras, Tuolumne and Mariposa Counties, but covered the state at large in their impartial distribution of murderous attentions. For nearly three years, Murieta flitted between town and country, snapping fingers in the face of authorities and the populace, while throughout the length and breadth of the interior valley from Shasta to Tulare, and along the coast line of missions, the country lamented its dead and rang with demands for his capture, dead or alive. Joaquin lived mostly about the towns but kept his henchmen informed of what was going on and of the opportunities for plunder.

One of the secluded rendezvous places of the band was in the Arroyo de Cantua foothills on the West Side of Fresno County, where to this day are pointed out caves and watch peaks that served the band. The fraternity was sent out for operations in five subdivisions under as many secondary chiefs, acting simultaneously in widely scattered sections, and this with the membership of Joaquin Valenzuela, with similarity in name and appearance, earned for Murieta a reputation with some for ubiquity almost supernatural. Indeed upon his death, it was long insisted with dogged pertinacity that he

was still alive. In disguise one day at Stockton, he halted his horse to read a tacked up handbill offering \$1,000 for his capture, and he nonchalantly added in pencil, "I will give \$5,000—Joaquin."

The monster of the band was Manuel Garcia, "Three Fingered Jack," from the loss of a finger in the war with Mexico. This most sanguinary wretch was no less conspicuous for savage cruelty as for courage. To gratify his lust for human butchery, he adopted as his specialty the throat-slitting of Chinamen. Sometimes he pistoled them, but this was too tame work. He would seize them by the queue and with a twist peculiar to his practiced hand threw up the chin, presenting an unobstructed mark. His boast was that out of every ten not more than five escaped his aim.

At last the people of the state were aroused against this saturnalia of crime and butcheries as a reflection on their manhood in permitting it to go unchecked so long, and in March, 1853, the legislature passed an act empowering Love to bring out a ranger company of twenty mountaineers of experience, bravery and tested nerve to hunt down the marauders. Love followed on the trail, spying by night and keeping close cover by day. On Sunday, July 25, 1853, he and eight rangers came upon a party of seven camping west of Tulare Lake, six seated around a fire at breakfast. Murieta gave the alarm and threw himself on the back of his saddleless and bridleless horse, speeded down the mountain side, leaped the animal over a precipice but falling with him was on his feet again, remounted and dashed on. The rangers close at his heels fired and the bay steed was shot in the side and fell. Joaquin ran afoot and received three balls in the body. He turned on his pursuers, saying, "It is enough; the work is done," reeled, fell on right arm and died without groan. Garcia being cornered, fought but was overcome, after riding five miles and being shot nine times.

Love afterward received the \$1,000 reward offered by the governor, and the legislature of 1854 generously added \$5,000, the rangers having been engaged for \$150 a month. The head of Murieta and the mutilated hand of Garcia were on August 18, 1853, advertised in San Francisco on exhibition at King's saloon at Halleck and Sansome streets—admission one dollar. Certificates of identity were attached of persons who had known Joaquin. These gruesome relics fell, in later years, into the hands of an anatomical museum, and were presumably destroyed in the big fire of April, 1906. The superstitious made much of the growth after death of Joaquin's hair and of the nails on Garcia's hand, but pshaw! there have been more lurid and incredible tales told about Murieta and his band of a half hundred than were ever circulated concerning Robin Hood, Rob Roy, Fra Diavolo, Capt. John Kidd, Jonathan Wild, Jack Sheppard, Robert Macaire, and all the other unmentioned famous outlaws of history.

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## CHAPTER XV

FRESNO CUTS LOOSE FROM MARIPOSA, THE MOTHER COUNTY. POPULATION AND PROPERTY INCREASES. IT ORGANIZES AS A COUNTY. FIRST PUBLISHED MENTIONS WERE AS "FREZNO." NEEDS FOR INDEPENDENT POLITICAL ORGANIZATION. FIRST ELECTED COUNTY OFFICIALS. FOR MANY YEARS A DEMOCRATIC STRONGHOLD. A STATISTICAL CURIOSITY OF 1857. YEAR OF BIRTH, THE REMARKABLE ONE OF THE GREAT VIGILANCE COMMITTEE. "LONE REPUBLICAN OF FRESNO." A YEAR OF MODEST AND SMALL BEGINNINGS.

For about six years, the territory now comprised in Fresno County, and more too, was tied to the governmental apron strings of Mariposa, the

mother county in the San Joaquin Valley, once regarded by common consent as a part of that geographical myth mapped on ancient charts as "The Great American Desert." A time came to cut loose and assume political majority as a county. Fresno, Merced and Mono were originally comprised in Mariposa, and all of Madera, parts of Kings and San Benito in Fresno. Mariposa had, in 1850, a population of 4,879, and in 1860, of 6,243. As showing the population increase of Fresno, there are the decade census returns as follows:

1860 .....	4,605	1890 .....	32,026
1870 .....	6,336	1900 .....	37,862
1880 .....	9,478	1910 .....	75,657

And in further proof that Fresno was not standing still but slowly developing her resources, despite drought and flood years, the following assessment figures are quoted for the first twenty years:

Year.	Property Value.	Total Taxes.
1856 .....	\$431,403.60	\$ 7,345.96
1860 .....	931,007.00	14,895.86
1864 .....	728,040.00	18,753.19
1868 .....	2,366,025.00	55,143.40
1872 .....	5,556,801.00	69,460.01
1876 .....	8,292,918.00	136,431.48

The mining and lumber industries, the growth of agriculture, which had made a promising beginning, and the location of the military post here for the entire valley region had attracted a population, which had to transact its public and court business at Mariposa as the county seat, going thither from the farthestmost end of the territory, involving a tedious and costly roadless journey over steep and rugged mountains and at times across dangerous streams. This was a growing source of expense to the individual, as well as to the taxpayers, for which those in the southernmost section on the San Joaquin received little return. The distance was so great and the isolation so marked that little attention was paid this section in the matter of roads or bridges or public needs—the territory was a source of revenue to Mariposa County while receiving comparatively no return. The county's territory was so immense, the revenue so limited in view of the sparse population and the many pressing demands of the new region, and the conditions so unsettled that the mother county could really not do much in a tangible way.

These conditions could not be worse but might be improved with home government and the spending of the tax revenue nearer home. They led to the county organization movement, and a petition to the legislature of 1856, resulting in the enabling statute of April 19 and the creative enactment of May 26. In petition and acts the original spelling of the county's name was "Frezno," a phonetic version that was soon abandoned. Millerton as the then most populous center was regarded as the logical place for the county seat—in fact could not then have had a rival. To organize the new county, seven commissioners were named in the act—Charles A. Hart, Ira McCray, James Cruikshank, H. A. Carroll, O. M. Brown, J. W. Gilmore and H. M. Lewis. The last named two were absent from the meeting at McCray's hotel on May 26, 1856, to organize and order for June 9 an election for county officers and to vote on county organization, which was accepted as a foregone conclusion. Cruikshank, a lawyer, was chairman and Carroll secretary of the commission, and the county legal machinery was duly set in operation. The first mentions of the new county are in the legislative proceedings and in the State Register for 1857, a publication on the Blue Book order. The latter's mention is reproduced as a present day curiosity:

FREZNO COUNTY  
(County Seat—Millerton)

Frezno County, organized 1856. Boundaries: North by Merced and Mariposa, east by Utah Territory, south by Tulare, and west by Monterey.



**TOPOGRAPHY**—This county was formed from portions of Mariposa, Merced and Tulare, and contains that section of the mining region known as the extreme Southern Mines. The agricultural land in the county is situated in the vicinity of King's River, and is represented to be well adapted for grazing purposes. Number of acres in cultivation, including the Reservations, 2,000.

**LEGAL DISTANCES**—Not yet established by law (from Millerton to Stockton about 140 miles).

## OFFICERS

Office.	Name.	Residence.	Salary.
County Judge.....	Chas. A. Hart.....	Millerton .....	\$2,500
District Attorney.....	J. C. Craddock.....	Millerton .....	1,000
County Clerk and Recorder.....	J. S. Sayles Jr.....	Millerton .....	1,000
Sheriff and Tax Collector.....	W. C. Bradley.....	Millerton .....	1,000
Treasurer.....	Geo. Rivercombe.....	Millerton .....	1,000
Assessor.....	John G. Simpson.....	Millerton .....	1,000
Surveyor.....	C. M. Brown.....	Millerton .....	1,000
Coroner.....	Dr. Du Gay.....	Millerton .....	Fees
Public Administrator.....	James Smith.....	Kings River .....	Fees
Supervisor.....	John R. Hughes.....	Millerton .....	Per diem
Supervisor.....	John A. Patterson.....	Kings River .....	Per diem
Supervisor.....	John L. Hunt.....	Huntsville.....	Per diem

(The terms of all of these expired in October, 1858.)

**THIRTEENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT**—Hon. Edward Burke, of Mariposa, judge district court; sessions, second Monday, March, July and November.

**SIXTH SENATORIAL DISTRICT**—Senator: Hon. Samuel A. Merritt of Mariposa; term expires January, 1859.

**MEMBER OF ASSEMBLY**—Hon. Orson K. Smith of Woodville.

**AGRICULTURAL RESOURCES**—Wheat, 1,000 acres; barley, 500 acres, and vegetables, 500 acres.

**FRUIT TREES**—But little attention has as yet been devoted to the culture of fruit. There are two vineyards in a forward state, and a few fruit trees, which appear to thrive remarkably well.

**LIVE STOCK**—Horses, 1,400; mules, 200; asses, 150; cattle, 18,650; calves, 2,650; sheep, 1,000; swine, 4,000; goats, 50; total 28,100. Assessed value, \$360,000.

**MINERAL RESOURCES**—There are several important mining streams, principally worked by Chinamen. Amount of foreign miner's tax collected \$1,000 per month.

**WATER DITCHES, ETC.**—There are two extensive water ditches in the course of completion; one steam saw mill and two quartz veins, represented to be remarkably rich.

**MILITARY POST AND INDIAN RESERVATIONS**—Fort Miller, Fresno Farm and King's River Farm Reservations are located in this county.

**FINANCES**—Receipts from date of organization July 1 to December 1, 1856, \$6,281.15; expenditures, \$4,268. Amount of taxable property, principally stock, \$400,000, tax collected, \$6,912; foreign miner's tax collected \$1,200 per month.

**POPULATION**—Votes cast, 319; Indians, 1,300.

**ATTORNEYS**—Millerton: O. M. Brown, H. Clark and James T. Cruickshank.

**PHYSICIANS**—Fort Miller: Wm. J. L. Engle; Fresno River: D. J. Johnson, Lewis Leach; Millerton: W. A. N. Dugnay (Du Gay).

The first meeting of the supervisors-elect was held on June 23 of Hughes and Patterson, J. M. Roan having failed to qualify wherefore Hunt was chosen at a special election ordered at this initial session, besides which the county was declared formally organized. Patterson was succeeded by J. E. Williams in February, 1857, Clark Hoxie elected in May to succeed Hunt and S. W. Rankin in August to supersede Hughes.

1856—Fresno's birthyear is a memorable one in the annals of the state, being the year of the extraordinary reign of the great Vigilance Committee, "the most formidable public tribunal in the history of modern civilization," that ushered an era of moral, civic and political scouring and scrubbing, whose beneficial effect was experienced for a generation. Governor Johnson, who, with Gen. T. W. Sherman, was arrayed against the committee, referred to its deliberations as "turbulence and strife without a parallel in the recorded annals of our nation."

Politically, California voted at its first two presidential elections as follows:

	1852		1856
Pierce (Dem.) .....	39,665	Buchanan (Dem.) .....	53,365
Scott (Whig) .....	34,971	Fillmore (Am.) .....	36,165
Hale (Free Soil).....	100	Fremont (Rep.) .....	20,691

At this November, 1856, first national election, the county went:

Buchanan .....	218
Fillmore .....	123
Fremont .....	1

The identity of this Republican or Whig voter was no secret. He was William Aldridge, and of an age that the younger called him "Dad." He was the choresman at Payne's trading post at Coarse Gold, as populous a voting district as there was in the territory at the time. He became known over the entire state as "the lone Republican of Fresno." Aldridge also mined at Fine Gold Gulch. The correct version here given for the first time is that he came by his political appellation on account of an incident at the first election for Lincoln. The polling place was at Mace's Garden and Captain Mace was the judge of election, electors not voting then by ballot but by oral announcements of their choice of candidates. Registration of electors was an unknown art. Everyone, who was believed to have been born on the soil and to have residence, was considered to have a vote.

In the camp were two notorious, swashbuckling Copperheads known as Davis and Hill, very undesirable citizens and later suspected of being members of the terrorizing band in the early sixty's that robbed the cabins of Chinese miners of gold dust savings and outrageously maltreated these inoffensives, a reign that was ended only when the community took the matter in its own hands and hanged several suspects after "Judge Lynch" trials. Davis and Hill loudly boasted about the camp that no blank of a blank of an Abolitionist would be permitted to vote that day. Aldridge carried word of the threat to Mace and such swift and armed preparations were made that when Aldridge offered his vote there was no one to hinder him.

Hill ran counter, afterward, of Deputy Sheriff "Shorty" Green of Mariposa County in an affair at Indian Gulch in that county and was killed by the latter with a pistol bullet that pierced his skull in the forehead center. Whatever became of Davis no one recalls.

Aldridge was an inoffensive old fellow whose Democratic friends good naturedly would escort him to the polls, and one of the candidates for governor remembered him by sending him a fine hat in care of the county clerk. Aldridge declined to wear it until the county should give a Republican majority, but he passed away and the hat disappeared long before that event came to pass in an old time Democratic stronghold, built up by early settlers who very generally hailed from the southern states, and strengthened by those who came during and after the war and whose sympathies being with the South religiously voted that way.

Organization year was one of small beginnings with Fresno. In 1856 the county was credited with 1,620 acres under cultivation as follows:

	Acres	Bushels
Wheat .....	1,000	30,000
Barley .....	520	20,800
Oats .....	100	3,500

Grapevines were estimated at 2,000. Los Angeles County exceeded every other district in the state then in the cultivation of the grape, with 726,000 growing vines.

Two canals taking water out of the San Joaquin for mining purposes were reported, the first of these almost opposite the fort but never completed. These were the Fort Miller Mining and Water Company, two miles long and to have cost \$100,000; and Mace, Hatch & Company's five-mile canal at Clark's Bar. The only steam sawmill was Alex. Ball's, about fifteen miles east of Millerton, erected in 1854, operating one saw with capacity of 6,000 feet and valued at \$8,000.

Fresno was on one of the seven principal wagon roads leading from California to the East—the Tejon route from Stockton via Millerton and

the Kings River to the Tejon Pass to Los Angeles, San Bernardino and the military road to Salt Lake City, 1,100 miles.

Lieut. Lucien Loeser of the Third Artillery commanded the garrison of three officers and seventy-seven men at Fort Miller. He was the officer who was sent from Monterey to Washington with Colonel Mason's report on the gold regions, and carried with him a tea-caddy full of gold dust, besides cinnabar from New Almaden. The report was made ten days after the proclamation of the Mexican War peace treaty.

Hugh Carroll was postmaster at Millerton, and William Innes at Scottsburg, the only postoffices in the county at the time. Carroll was another of the tribe of squawmen, known among the Indians as "What-what," meaning goose or gander and applied to him on account of his waddling and shuffling gait.

## CHAPTER XVI

MILESTONES IN MILLERTON'S HISTORY. LOOSE AND DEVIL-ME-CARE TIMES. OFFICIAL RECORDS EXASPERATINGLY INCOMPLETE. CONSTRUCTION OF A JAIL A FIRST CONSIDERATION. IT PROVED A VERITABLE WHITE ELEPHANT. MINER'S TAX COLLECTIONS. FIRST SHERIFF AN INCOMPETENT. BOUNDARY LINE DISPUTES AND ATTEMPTED LAND GRABS. EARLY LICENSED FERRIES AND RATE SCHEDULES. TOLLHOUSE GRADE AS THE BEAST OF BURDEN KILLER. EXTENSIVE LUMBER OPERATIONS ON PINE RIDGE, WITH OCKENDEN AS THE CENTER OF ACTIVITIES.

The milestones in the eighteen years of Millerton's fleeting history may be set down in the following order:

1851, April—Establishment of military post on the south bank of the San Joaquin River, one mile above the later county seat village site.

1856, May 26—Meeting of commissioners to arrange for county organization details, with election of first county officers on June 9.

September 10—Fort Miller evacuated. Regarrisoned in August, 1863, during the war and until final abandonment and sale of buildings, not very long afterwards.

1857, February 23—Acceptance of first county built jail structure.

1861-62, Winter—Damaging river flood.

1865, January 28—Publication of first number of ten of the Millerton Times.

1867, Summer—Completion of the courthouse and jail.

1867, December 24—The big flood, with washing away of nearly half the village site.

1870, April 27—First number of the Weekly Expositor newspaper.

July 3—The great fire of Millerton, with destruction of the Henry Hotel and reported \$8,000 property loss.

1874, March 23—Election on removal of county seat.

September 25—Removal of county offices to Fresno.

A writer from memory in the Expositor of January 1, 1879, presenting what is the first attempted and at the time the most ambitious effort at a historical write-up of the early days of Fresno County, originated in print the since oft quoted description of conditions ruling in Millerton in 1853 that has passed down as an accepted historical fact. Said he: "The mines on the banks of the river were then rich, and the county officials and the officers and men at Fort Miller had a very agreeable time with Millertonites, and everything was conducted in a loose, devil-me-care sort of a style. County

court was adjourned one day to give the jury an opportunity to attend a horse race, and the board of supervisors would adjourn twenty times a day in order to go and take a drink." (The writer probably meant twenty adjournments in a day for twenty drinks, and not twenty adjournments to take one drink.)

The writer of these "Reminiscences of Early Times" in that New Year's day number was undoubtedly William Faymonville, whose "kindly aid" is duly acknowledged editorially. He was an old timer, an office holder as far back as February, 1861, when he was appointed assessor to succeed W. H. Crowe resigned, elected county clerk and recorder in September, 1863, and reelected two years later. He was prominent as a citizen and as a politician in Millerton and in Fresno. The earliest mention of him is as an election clerk in the fall of 1851 at the Texas Flat (Coarse Gold Gulch) precinct. He was in a position to treat from personal knowledge of the early days that he wrote about. Anyhow, the social "historical fact" has never been traversed.

That things in private and public life were "conducted in a loose, devil-me-care sort of a style" in those early times in Millerton was true in no restricted sense of the expression, and the record bears it out. For years the county did business without an official seal. One was not adopted until February 13, 1873, when the design in use to this day was accepted of County Clerk Harry Dixon, who brushed up his youthful classic recollections to build up the hog-Latin motto, "Rempublican Defendemus,"—"We defend the public good"—as he rendered it. And there was no one to gainsay him.

At clerical work, men were set who were more competent to manipulate a shovel or a flail than a goosequill. No record is kept in the supervisors' minutes as canvassers of election returns until 1862, and no declaration of results. Tabulated returns were then inserted and paid for at the rate of fifty dollars and more for a total county vote recapitulation less in number than in a single Fresno city precinct today. Nowhere in the record is there anything concerning the organization of the county, save months and months later in casual references to the organization act in connection with boundary line resurveys.

Office holders were landlords of the county, receiving rent for public office quarters. County employes were paid extra for services in the line of their work. Was any responsible person short of money and the treasurer a good fellow, a loan was negotiated, and the money came forth from the public treasury, evidenced by personal note of the borrower. Supervisors met quarterly only, and the "per diem," as their minute clerk insisted upon writing it, was ten dollars, besides mileage.

### FIRST ERECTED MILLERTON CALABOOSE

It is recorded as a commentary upon the looseness of the times that at the initial meeting of the first board of supervisors on June 23, 1856, after the county organization preliminaries consideration was given the subject of a jail. A county rate of fifty cents was levied as a tax for jail and courthouse, and one of seventy cents on the \$100 for state purposes. The jail contract was awarded to Henry Burroughs, the hotelman, for \$6,000 on September 15, and the structure accepted on February 25, 1857. The story is that the calaboose was so flimsy that on the day for its examination and acceptance the lone inmate exultingly offered to demonstrate how easily he could scratch his way out with a nail. Burroughs begged him to delay any demonstration and the prisoner obligingly complied. Upon the sworn testimony of Alexander Wallace, who was the unsuccessful bidder with Burroughs as one of his bond sureties, acceptance and contract payment followed. This jail proved a veritable white elephant, what with frequent repairs beginning as early as May, 1857, and November, 1858, the guarding of prisoners with Burroughs among others as a jailor. high priced hotel meals and ten-dollar

blankets for prisoners until in the course of time a ten-dollar a week meal rate was established in November, 1863, by the supervisors, and in May, 1865, contract was made with McCray of the Oak Hotel on competitive bids to feed them for \$1.33 a day payable in scrip and \$1.66 a day for board and keep, however long or brief the individual incarceration. In the 50's as much as six dollars a day was charged by the sheriff, but the board reduced the per diem to four dollars.

The dilapidated jail having been pulled down as a preliminary in one of the frequent spurts to build a courthouse and jail, arrangement was made with the sheriff of Mariposa, for a time, to feed and guard Fresno's prisoners. At the last, so the story runs, the inmates of Burroughs' corral provided themselves with a conveniently concealed exit hole for frequent excursions into the open, always returning in time to incarceration and the certainty of meals and a bed for the mere inconvenience of temporary restrictions in personal liberty.

Eighteen per cent. remuneration was allowed for the collection of the four-dollar foreign miner's tax, but at the third meeting George S. Harden complained that because of the treasurer's change in the gold rate valuations and the consequent loss in blowing off sand from the dust his percentage as deputy sheriff in collecting was "too small to live on." The percentage was fixed at twenty-two per cent. and gold made receivable at fourteen dollars an ounce in value.

Early trouble was had with Bradley, the first selected sheriff, and pending action on a resolution of Clark Hoxie to depose him on August 7, 1857, he peacefully resigned. Harden succeeded him. Bradley had an insufficient bond, Supervisor J. R. Hughes, one of his sureties, having moved out of the county, and another, Alexander Ball, being a bankrupt. Bradley was lax in not making returns of his collections, failing to make seizures and sales for non payment of taxes, and in general conducting the collections in "a careless, loose and incompetent manner."

So loosely and slovenly drawn was the act creating and defining the county and the boundary lines that it was not until May, 1878, that the last complaint on this score was received from Tulare asking for a joint resurvey. It was not the first time either that the line with Tulare, one of the contiguous counties, was in contention. Fresno could not perceive that any material benefit would result to either from the survey and curtly dismissed the proposition, as it did a similar one from Inyo in June, 1873. Resurveys were, however, had at intervals with every contiguous county under the original creative act, besides the attempted territory grabs, notably later by Kings in April, 1909, of a 120 square mile slice under the Webber bill, and the sensational effort and defeat after long and bitter litigation and the indictment of three of the commissioners to divide the county for the enlargement of Kings with the annexation of the Coalinga oil field in 1907-08.

As early as August, 1857, it was agreed between joint commissioners—Hewlett Clark, then a justice of the peace, and James Smith, ferryman at the Tulare Mansion at the Lower Kings crossing near Reedley, for Fresno—that \$2,609.55 was due—\$744.16 to Mariposa, \$1,362.42 to Tulare and \$502.97 to Merced for the land taken in forming the county. The various surveys were made necessary largely by the faulty legislative description of the southeast boundary of Merced.

The first defeated land grab was in February, 1859, against the separation of the Upper and Lower Kings River territory to be attached to Tulare. Effectual protest was on the ground that the dismemberment was against every interest of Fresno, taking as it would two-thirds of the then small vote of 264 and a proportionate amount of taxable property, "which can illy be spared and which if lost would greatly injure our county finances and perhaps lead to an abandonment of our county organization," for which "there is no good and sufficient reason and which is of no special value

or necessity to the advantage and rapidly increasing prospects of Tulare County," and being "a movement so unnecessary in every respect."

In February, 1860, Fresno also successfully combatted the effort of Merced to diminish its territory, "contrary to every interest," reducing its income by more than \$1,000 a year and jeopardizing its chances to elect a legislative representative independent of Tulare, with no special advantage to Merced, "further than robbing us of a large amount of revenue."

After the lapse of so many years, it would seem that all boundary line questions might be at rest, but in 1917-18 arose another as to the line between Fresno and Merced, which following the crest of the Coast Range in part and never having been run on the ground left in doubt in which county in reality respective assessors were placing values on land for taxation purposes. To run the extended line according to a joint agreed upon survey, Madera's surveyor furnished the known and accepted starting point in the lower moult of cottonwood timber of the original legislative described northern boundary line of Fresno, surveying the line in Madera to tie in with Fresno as now bounded with the severing of Madera, then to be taken up by the joint survey. That survey was never completed because of the death of Surveyor McKay and on account of the war.

So also on a survey of a few years ago between Fresno and Kings with the Kings River as the line, the expected problem was to locate the channel center after all the years with the changes in the river bed but it was made easy with the fortunate discovery of the tree benchmark making the location of the channel center of the years before a simple matter of measurement. The new line was run on the zigzag section lines, where before the diagonal bisected properties, ran through houses and left part in one or the other county so that it was no fiction for a man in his house to sleep in bed-chamber in one county and stepping across the line sit down to a meal in kitchen in the other county.

### FERRIES AN IMPORTANT CONSIDERATION

As a new county, the safety and convenience of the increasing settlers was early brought to the attention of the supervisors in frequent applications for and renewals of licenses to conduct ferries at favorable points on the travelled roads, doing away with fords which were not always safe. The earliest fords on the San Joaquin were at Cassady's Gravelly Ford and at other points at and below Millerton. The first ferry was the one of Ira McCray, the political nabob and popularly accepted "mayor" of Millerton, alongside his hotel and opposite the courthouse. The earliest licensed ferries were these:

August, 1856—McCray's at Millerton, on the San Joaquin.

Stephen Gaster at Mono City, on the San Joaquin.

November, 1856—C. P. Converse across San Joaquin below Millerton at Converse Flat, afterward known as Jones' store.

May, 1857—James Smith across the lower Kings at Smith & Crumbley's.

John Poole, across the upper Kings at Campbell's Crossing.

February, 1858—W. W. Hill at Poole's crossing of the Upper Kings near Scottsburg (Centerville).

February, 1859—L. A. Whitmore, on Lower Kings at Kingston.

Firebaugh's on the lower San Joaquin.

These ferries paid monthly licenses of five dollars and three dollars and were under bonds of \$3,000 reduced later to \$2,500. They multiplied fast, and for a time were evidently good investments. There was more or less trouble on their score because of the varying tolls and popular opposition because of the tax, so that in February, 1860, a regular schedule was adopted borrowed from Merced, after the road approaches had been declared public highway and the county mapped off into districts with



roadmasters. Incidentally, "Mayor" McCray charged the county four dollars for ferrying a corpse across the river for burial, a tariff not taken cognizance of in the toll sheet.

By August, 1869, general traffic had so increased in volume that a new rate list was established, made necessary also by the heavy Stockton freighting business with trail wagons, and the ferriage of cattle and sheep. One Millerton ferry boasted of having on one day in June, 1871, ferried across the river 24,000 sheep without the loss of an animal. The new rates, incorporating those of 1860, were these:

1 horse wagon or buggy.....	\$ .50
2 horse wagon or buggy.....	1.00
4 horse wagon, loaded .....	1.50
4 horse wagon, empty .....	1.00
6 horse wagon, loaded .....	2.00
6 horse wagon, empty .....	1.50
8 horse wagon, loaded .....	2.50
8 horse wagon, empty .....	1.75
10 horse wagon, loaded .....	3.00
10 horse wagon, empty .....	2.00
12 horse wagon, loaded .....	3.50
12 horse wagon, empty .....	2.25
Horseman .....	.50
Footman .....	.25
Pack or lead animal, each.....	.25
Loose cattle or horses, per head.....	.10
Hogs .....	.03
Sheep .....	.02

In use by 1869-70 were the fords at Cassidy's Bar, at McCray's (ferry having gone out with the flood), and at Fort Washington, the Walker, Faymonville & Company ferry at Rancheria Flat, that at Jones' store (formerly Converse's), one at Sycamore railroad crossing (now Herndon), Gravelly Ford at where Skaggs' concrete bridge is now, Watson's ferry on the slough (now Whitesbridge), another at the Gus Herminghaus ranch and the one on the slough at Casa Blanca. On the Upper Kings were Poole's and Smith's, and on the Lower Kings, Whitmore's to which O. H. Bliss succeeded, and Van Valer's five miles above. The Gaster ferry at Mono City was where the first electric generating power house is located now on the San Joaquin. Royal & Gaster had a big two and one-half story adobe trading store at this stage station.

### IN THE SIERRA TIMBER COUNTRY

The toll road from the Henry Burroughs ranch to The Pineries—the Pine Ridge road with the beast-killing grade above the tollhouse—was completed in August, 1867, and the tolls were:

Wagon, span of horses, mules or oxen.....	\$1.50
Each additional span .....	.50
Horse and buggy .....	1.00
Horseman .....	.50
Pack or led animal .....	.25
Loose horses, mules or cattle.....	.10
Sheep or hogs .....	.02

This roadway, popularly known as the Tollhouse grade, was for years the burden beast killer as the highway for mountain travel and freighting. Opened to replace the ox trail and facilitate lumber shipping from Pine Ridge mills, it gave rise at the base of the grade to the settlement of Tollhouse, where Abe C. Yancey kept a roadhouse in 1868, and Henry Glass a blacksmith shop. The

grade is the steepest on any public highway in the state save one, traversing hills in places on a long and steady grade of thirty-three percent. It has been the scene of several auto hill-climbing contests, the first in April, 1909, when A. J. Hudson established the record in a Dorris in twenty-four minutes and forty-eight seconds to Armstrong's seven and one-half miles above the Pine Ridge divide.

Up this murderous grade the heaviest freight wagons for years hauled laboriously to supply the mountain saw mills, as well as tugging the heavy machinery for their operation. Donkey engines, carwheels and track rails and a small locomotive were freighted up the mountains for the plant construction notably of the Fresno Flume and Lumber Company for its lumbering enterprise in the region about the dammed artificial Shaver Lake, and later as far back in the timber forests as Dinkey Creek. So fearful is the grade that passengers by stage were cajoled, threatened or commanded to walk it to relieve the jaded animals in the ascent.

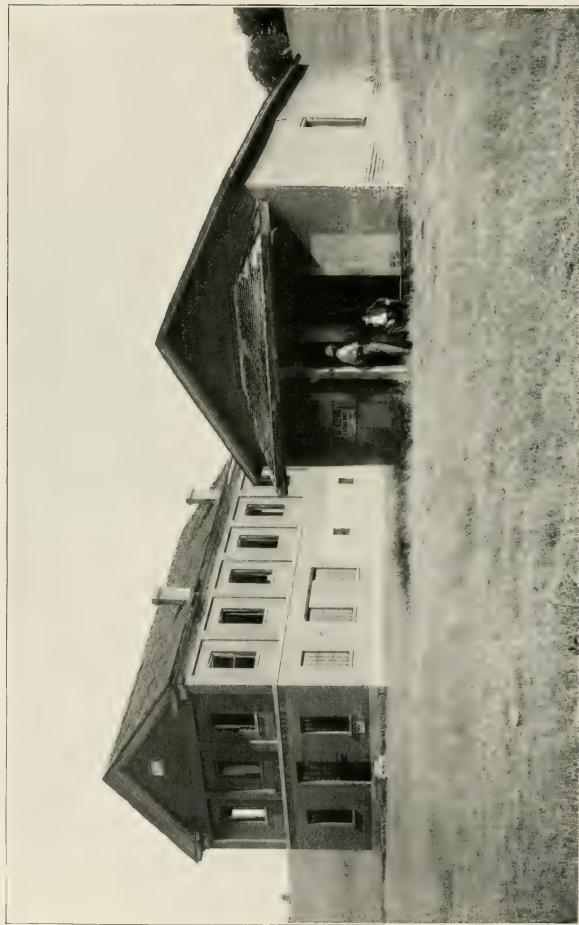
Early historic paragraphers from Faymonville down have credited Alexander Ball with erecting the first sawmill in 1854 on Pine Ridge. The first man was James Hulse. He located below Corlew's Meadows, and according to the story staked the mill as a wager in a poker game at a ball and lost. Then it came into the possession of Ball, who lost it by fire, hastening on his bankruptcy in 1857, one of the very earliest if not the first in the county. The original toll grade was cut by two trappers and hunters, the Woods brothers, under a charter of 1866, starting from the upper end at a place which later became known as the Widow Waite's. Their grade was about 150 feet higher than the later improved one, that first trail being yet discernible in places.

J. W. Humphreys and Moses Mock established in 1866 a mill which became in 1870 the property of M. J. Donahoo, who also bought from Glass and others the toll road to the mills that had passed into their hands. Donahoo improved the grade, and in 1878 sold it to the county for \$5,000, whereupon it became a free road, though still continuing a beast killer. Donahoo erected a planing mill in 1876 at Tollhouse, which became a busy mountain settlement, a halting station on the stage line, and before the flume a shipping point for the Pine Ridge lumber cut, already a county resource. The sites of these many early mills may be located today on the edges of the deep ravines that have been filled with the heaped up great accumulations of rotting saw-dust.

The timber belt that in the course of years has been pretty well denuded was an extensive one, over twenty-five miles wide and sixty long, embracing over 1,500 square miles, estimated at 8,000 feet an acre to contain over 9,600,000,000 feet of lumber, considered a low average, and placing the value at ten dollars per thousand the aggregate would be \$96,000,000, considered not fifty percent. of the real value. The Pine Ridge district was in its day a perfect web of sawmills and camps, with Ockenden as the center of the mills and timbering operations. It was the most important mountain settlement, contributing to the wants of thousands engaged in the industry, which was an important one of the county, coming next to mining and agriculture. It has been said that there have been as many as eighty-four mill sites, according to the tell-tale saw dust dump piles during the years when the lumbering operations were at their height.

Equally as extensive lumber operations were prosecuted in the Kings River region, not even sparing Big Trees, with Sanger later as the flume receiving point and the mill headquarters of the Kings River Lumber Company, and at a still later date of the eastern capitalized Hume-Bennett Lumber Company which revived activities in that quarter. It undertook a great piece of work in moving mill and plant at Millwood across a range to a more promising location on Ten Mile Creek which was dammed to form a lake by an original piece of concrete construction work, the conception of





COURT HOUSE 1866 AT MILLERTON, COSTING \$19,000.—ABANDONED SEPTEMBER, 1874

Civil Engineer J. S. Eastwood. There the mill and mountain settlement of Hume has been established on the never completed state and county fostered scenic road through General Grant National Park via the Sand Creek road from Reedley and Dunlap. The dam was completed late in November, 1908, at an approximate cost of \$35,000, creating an eighty-seven-acre lake with a maximum depth of fifty feet and draining an area of twenty-five square miles. It is 677 feet long on the crest and fifty-one high at its highest point, ground for it having been broken on June 26, 1908, and 2,207 cubic yards of concrete, besides eight miles of old steel cable entering into the construction.

## CHAPTER XVII

**HISTORICAL COURTHOUSE A WORRY FOR TEN YEARS. IT IS ABANDONED IN THE END TO THE OWLS AND BATS AFTER SEVEN YEARS UPON REMOVAL OF THE COUNTY SEAT. FINANCIAL DIFFICULTIES LONG STOOD IN THE WAY OF ITS REALIZATION. IT WAS A MODEL FOR HONEST CONSTRUCTION, AND THE BOAST AND PRIDE OF THE PEOPLE. COURTROOM BECOMES THE TOWN ASSEMBLY HALL. BUILDING RECALLS TRAGIC MYSTERY IN FRESNO'S OFFICIAL ANNALS AND THE FIRST DEFALCATION.**

"When in 1874, the county seat was removed to Fresno, the entire town of Millerton was abandoned, and the splendid courthouse which had cost the county many thousand dollars, was left there standing by itself, a refuge for owls and bats, and the drunken orgies of the 'noble redman,' a dumb, silent, and yet an eloquent witness of the folly and short-sightedness of those who formerly directed the affairs of the county."

These are the parting words of Historian Faymonville in 1879.

The decision to vote on the county seat removal was the death-knell of Ira McCray's future activities in Millerton, as witnesseth the following publication on a certain February day in 1874:

**SHERIFF'S SALE**—On Saturday, Sheriff Ashman sold the following property situate in the town of Millerton at public auction to satisfy an execution against it. Jesse Morrow was the purchaser and the property sold for the following figures: Oak hotel building and lot and livery stable \$250, blacksmith shop \$50, Joe Royal storehouse, \$15, "Negro Jane" house and lot \$13. The election ordered by the board of supervisors for the purpose of removing the county seat does not add to the value of property in Millerton.

James McCardle became proprietor of the Oak Hotel.

Can Sheriff Ashman have had hopes that the end of Millerton might be averted? If so, he was challenging manifest destiny. On March 11, 1874, appeared the following announcement of an actual improvement in the expiring village.

**IMPROVEMENTS**—Just think of it—a new building is being erected in Millerton: a dwelling house, too, and just now of all times, when the county seat is about to be removed. But such is the fact, nevertheless. Those two indefatigable knights of the saw, hammer and chisel—they haven't got any plane for we inquired—Joseph Lamper Smith and Henry Roemer are hard at work on a dwelling for J. Scott Ashman.

Until that historical courthouse and jail of 1867 was completed, to be abandoned with removal of the county seat after only seven years of occupancy, the housing of the officers and courts was a perennial subject of worry for the supervisors. They were scattered in as many as four different buildings at a time under one year leases, because from the time of the earliest discussion of the subject in June, 1859, the hope was ever entertained of a county-owned official home. But the finances never would permit. The tax rate with the early sparse population and scarcity of assessable property was

not sufficient to perceptibly augment the created building-fund nest-egg. Besides builders were not inclined to bid for a contract with pay forthcoming in the scrip or bonds of a fledgling county, which had not yet attained a settled basis but was in the throes of development. While the community had, with the years, been educated up to an acceptance of the public necessity of a courthouse, another educational campaign was necessary to endorse a legislative appeal for a bond issue. Even after all these preliminaries were successfully overcome, the resolution to build was carried in the board by only a bare majority and over the formal protest of S. S. Hyde, one of the three members.

In those days under the '49 constitution, liberal a document as it was asserted to be, the legislature was entrusted with more regulative and supervisory powers over local government than it has today under the shot riddled constitution of 1879, which enlarged upon the home legislative body's governing powers in local matters. All these things are to be borne in mind to account for the years of wearisome delay before the county could luxuriate in its own courthouse. It may be soberly questioned even, whether in 1856, the territory with its scant population, its lack of known resources, save in the placers, the life of which no one could foretell, and with its future a serious problem, was prepared to assume every responsibility of independent county government. One local historian has epitomized the situation in the words that "Fresno had undertaken in county organization to satisfy a champagne appetite on a small beer income."

In June, 1859, in response to a call to buy a suitable county building, McCray offered his Oak Hotel building for \$8,000, and Henry Burroughs his much older wooden hotel structure and also to repair again the jail—the one with the voodoo on it, that he was paid \$6,000 for. The upshot was a decision to secure plans for a courthouse building, and there the matter rested until November, 1862, when the subject was revived and a set was accepted in April, 1863. Meanwhile, in February, a site was bought from L. G. Hughes and Stephen Gaster, in the store and stable ground of Hughes, for \$600, occupied by Gaster and J. B. Royal, and William Rousseau's adjoining lot, for \$150.

No response forthcoming to the advertisement in the *Mariposa Free Press* from builders, another call for bids was inserted in June in the *San Francisco Weekly Bulletin*, and *Weekly Sonora Union-Democrat* and still no response, and with like experience a third call made in August, in the *California Weekly Republican* of Sacramento. One year elapsed, and then it was resolved to fence in the site.

In February, 1866, the *Mariposa Free Press* and *Visalia Times* were tried as advertising mediums and as a result Charles S. Peck of *Mariposa* offered plans, which later were accepted. In May proposals to build were invited and an issue of \$20,000 bonds at ten percent. was authorized to meet the obligation. The bidding contractors were:

Charles P. Converse, \$17,008.25; Peck & Hillenhagen, \$18,500; George Chittenden, \$20,000.

To Converse was awarded the contract under a \$34,000 bond. His offer was raised \$1,600 in August on account of authorized changes. Construction began in the winter of 1866 and ended in the summer of 1867, the brick was burned on the ground, and the granite and rock quarried near by. On settlement Converse claimed \$7,599 additional, \$2,000 by reason of depreciation of county bonds and interest payments on loans by reason of non acceptance of presented warrants because of the treasurer's defalcation. This \$2,000 claim was disallowed, but in all he was allowed \$5,728.25 above his contract price.

It must in all fairness be admitted that the building was most substantially constructed, the jail portion in the rear basement with its great granite slabs and heavy iron doors being second to none then in the state



for fortresslike stability. Converse really took a pride in giving the county a durable and solid structure, the two dungeon walls being of granite blocks some weighing a ton or more. The building will serve, standing to this day, as a mute object lesson to present-day contractors of shoddy and ginger breaded public work. It made no pretense to architectural beauty. It was plain and simple and planned for use and not empty show. It could be made tenatable at no great expense in the refitting of the woodwork.

It is remarkable that after the years of agitation for a courthouse and a total expenditure of more than \$24,336 so little in the end should have been thought of the enterprise as to overlook a celebration to mark its completion, or even in the beginning in the laying of the cornerstone. Vandals have burrowed through and under the front brickwalls for the cornerstone box of coins and relics, but in vain, for none was ever deposited. The old courthouse was the boast and pride of the Millertonian. Long after the desertion of the village, it was carried as a tangible asset on the books of the county, though it had legally passed into the possession of Charles A. Hart, who became the owner of the land by reason of a government homestead location.

The makeshift outside courtrooms had been the place for general public assemblies and traveling shows, such as in those days at great intervals lost their way into this far away neck of the woods, principally sleight of hand performers, lecturers on phrenology and stranded negro minstrels working their hazardous route homeward and during whose stay the hotel landlords kept watchful eye on stage departure days. The tribunal chamber in the Converse courthouse also became the townhall, but under the restrictions of August, 1867, forbidding traveling shows or exhibitions of legerdemain, and making exceptions as to musical concerts, vocal or instrumental, lectures on the arts and sciences and political and religious exercises. Balls and receptions were given and fraternal societies held forth there, the Odd Fellows' lodge on Monday and the Independent Order of Good Templars on Saturday evenings at the early hour of seven, besides the religious services at eleven in the morning on the fourth Sabbath of the month, conducted by Rev. J. H. Neal, who, on the other Sundays, preached in rotation at the Mississippi, Scottsburg and Dry Creek schools.

The erection of the courthouse recalls the first tragic story and mystery connected with the official annals of the county in the defalcation and disappearance of Gaster, the treasurer, well to do and a highly respected citizen—in fact there were defalcations in the treasurership by successive elected incumbents. Sixteen days had elapsed on August 28, 1866, that Gaster had, according to the formal official record, "without apparent cause absented himself and failed and neglected to discharge the duties of his office," wherefore it was resolved to open the office and force the safe. Investigation showed that \$6,603.06 was missing, and County Judge E. C. Winchell declared the office vacant. Thomas J. Allen was later appointed to the vacancy, but failing to qualify, George Grierson was named.

In the safe were found five packages containing county scrip, notes, and a buckskin sack with \$1,800 and memoranda of ownership, besides fifteen loose twenty-dollar pieces in several compartments. A. M. Darwin established his ownership to this money and it was legally surrendered to him. The Gaster estate later offered to compromise the shortage for \$2,000, but it was declined and little was recovered by suit. Gaster's defalcation has never been satisfactorily accounted for. At the time he and Converse were close friends—in fact Gaster financed him in enterprises and possibly in the courthouse construction.

Gaster's disappearance on August 11, 1866, left Mrs. Emma C. Gaster to face the world, handicapped with the care of four children. About two and one-half years later she married Converse, who in February, 1868, had been divorced. His end was also a tragic one.

## CHAPTER XVIII

NO CIVIC PROGRESS OR SPIRIT IN MILLERTON. NEVER WAS THERE TOWN PLAT OR INCORPORATION. ITS SITE WAS ON UNSURVEYED GOVERNMENT LAND. ITS ONE VILLAGE STREET A DOUBLE ENDER CUL DE SAC. NEARNESS TO RICH PLACERS CONTROLLED CHOICE OF SITE. TRADITIONAL ESTIMATE OF NEAR BY GOLD YIELD. RURAL CONDITIONS WERE ALMOST PRIMITIVELY IDEAL. STAGE LINES AND SLOW MAIL DELIVERIES. WAR NEWS RUSHED ON BY STAGE COACH AFTER PURCHASE BY CLUB IN VISALIA.

The eighteen years of village life history of Millerton, with the added burden of misfit county-seat honors, are singular for the lack of civic progress, remaining during that period practically at a standstill and positively retrograding. Was a structure dismantled for removal, which was not infrequent, was one destroyed by fire, or washed away by flood, there was no replacement. It was never predestined to live as a town, and the fact was emphasized at the county seat removal election in March, 1874.

The only noteworthy building spurt was at the founding in the first half of the 1850 decade. The only picture of the ragged village is from a photograph of 1870, by Frank Dusy, after the big flood. It shows a scattered collection of sixteen houses and local landmarks, including Chinatown at the upper end of the village street into which it debouched, the Indian rancheria on the bluff across the river, with the courthouse and Oak hotel looming up as the principal stone structures, and with more vacant than occupied spaces on both sides of the roadway.

There was an Indian rancheria above the fort and another below the village, hence the ferry landing name, "Rancheria Flat."

The hotel was erected by Ira McCray in 1858, at a cost of \$15,000, with brick burned and stone quarried right on the ground, and for the day it was a pretentious structure and a comfortable caravansary that the flood razed to one story. McCray never recovered from this misfortune, it was the turning point in his affairs.

Never was there a town plat of Millerton. There never could have been one. It never had town incorporation or officers. The county supervisors were the town governing body, if any assumed the prerogative, and before county organization it was practically without government, because of its remoteness from Mariposa's county seat. The village site was on no man's land, on unsurveyed government land in which no one could have ownership, yet buildings were erected, leases entered into, lots sold and bought, the courthouse site included, and no one had more tangible claim than a squatter's possessory holding from which he might be turned off at any time, but was not—another evidence of the "loose, devil-me-care" spirit of the times. When the fort was abandoned at the close of 1863, the late Judge Hart bought the government buildings for a song as a home residence, and after the land survey he located a homestead on the surrounding land, including the fort site.

So it was with the village on the river bank. The homestead filed by George McClelland, whose house was central in the village, embraced the site as far as McCray's, the township line cutting across the town riverwards just beyond the opposite courthouse. This homestead right came to the late W. H. McKenzie by purchase, and so his estate (he was born at the fort as was his half brother, Truman G. Hart) is the owner of the fort, village and courthouse sites, besides the 12,000-acre cattle range on both

sides of the river, excluding only the eighty-four-acre sulphur springs property below town and in the river bed in part, which the Collins brothers never would part with.

Judge Hart owned the crowded quarter of the Chinese at the upper extremity of the village, occupied by them for years after the evacuation. He was their trusted legal adviser, and business agent, and regarded by them as a man second to none in power and influence. He was a man of ample physical girth, and this alone gave him distinction, so that on his later day business visits to Fresno his progress through Chinatown was always one long welcome ovation. This Chinatown of Millerton was typical as the most populous part of the village, in little one-story structures, principally of brick. It was as every other Chinatown distinguished for squalor, crowding of human beings into narrow confines, with all the characteristic bad smells and grime, and sublime indifference to sanitary measures that marks the oriental's quarters. The river water was used for drinking, and Hotelman Henry, as one of the committee of citizens, presented protest to Hart against his tenants dumping stable manure and house sweepings into the stream to pollute the water. In 1860, the census showed a population of 4,605, of which 4,305 were whites, 300 Chinese including five women, besides 3,294 Indians.

There never was but the one bisecting roadway or street in the village, on either side of which the scant buildings of the day were irregularly located or faced. The roadway traveled today to the fort is not the one of Millerton. From Pollasky, winding along the riverbank to merge into the village street, it is a later creation, primarily for the convenience of the ranch. In the olden time, Millerton was entered by two stage lines from the back hills beyond the fort, or from across the river at the ferries and fords. The riverside road was not laid out until nearly twenty years after scattered settlement towards the plains had begun. Before the advent of the railroad, with the Central Pacific Railroad opened in May, 1869, Millerton was on one of the seven eastern wagon roads—the longest one, the Tejon route, through the interior valley. It was from Stockton by way of the village and the Kings River, south through the Tehachapi and Tejon passes to Los Angeles and San Bernardino and the military road to Salt Lake City, 1,100 miles. It was a stage station on the Stockton-Visalia route with Kingston on the river as the next halting place. From the Santa Clara Valley, ran another road, entering the valley at Pacheco pass from San Benito, traversing the West Side plains, following the Elkhorn grade used to this day, and striking the main Kings River road. The name was taken from the fact that over the door of the great barn of the stage company there was fastened the head and horns of a huge elk. Elk's head is no more, but the road is there yet to the Kittleman plains in the oil field.

With all the cobbles and gravel in the river bed, the one village street, ending practically in cul de sacs at both ends, never was paved or macadamized. In dry seasons it was a dusty path; in wet, a thick mud pudding. There was no alignment of the houses, more vacant spots in horse and cow corrals, littered up house yards and stable grounds than occupied ground, low one-story adobe, or up and down boarded wooden structures with a few notable exceptions, and cow and footpaths connecting with the main street as side-paths. That main street never had official name. It was variously referred to as Main, Center or Water, the rear of the houses on the river bank crowding upon the latter, even hanging over the water, or being built up on stone bulkheads to bring them on a level with the street in front.

What really possessed the early villagers to locate where they did, and why was so much built on the riverbank, when as much and more could have been located back of the courthouse, on higher and better drained ground, removed from all flood danger? In the flood of Christmas eve 1867, the water rose in the river thirty feet higher than ever before known, covering

townsite to the very courthouse steps. From that flood visitation, the village never recovered. It was then in the stage of decadence; the flood accelerated the finale. The question regarding the site location cannot be satisfactorily explained. The fort was undoubtedly placed at the highest and most practical military point on the river, one mile above the village. As to the latter, it was probably governed by the fords and ferries for the stages, and the accessibility to the river water for domestic purposes.

There have never been authentic figures estimating the yield of the gold placers at, near and above Millerton. In 1856, the county had a revenue of \$1,000 to \$1,200 from the four-dollar foreign miner's tax representing from 250 to 300 delving miners. Their average individual daily earnings were ten dollars—collectively \$2,500 or \$3,000 a day, \$75,000 or \$90,000 a month, and continuing with fluctuations for some years. There is a well authenticated tradition given corroboration by Jesse D. Musick, as an accepted authority on early historical subjects, that by 1852 one million dollars in gold dust had been extracted from twenty acres of the parcel of eighty-four, three-eighths of a mile below the town, where the mineral water gushes out of a cleft granite boulder at the Collins' sulphur spring in the bed of the river, and in which parcel Mr. Musick had an interest. This is said to have been one of the richest placers, and according to the quoted tradition the village site was located where it was because midway between that busy placer and the next richest across the range above the fort, in propinquity to the others on the river, and all within convenient reach of military succor when needed. Is it to be wondered that there were "loose, devil-me-care" times with that much dust in circulation, and the tables at McCray's loaded down with gold in the games of chance that ran uninterruptedly the night through and until early cock-crow?

John C. Hoxie, Fresno pioneer and miner, and a man with such a marvelous and accurate memory that he was often called upon as a court witness to give litigants the benefit of his recollection of early day events and localities, bore personal witness to the richness of the placers of the Southern Mines. He recalled publication years ago of a series of articles in a San Francisco mining journal by B. D. James, popularly called "Brigham," giving estimates from reliable sources such as express companies and the like of the yields of the mining districts. For the period approximately from 1850-55 the estimate for the Southern Mines was given as thirteen millions and several hundred thousands.

But whether considered as a roaring mining camp, or a county seat, twice visited by river floods and slowly dying from dry rot after the passing away of the mining period, Millerton never was more than a straggling mountain village, and from the very force of circumstances and conditions surrounding it could never have been more than that. There was an idealistic ruralness as witness the following published news brevity anent the courthouse:

ABOUT A BIRD—In the courthouse at this place, a little bird has builded its nest in the chandelier in the courtroom, and frequently when the court is in session, or when a religious meeting is being held there, the little fellow will flit backwards and forwards from its nest to the open air, passing out of the window, or sit in the nest and chirp and twitter right prettily. We think our judicial officers should be well pleased with their little feathered compeer.

As late as the 70's, the supervisors allowed a claim for four dollars for a pole with which to demolish the nests that the swallows built under the courthouse eaves. The San Joaquin was a stream of pure icy water, and clear as a crystal where not muddied by mining. Salmon ascended to the spawning grounds by the myriads, and, when the run was on, the fish were hunted with spear, pitchfork, shovel, even with shotgun and revolver. Salmon appeared in such shoals that as late as July, 1870, it was recorded that restful sleep was disturbed because "myriads of them can be heard nightly

splashing over the sand bars in the river opposite town as they make their way up." Hogs roamed at large unhindered as the self constituted village scavengers.

Fresno was a paradise for the Nimrod. They tell of great herds of antelope scouring over the desert plains where Fresno City is located. Today an antelope is as rare as the ichthyornis. Along in December, 1870, mention was made on the authority of a Crane Valley man that an Indian named Tom, shot, killed and dressed twenty-one deer in three days within a circle of one mile from a given spot. Even this was regarded as extraordinary enough to warrant publication at a time when the plains, mountains, foothills and rivers teemed with game and fish.

With such delightfully primitive conditions, the flutter may be faintly appreciated, when at the close of March, 1871, announcement was made of a change in April in the stage schedule, for all of which Contractor Bennett was publicly thanked for his "enterprising and accommodating spirit." North-bound stages were to connect with Fisher's stages at Snelling (county seat of Merced and a village that went through the same lingering dying experience as Millerton), instead of Hornitas in Mariposa. The Snelling stages arrived at Millerton at the ungodly hour of five a. m., and passengers were piloted to hotels by the pale glimmer of whale oil lanterns. They departed at eight in the evening, arriving at Snelling at eleven on the following morning. The Visalia stage left immediately on arrival of the northern stage, and returning also made close connections. By this new arrangement Miller-tonians could go through to San Francisco in twenty-four hours, a gain of nearly one-half in time, and no unnecessary laying over en route. And this was hailed as rapid transit!

All of which recalls the "unbearable outrage" of July, 1870, when Millerton, Big Dry Creek and Kings River, were relegated from a four to a single weekly mail by reason of the abandonment of the mail route. Otto Froelich was then Millerton's postmaster. The Expositor, which had never a good word for the national Republican administration said "There is nothing too corrupt or contemptible for the Radical officers to do." In August, Sillman's opposition stage to Stockton began running, leaving Millerton every Thursday morning with through fare of eight dollars. About the middle of December, Contractor P. Bennett bought off Sillman & Co., who had the mail contract and he served again the tri-weekly mail.

Talking about stages, here is another piece of evidence to accentuate the isolation of the village. In July of this year broke out the Franco-German war. The Expositor gave on July 20, 1870, the news of the outbreak based on a dispatch from Visalia brought by Russell Fleming the Saturday before to the effect that France had determined upon a declaration against Prussia. And as for war news thereafter, it was so scarce that a club was formed at Millerton to buy war dispatches at Visalia to be brought by Fleming as "the genial Jehu" of Bennett's stages. Fleming is a familiar Fresno character, reputed to have been the first appointed postmaster of Fresno City, of which he is one of the earliest settlers. He was the first livery man in the town and his stables and corral at H and Mariposa were long a landmark.

The gathering of news for a weekly issue for Millerton, with a population of 200 to 300 at the most, was no easy task, when so much was suppressed, and so much space wasted in fulminations against the "radicals." The "unbearable outrage" in the reduced mail delivery made the task the more difficult, with "not a single exchange under ten days old," and "no communication with any portion of the county either." But all things come to those who wait. Things hummed again in the first week in September, according to the Millerton pace. An editorial squib read:

"MILLERTON has been quite lively thus far this week. The county court has been and is still in session and a very large number of jurors and

witnesses are in attendance. Whiskey has flowed pretty freely and some considerable skirmishing has taken place."

There may have been no connection whatever between the two, but in the next column was this pithy, two-line penitential announcement:

"EXCUSE the lack of editorial matter in this issue as we have been sick."

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## CHAPTER XIX

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE EARLY SETTLERS. POLITICAL OPINIONS DURING AND AFTER THE WAR OFTEN LED TO BITTER PERSONAL ANIMOSITIES. FIRING ON FORT SUMTER STIRRED UP STRONG UNION SENTIMENT IN CALIFORNIA. FRESNO SETTLERS HOSPITABLE AND WHOLESOME AS A CLASS. GAMBLING AND DRINKING A STATE WIDE HABIT. CHRONIC INTEMPERANCE NOT A GENERAL VICE. LEVELING TENDENCIES OF THE PIONEER DAYS IN DEMOCRACY OF LABOR. A TRIBUTE TO WOMANHOOD.

"The earlier settlers of the county cared little for politics. They were a plain, hard-headed, sensible people, who worked the placers, tilled the soil, raised cattle, herded sheep, made money, reared large families, feared God, respected the laws and were happy. The interest they took in politics was largely of a personal character, to secure the maintenance of order, the enforcement of the laws and the making of needful internal improvements. It may be that this indifference to politics was due largely to the fact that the county has always had a safe Democratic majority. The early settlers very generally came from the southern states, and at the breaking out of the war their sympathies were with the Confederacy and they voted that way."

These observations, in so far as they relate to the earlier settlers, and written in April, 1891, may be accepted as fairly accurate, though the statement that they "cared little for politics" must be taken with a grain of salt, because with the war influx the political interest was bitter, even vindictive. There was also personal animosity displayed during the period of the war and after. So much so that a time was when a Republican was a *lusus naturæ* as much as ever a five-legged lamb, or a double-headed rooster was, and also when it was not always politic or safe to announce one's affiliations, if they were not friendly to the southern cause. That cause had in this county and in Tulare and Kern many unreconstructed adherents, whose opinions had not been changed with the result of the war, but had become the more fixed, and probably not without cause, by reason of the indignities heaped upon the vanquished by the carpet-bagging administrations foisted upon the Southern people. The passions and prejudices of men ran high in those days, and the resultant conditions are not to be wondered at.

Leland Stanford, elected governor in September, 1861, was the first Republican chosen to that office in California. For more than a decade after admission into the union, the state was controlled by the pro-slavery wing of the Democratic party. The news of the firing upon Fort Sumter came to San Francisco on April 24, twelve days after the fact, and was sent across the continent by pony express. It stirred up a strong Union sentiment in the state, and the lines were sharply drawn as between northern and southern men. In parts of the state, Confederate sympathizers were largely in the majority, notably in Los Angeles and in various localities in the San Joaquin Valley.



Still there never was a more hospitable, a more wholesouled and a more mutually helpful people than those early settlers of Fresno. This is conceded. A stranger, destitute, or sick, or unfortunate, found himself among sympathizing and helping people, who ministered to his wants, not with the hope of reward, but out the goodness of heart prompted by the spirit of the brotherhood of man. In Millerton was an aged black woman, known the county over as "Negro Jane," who had come as a slave with Henry Burroughs. She was a character, earning a livelihood as a washerwoman, nurse, or whatever came her way. She was the Good Samaritan of the village, and was there a miner in a camp sick, destitute or neglected she was the first to be at his side. "Negro Jane" has long passed away, but there are still some among the living to recall the voluntary acts of charity of this black-skinned sister of mercy.

Hugh A. Carroll was another of the original Fort Miller garrison and with him came as a camp follower the wife, Elizabeth, mother of the first white girl child born in the county territory. She was of decided masculine character and temperament, as the result of army life associations. She could swear and anathematize on occasions, like a trooper or a pirate, but she had a heart for the sick and afflicted and her memory is recalled for many voluntary visits of mercy to sick and neglected miners. There is the story that with the location of the garrison she and Mrs. Ann McKenzie were the first of their sex in this region, and such a curiosity for the squaws that meandering from the fort in company on an occasion and approaching one of the rancherias they were seized and the squaws rubbed and pinched their faces to satisfy themselves that their skins were white and not painted, believing in their ignorance at sight to them of these first whites, that none of their sex could be of color other than their own. The two women were alarmed at the demonstration. Mrs. McKenzie escaped early in the demonstration but Mrs. Carroll was stripped naked before the dusky sisters satisfied themselves that not only was she white in face but in body also.

Dr. Leach was of a philanthropic bent of mind, and Dr. Chester Rowell, who came to Fresno from San Francisco early in 1875, was of the same stamp. The world will never know the many acts of quiet charity of these two men. No man or woman, destitute and in need of medical treatment or medicinal remedy, ever appealed to either in vain. The names of Mrs. Carroll, "Negro Jane" and Drs. Leach and Rowell are called up in grateful remembrance by old timers of Millerton and Fresno.

Gambling and the prodigious drinking of alcoholic beverages among the Millertonians were no more characteristic of them than of Californians generally in the mining regions. Chapters on this subject are devoted in every history of Early California, and the causes lengthily and plausibly gone into. It is admitted that the prospect of gain before the advent of laws or rules or customs of binding authority and the lack of restraints attracted many vicious and dissolute after the discovery of gold.

The presence and assertiveness of this class, combined with the absence of the repressive influence of decent women and the lack of refined or rational amusements to ease the daily toil, hardships and coarse living, encouraged dissipation and vice. "Gambling and drunkenness became not uncommon," says Hittell, and he is borne out by others, "and ruined many who under ordinary circumstances might have escaped the contamination."

This writer, speaking from personal observation adds: "In no part of the world perhaps was there so much gambling and so much drinking as in California. Not everybody gambled, not everybody dissipated, but so many did, and the gambling and drinking houses were such public and well patronized places of resort that it almost seemed that everybody was given over to these twin vices. Throughout the entire country, wherever men congregated and even where they sojourned with any regularity, and in any number on their way to other localities, there were sure to be places for drink-

ing and gambling, and among the supplies carried into the mining camps liquors and cards and their usual concomitants found a very large and expensive proportion."

When drinking and gambling were so generally the vogue, was it to be expected that Millerton would be the one notable exception? Does it not smack of satire almost, to read in one of the earliest recorded deeds in Fresno County, under date of August 18, 1856, that Levi Steinhoff sold for \$350 to Frank Rowe his "right, title and interest to the house or building known as the Temperance Hall," with the 85x100 lot in the town of Millerton? "A Temperance Hall" in the town of Millerton in 1856, when whiskey, brandy and gin were sold not by the drink but by the quart bottle and the gallon!

But in extenuation, let it be recalled that these conditions obtained in the days when "every possible luxury connected with drinking procurable in California could be found in the mines, and there was hardly any drink in the world too rare or too expensive for importation into that paradise of indulgence. It is doubtful whether there ever was before so ready a market for the costliest brandies and most exquisite champagnes, and no business afforded such profits as the liquor business," while "hardly a team left Sacramento or Stockton, or train threaded the mountain trails, that did not carry more or less spirituous or malt drink, and hardly a man lived or worked in the mines that did not contribute to some extent to the fortunes of those who managed its importation and distribution."

It is stated that as a consequence of the indiscriminate drinking in those early days delirium tremens became a common ailment, and pathetically humorous in overlooking the superinducing cause of it, is the record of the belief that there was supposed to be something in the very climate of California peculiarly favorable to "the jim-jams" as they were called. Still it is also of record that while there was a great deal of drinking, there was very little habitual drunkenness among the earliest pioneers. There was a plausible reason for it. The confirmed toper was physically unfit for the hardships and exposure of the across-the-plains, or the around-Cape-Horn journey to California, and the wrecks of subsequent days had not yet become the habitual topers.

To quote history: "But even including those who were so much addicted to gambling and drinking as to deserve the name of gamblers or drunkards—and as soon as they were such they were no longer counted among the heroes of the early years—it may still be reiterated that the pioneers were the most active, industrious and enterprising body of men in proportion to their numbers that was ever thrown together to form a new community. Four-fifths of them were young men, between eighteen and thirty-five years of age, and they came from all sections of the country and many from foreign countries. They all came to labor and found at the mines that to keep on an equality with their neighbors they had to labor."

A noteworthy feature of the times and the conditions was "the extraordinary leveling tendency" of the life, a tendency upon the effects of which, it has been asserted, have been based to a great extent the readjustments and developments on new lines that have constituted the peculiarities of California civilization. As printed history has it: "Every man finding every other man compelled to labor found himself the equal of every other man, and as the labor required was physical, instead of mental, the usual superiority of head workers over hand workers disappeared. This condition of things lasted several years."

The more common and general effect was to level pride, and everything suggestive of the aristocracy of employment. The California pioneer has had to stand sponsor for much. It is only truth and justice to record that the pioneers that founded the state constituted a race of men, whose superior is not readily found. And in this tribute should not be overlooked the priva-

tions, toil, hardships and dangers borne and the civilizing influences wielded by the brave and undaunted pioneer women and mothers, honoring in this category also the delicate and refined women of the South, who cast their lot amidst rough and primitive conditions to battle anew with life after the distressing days following the war, when the future was so blank and desolate in contrast with the comforts and affluence that had gone before in the sunny and beloved Southland. Never had men such self-sacrificing and brave helpmates as in these honored early and later pioneer women of California.

By 1865, there was an appreciable increase in the population of the county as demonstrated by the greater bulkiness of the assessment roll.

## CHAPTER XX

CHANGES IN MILLERTON RETROGRESSIVE RATHER THAN PROGRESSIVE. FIRST COUNTY SEAT REMOVAL SUGGESTION IN 1869. THE EXPOSITOR AS A FALSE PROPHET IN 1870. PREMONITIONS OF THE PERIOD CHANGE ABOUT TO BE USHERED IN. SURROUNDINGS OF THE VILLAGE. RESIDENTIAL EXCLUSIVENESS ABOUT THE FORT. BIG FIRE VISITATION WAS ON THE EVE OF THE FOURTH OF JULY IN THE YEAR 1870. UNAIDED BY FORT, MILLERTON NEVER HOUSED ITS FIXED POPULATION.

After the county seat removal, Millerton was still spotted on maps for some years. As a village it lingered along, dying from dry-rot, slowly but positively. Habitations were literally carried off on wheels. Chinatown held out longest. Future it had absolutely none. Its history was a closed chapter. "Finis" had been written. It could only recall the past with its memories of the gold mining days, the days when it was a halting place on the stage line routing and when it was overburdened with the weight of county seat honors. But for them it would have been off the map long before.

It is recalled that as late as the year 1879 the handful of children left in the school at Millerton had formed the habit at recess of digging for gold under the bluff bank near the school. They washed the "dirt" in the river hard by and were rewarded by fifty to sixty cents during the noon hour. On a certain Wednesday they dug too far under the bank and the latter caved in on them, overwhelming Charlie and Willie, sons of Sam Brown, Jeffie Donahoo and two of Labe Mathews' children. A passing Chinaman removed the soil from Jeffie's face so that he might breathe as he was covered all but the head, while a little girl ran to the schoolhouse to give the alarm. It took seventy minutes to rescue the children but one of them, Johnny Mathews, aged fourteen, was dead. He was buried next day at the fort cemetery and the school took a vacation.

Four years and two months before the vote on the county seat removal but after the flood and before the fire, it is recorded that in June, 1870 there were in Millerton:

Four stores (three Chinese), express and postoffice, two stables, blacksmith shop, barber shop, furniture and cabinet maker, printery, physician, hotel, three saloons, butcher shop, druggist, saddlery and harness shop, tailor shop, four lawyers, Millerton Ferry Company. "And quite a number of private residences."

Between 1865 and 1870 the village business changes had been few. These few were retrogressive rather than progressive. Business activities during the period were these:

Hotels—Oak, Ira McCray; Henry House, S. W. Henry. (Both had livery stables attached.)

Butchers—Stephen Gaster & Co., James Thornton.

Blacksmiths—McCray & Shannon, S. W. Henry.

Saloons—"Challenge," Folsom & Gaster; "Court House Exchange," T. J. Payne; Farmers' Exchange of S. Levey; and Allen's, T. J. Allen.

Dry Goods and Groceries—George Grierson & Company, Otto Froelich.

Notary Public—William Faymonville.

News Depot—W. A. Grade & Brother.

Newspapers—Times (1865), Expositor (April, 1870).

Saddle and Harness—D. B. McCarthy.

Photographer—Frank Dusy.

Lawyers—E. C. Winchell, C. G. Sayle Jr., C. A. Hart and S. B. Allison.

Livery—M. J. Donahoo.

Justice of the Peace—William T. Rumble.

Ferries—McCray's, Converse's and Millerton Ferry Company (Walker, Faymonville & Company).

Postmaster—Otto Froelich.

The earliest published suggestion to move the county seat from the mining center was in 1869. The railroad was already heading southward through the valley from the junction at Lathrop. In July, 1870, there was the following first concrete, sporadic wail:

"Everything is dead or on the rapid decline. No buildings of any value, no churches, no society, and no appearance of permanency about anything. Such should not be the case in a growing, prosperous county like Fresno, and such would not be the case were the town located almost anywhere else in the county. As it is, it is unhandy for all sections. It is off the line of travel and has no inducements for people to settle in it, even though there was room to build suitable houses to live in, which there is not."

In April, 1871, the Expositor in self-contradictory editorial review, also assuming role of prophet, boasts, notwithstanding the "continued assertion" of many that Millerton "was a dead cock in the pit," that it "has made some considerable advancement." In proof it cited that two societies had been formed and a third was forming, that it has increased in population and business, that there was not an unoccupied house, and yet that it was a fact apparent to anyone that "Millerton will always exist as a town, even after the county seat is removed." As a prophet, the Expositor was a rank failure, except in the statement that the district school would become a graded one.

True, Millerton was not yet the dead cock, but it was in the pit in dying struggles and last squawks. The fact is a great change was about to come over Fresno, a new period was about to be ushered in with irrigation to bring about the transformation. True, there had been increase in population and business, but that was in the county, and Millerton reaped the indirect benefit. True, in November, 1870, there was not a vacant house yet a demand for residences. But half the town had been washed down the river, the number of houses had been reduced, there never were too many, and no new ones were being erected to meet demand or replace the destroyed ones—and all because of the uncertainty over county seat removal, which like Banquo's ghost "would not down." Any kind of a house rented from six dollars to twelve dollars a month, and there was not an empty one even up at the fort, old time barracks and hospital included. Land throughout the county was assessed at \$1.25 an acre awaiting the time to be boosted up with irrigation.

In August, 1870, it was said that the mountain saw-mills could not turn out lumber fast enough for the demand. The price was cheaper than almost anywhere in the state at twelve dollars per thousand at mills, with the added twenty dollars for hauling it thirty miles to the village.

But that lumber was not wanted for improvements at Millerton, but throughout the county in the spreading farm settlements, and especially in the more rapidly filling up Kings River bottoms, near water. There was never such a hegira as when they began to move away from Millerton. In 1871 the business changes and dissolutions had already begun, and upon the result of the election, with the significant vote, the village sank to the obscurity of a hamlet, for everything movable was carted off, leaving only the ferry landing places, the house cellars and foundations, the courthouse and its conspicuous neighbor in Payne's adobe Court House Exchange Saloon, and Hart's Chinatown brick houses, as reminders that a village once stood on the river bank, and that it had once close relation with the government fort in the N. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 3-11-21, four miles above the present Pollasky railroad terminus.

Unaided by the fort, Millerton never did house all its population. A landmark stood for many years half a mile or more below the village in the Jenny Lind bridge, condemned on account of age a decade ago and carried away by winter freshets, the last standing concrete tubular iron encased supports snapping off when the waters also floated off the buildings at the Collins' sulphur springs. The Millertonites made pretension to residential exclusiveness. A favorite spot was Hill's Flat, named for S. H. Hill, who taught school in the village in 1862 and later at Centerville and Kingston, and from 1864 to 1867 and again in 1870-71 was county superintendent, and whose brother, W. W. Hill, was treasurer from 1864 to 1874, dying in office. Hill's Flat was nearer the river than the fort; yet part of the semi-circular table land of the fortsite, and to the left on approaching it from the village. Here were located the Hill residence, also the Clark Hoxie home, known as the Garden house, besides a cluster of other pretentious homes of the day. Pretentious was the house that boasted two stories, an attic, and say a balcony entrance. Hill's Flat was edged by the creek that emerged from Winchell's Gulch, a dry arroyo in summer but turbulent in winter as the drain way of the nearby low hills.

Winchell's Gulch brings up tender memories as a favorite picnic ground and trysting place for lovers. The gulch is a horse-shoe shaped ravine, encircling the base of a succession of low hills overlooking the river between fort and townsite, its eastern extremity forwards a projecting rocky promontory that the river washed away to make the bank roadway to the fort. The gulch was approachable on the western edge of the hills by a road from the lower end of town, passing the ancient Odd Fellows' cemetery, dedicated in 1873 and now enclosed with a circular cattle-proof fence, the few grass-grown mounds of the dead unmarked, unknown, or long since forgotten, and anyhow out of the course of all present day travel.

Near the mesa at the head of the gulch, one mile east of the village and three-fourths from the fort, was another cluster of homes, at Mountain Side so called, notably the E. C. Winchell residence and the select boarding school for young misses, conducted by Mrs. Winchell. The glen was a romantically delightful and restful spot.

At the present day extreme western approach was J. R. Jones' store, also known as Jonesville, a trading post of some note, located on the site of the gum tree park and grove at Pollasky, and on the approach to the fine concrete span bridge into Madera county. The record of 1870 is that Millerton had the largest collection of houses at one place in the county, Centerville, or Kings River, the largest population and Kingston the wealthiest, not any settlement in the county arising to the dignity of a town—large or small. It was in this year also that Walker, Faymonville & Company as the Millerton Ferry Company established themselves below town at Rancheria Flat.

The big fire was on Sunday night July 3, 1870. Saddler D. B. McCarthy and three others had entered the shop to go to bed. In the place was a lot

of fireworks received the night before from Stockton for the celebration. Tradition has it that McCarthy had celebrated alcoholically, and a question arose about the pyrotechnics which he proceeded to settle. He lighted a Roman candle and walking towards the door, the candle sputterings alighted on the fireworks with the result that there was an unlooked for display then and none on the following day. The building burst into flames which communicated with S. W. Henry's hotel, the Farmers' Exchange saloon of S. Levey also contributing to the fire. Then the flames veered, and Henry's livery stable and blacksmithy across the street were destroyed. The roof of the courthouse caught fire, but the flames were extinguished. Mrs. Henry and children escaped in their night robes. Henry's loss was \$8,000. Henry had been the financial backer of McCarthy, who was the unintentional cause of his ruin after a streak of bad luck.

He had been flooded out, his blacksmithy burned down and thereafter blown down, and now he was burned out of everything. He published a card of thanks for the aid given him and his family, and the money donation of \$323.50. Late in September the old wooden courthouse was overhauled and refitted as a hotel by Henry, who in the meantime had also opened a smithy near Darwin's ranch on Big Dry Creek. On October 12, the overhauled hotel was opened and continued the hotel until the end of Millerton. A large livery stable of Henry's occupied the site of the burned hotel.

The historic Oak hotel and McCray had seen their best days, and overcome by financial troubles he took to drink. He disappeared anon from Millerton, but returned, not like the Prodigal Son for whom the fatted calf was killed. The hotel building razed to one story after the flood rented out as a saloon in the basement, also as a butcher shop to James Thornton, who sold to J. B. McComb, who renovated the house as a hotel, but it never regained prestige. C. A. Hart and S. B. Allison had law offices in the building, and McCray was disposing of everything before leave taking. The Oak in its palmiest days was the sporting house of the village; Henry's the staid, family house.

Part of the refitted hotel that was the one time courtroom stands today a weather beaten, moss covered and time corroded farm house off the Dry Creek road to Millerton, eleven miles away, having been removed after the village evacuation. Dorastus J. Johnson, who was deputy county clerk and died in November, 1862, rented it to the county for years for public purposes. It stood to the left of the stone courthouse and Payne's adjoining saloon, the two Millerton buildings that were not removed or dismantled at the finale of the village.

There is no picture of Millerton before the damaging winter flood of 1861-62. In photography it was yet the day of the primitive daguerreotype. There is only one known pictorial of the townsite after the flood of 1867-68 which proclaimed Millerton's doom. It is the frontispiece to W. W. Elliott's History of Fresno County published in 1882. It is a zincograph illustration of "Millerton as It Was in 1872," a reproduction of a photograph by Frank Dusy. Dusy had many photos of early scenes, but they have long since been destroyed. E. R. Higgins later had many photographs of early Fresno City. The negatives that were not destroyed in fires were cast in the refuse pile years ago. Some of the notable panoramic photos of early Fresno are today highly prized and interesting enlargements of his originals. The amateur photographer who has contributed so much to the advancement of the art was unknown in their days.

Today nothing stands to mark the site of Millerton save the courthouse building of 1867 and the adobe walls of what was Payne's saloon, a little to the left and slightly in advance of the courthouse. Foundations of the Oak Hotel, with the cellar holes of one or two other structures and domiciles, remain of the mining hamlet and the county seat village on the stage route and the one-time center of placer activities on the San Joaquin. The site



memories of Millerton are two—one before the first flood and the other after the second. Millerton never made advance. Its history is one certain and positive retrogradation. A good portion of the first townsite went down the river with the first flood. The second finished the job.

Millerton, before the first flood, was strewn along the shelving southern bank of the river for about 300 yards. It extended from the rocky point half a mile below the fort on the river bend above the town to the low ground and the last house, about 400 yards above the medicinal springs, among the cobbles and boulders in the river channel, on a slight turn of the stream below the town. Rocky point and springs are location points to this day. The village was located to face the river. The latter ran a straight course before the town and was a deep channel. Floods and disturbances of the bed in mining operations changed, bared, shoaled and widened the channel.

The river runs here almost due east and west. Townsite is on a down-hill grade. The river flows towards the plains. Originally at the town's edge on the river there was a beach of rocks and boulders. The first bench above the water level was as high in places as ten to fifteen feet. Three gulches headed for the river marked off the townsite at almost equal distances from each other. Two winding roads divided the site in strips paralleling the river. The lower of these went out with the flood. The upper and second was the stage route through the town. Its route is today the road across the deserted site to the ranch headquarters at the fort site beyond the rocky point. This became the town's main street after the flood.

Behind the houses that fronted on it was an irregular foot path to town from the highest part of the townsite level, at the upper end. Cross paths traversed townsite in every direction. Houses were located as whim or convenience directed. Regularity there was none. The earliest houses were shacks. At no period in the history of Millerton were there more than about four houses two stories in height. These were the wooden Burroughs Hotel, the stone and brick Oak Hotel, the wooden Henry House, the solid granite and brick courthouse and the wooden Ashman-Baley domicile. The courthouse and the Oak were the two notable structures. Little wonder that they were regarded in the light of architectural marvels in their day.

You approached town from the lower end on an easy up grade. Fort was established before the town and first improvements were at the upper end on the town's side of the rocky dividing line. The washed out bench level between beach and first wagon road was in large part owned by T. C. Stallo, who in the sixty's went to Arizona and of whom all trace was lost. He is remembered as a companionable bachelor, who not infrequently entertained the young for whom he had a partiality. There are gray haired today who recall as children that he had a cousin relative who was a confectioner by trade and whose creations were the delight and admiration of the younger generation at these entertainment feasts.

The main thoroughfares never had official designation. Records refer to them as River, Front and Main streets, dependent on whether before or after the one or other flood. Coming to town by the lower road there was before reaching the first gulch an open level on which at your left stood the Shannon (1) and Bill Parker (2) houses and then to nearly the second gulch scattered habitations of miners. Then came another large vacant space to the third gulch near which stood a small shack (3) almost hanging over the river, appurtenant to the Oak Hotel and in which was located, in 1865, the Times and the first print shop, shaded by a great oak tree. The lower road practically ended here. Gulch was an approach to the deep water ferry crossing here, the cables to the ferry pontoon being fastened to the tree.

Entering town on your right at the lower end was vacant space until the first gulch was passed. Then came a cluster row of Hugh A. Carroll's house

(4) fronting on the road, Simon Henry's barn (5), his blacksmithy (6), John Linnebacker's house (7), the Morgan house (8), Denny & Darwin's establishment (9), a group of shacks (10), Millerton's first Chinese quarter, and William Fielding's saloon (11), close to the second gulch. Between it and the third was more open space and then the Oak Hotel (12) facing the lower road and the river, two stories in front and erected on ascending ground one story in rear which after the floods became the front with a side main entrance. Beyond the Oak, the stage road inclined toward the river, but later was continued as the traveled route to the fort. Townsite ground was rough and undulating, rising as the rocky point was approached and sloping towards the river. First flood washed away all below the lower road and what was not carried away then was with the second, when the water came up as high as the steps of the courthouse on the highest ground.

Beyond the Oak which was diagonally across from the courthouse location were the barn and stable corral (13) of the hotel, formerly Ira Stroud's, and halting place for the stage, and further beyond the open space on which the second Chinatown was located with its brick and adobe shacks and Judge Hart as the Poo-Bah. Here was a notable brick structure (14) first occupied as an office by Dr. Leach, later by Hart as a home before his purchase of the fort property, for years rented to the county for public offices, and lastly by Tong Sing, Chinese merchant, who also located in Fresno.

Entering Millerton by the stage route you passed Rancheria Flat below town, so named because of the early location of an Indian rancheria there. Here a ferry was located later. It was the horse racing ground for the villagers. The earliest arriving families camped there before locating domiciles. After evacuation the fort houses were sought for temporary as well as permanent domiciles. The first large structure on entering town was Grier-son & Froelich's store (15), back of it the Froelich domicile (16) and along-side of store the office (17); then the Gaster (18), Stroud (19) and John McClelland (20) domiciles. The Gaster house was the first location, in 1870, of the Expositor print office. Beyond the first gulch were Henry's barn and stables (21), along side the two story, double peaked roof Henry Hotel (22) fronting on the stage road; further along Burroughs Hotel (23) also rented for courtroom and county office purposes, and next to it Payne's adobe saloon building (24). In rear of these were Dr. Leach's barn (25), Mrs. Converse's domicile (26), and Leach's office (27).

Standing back from the roadway line was the 1867 courthouse (28) and on the upper bench level and well back of it the county hospital (29). Alongside the courthouse was the Faymonville residence (30) and forward more on the line of the courthouse Fritz Friedman's saloon (31); beyond the gulch Allen's saloon (32) and "Nigger Jane's" house (33). On the higher hillside and well to the rear was the Ashman-Baley domicile (34). Alongside and back of it was the barn and stable where the Expositor long was located and to the right of the domicile was the site of the historical first county jail built by Burroughs in 1857 and from which on the day of acceptance a lone prisoner offered to demonstrate the ease with which he could scratch his way out with a ten-penny nail.

The Dusy picture of 1872 shows sixteen points. It was evidently taken from the high north bank of the river at the Indian camp there with the sweep of the stream as foreground. It shows the Chinatown location (13) after the 1861-62 flood, back on the hill side the Baley domicile (34), the Oak Hotel (12) with the oak tree to the right; on the opposite side and on a line with the courthouse Allen's saloon (32), to the left and back of the courthouse the Faymonville house (30), the courthouse (28), Payne's saloon (24), the Henry Hotel (22), far in rear and in line the county hospital (29), at opposite ends of corrals the Leach office (27) and the Converse home (26) and three small structures between, next the McClelland house

(20), the express office possibly the Stroud (19) house, another possibly the Gaster (18) house, and the Froelich house (16).

Make due allowance for ample barn and stable corrals and yards; weed and wild flower grown vacant spots; elbow room in plenty; houses scattered here and there as if sprinkled from a pepper box; weather and sun beaten and blistered if any ever were painted; some little effort made at rustic palings and gardening of old fashioned flowers; foot, cow and hog tracks in every direction; trees a scarcity and shade a luxury; the one thoroughfare a streak of dust in summer and a churned up trough of mud in winter; shack architecture predominant, the better class of domiciles up and down, boarded and battened structures and pretentious if provided with attic; the bare hills across the river for a monotonous vista; a burning sun beating down to make things sizzle by day and stew and sweat by night; postal and all connection with the world through the agency of stage coach; nearest populous centers pioneer Stockton and Visalia; pioneering life at its hardest and roughest; lacking almost all things that conduce to comfort in life; conceive all these conditions and you can mentally picture what the life in Millerton was.

Was the printer in the Expositor shop at his case setting type, the horses in the corral poked their noses in at the window to neigh a cheery how-do-ye-do. Did the printer plunge his hand into a box on the shelf for some material as likely as not he brought out a wriggling bull snake to restore him to sudden sobriety.

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## CHAPTER XXI

EARLY FLOOD AND DROUGHT PERIODS RECALLED BRIEFLY. SCOTTSBURG ON THE KINGS WASHED AWAY IN 1861-62 WINTER FLOODING. MILLERTON UNHEEDED THE TIMELY WARNING. IT NEVER RALLIED FROM THE CHRISTMAS EVE DISASTER OF 1867, WITH CENTERVILLE A SECOND TIME SUFFERER. TWENTY-NINE HOUSES DESTROYED IN THE MILLERTON OVERFLOW OF THE SAN JOAQUIN. THE STREAM WAS ITS BLESSING BUT ALSO THE AGENT IN ITS UNDOING. SOME NOTABLE ENTERPRISES TO AMASS FORTUNES WITH ITS AID. A GIGANTIC IRRIGATION PROJECT FAILURE.

The winter of 1849-50 was one of excessive rains throughout the state, with storms commencing on November 2 and continuing almost without cessation for six weeks. The interior valleys were waterlogged and the city of Sacramento was under four feet of water. In January another storm flooded that city, but the threatened March and April inundations were prevented by river bank damming. Extensive and costly levees constructed after these experiences proved ineffectual for in 1852, 1853 and 1854 floods did much damage. The levees were strengthened and much damage was averted until 1861-62, when they succumbed to water pressure and a loss of over \$3,000,000 resulted, perhaps the most disastrous visitation.

The San Joaquin and Kings flooded in 1849-50, 1852-53, 1861-62, 1867-68 and in 1875. The one of 1861-62 is known as "the great flood." Since then, there have been no comparable high water periods, nor such general losses suffered. In the years named, save the last, there had not been such material building up of the county that a winter's flood would result in a calamitous loss in property destruction. The winter of 1889-90 was one of excessive rainfall with streams overflowing, but the damage was mainly to farm

lands in the inability to put in seasonal grain crops. For destruction of property, it may be said that the subsequent floods in the state are not comparable with those of the first decade and a half of its history for obvious reasons, one of these being the greater number of undertaken preventive measures.

As there was flood loss during the earlier years of settlement, so there was also damage in the state from drought periods in that time, but with a steady decrease in the frequency of dry seasons, the losses from which have been minimized in large part by irrigation. The first noteworthy dry season was in 1851. There was then little agriculture, so the loss fell mainly upon the cattle men, who depended upon spontaneous herbage and lacking it were forced to the alternative of allowing the stock to die from starvation or kill the herds for hides and tallow. Five years later came another drought, which while not as severe, fell more heavily on the farmer because more land was under cultivation.

The drought of 1864 was the most severe and disastrous that the state had experienced up to then. The grain crop was almost a failure, and owing to the absence of grass sheep and cattle perished by the thousands. Many were bankrupted. Seven years of plenty followed, with another drought in 1870-71, grain crop scant, great loss in stock and yet not so general as in 1864. Six years of prosperity, with the "boom" in Southern California ushered in, and in 1876-77 came a drought, second as a state-wide disaster to the memorable one of 1864. Cattle literally died in droves, so did sheep, millions were lost by the stock raisers, and the industry received a setback from which it never recovered in particular localities. This was California's last serious drought. There have been since seasons of scanty rainfall, but with spread of irrigation there is less to fear, and a dry season has little appreciable effect upon business, though seized upon by the speculative middleman to corner products and boost the price to the consumer.

Fresno's history has to do principally with the 1861-62 and 1867-68 winter rush of waters in the Kings and San Joaquin. By the first, Scottsburg, a stage station on the line to Hornitas in Mariposa, located on Moody's slough in the Kings River bottoms was washed away. The settlement was moved three-quarters of a mile south of where its successor (Centerville) is today, but being again flooded in 1867-68 was a second time moved to the present site, and still in the bottoms. The 1861-62 flood overran the lowlands bordering on both rivers. The warning to Millerton was unheeded. The village low ground was under water, stocks in cellars damaged and foundations of river bank buildings sapped or weakened by the ramming floating debris. Farmers and stockmen were the principal sufferers. William Caldwell had the Falcon Hotel on the Upper Kings on the best road between Millerton and Visalia, with "a good and safe ford where the road crosses the Kings River." Ford may have been such, but the site was not, for the rush of water carried it away and left the Falcon a collapsed ruin.

The 1867-68 flood is the memorable one, because from the loss suffered Millerton never rallied, nor were the twenty-nine destroyed buildings on any part of the half remaining village site ever replaced—only another proof of the instability of things. Centerville (Kings River) was again a sufferer, necessitating a second relocation on its present site, hotel, hall and other structures removed, the hall eventually to Fresno where it became Len Farrar's Metropolitan saloon on H Street, around the corner of Mariposa. The flood water spread over an area two and one-half miles or more wide, and the river bottom was piled up with driftwood. It is a tradition that for five years and more thereafter no one living near the Kings River had need to buy firewood. There had been a warm rain for three weeks with consequent melting of the snow in the mountains. The soil was so loosened that acres bordering on the river and covered with timber slid into the stream, spreading the silt from Hazleton Canyon to Tulare Lake sink

Near where the bridge east of Centerville spanned the river, J. W. Sweem had a gristmill operated by an undershot water wheel, with nearby brick dwelling, orchard and garden. After the flood not a vestige of these was left. The river main channel directed by the millrace tore open a new one seventy-five to 100 feet further away, leaving the old a bed of exposed cobbles and gravel. The night of the flood and part of the next day until rescued, Sweem, wife and ten children roosted in trees with such scant clothing and coverings as they could gather in the excitement of the moment. Knolls showing above the surface of the sea of water were crowded with jack-rabbits that stirred not on the approach of man but had to be kicked out of the way.

### MILLERTON CHRISTMAS EVE FLOOD

The following account of the overflow at Millerton is reproduced from the San Francisco Alta California and was presumably written by Otto Froelich:

#### THE OVERFLOW AT MILLERTON

##### Terrible Destruction of Property

(From an Occasional Correspondent)

Millerton, Fresno County, January 19, 1868.—I will endeavor to give you a few outlines of the general sufferings and losses which we in this county have sustained by the late doings, of which you have probably seen some notice in the newspapers. On the evening of the 24th of December (Christmas eve) in the middle of the darkest night known, the citizens of this place were awakened by a sudden thundering and roaring of the San Joaquin River, and in less than one hour after, the whole place was overflowed, with the exception of the ground upon which the court house stood and a few private residences. All the buildings and stores filled with merchandise gave way from their resting places. The frame houses took without pilots a passage down the river, stocked with provisions and furniture; part of them were wrecked on the cliffs and rocks, and the others which escaped have taken the plains as their resting place, perhaps giving lodgment to the poor cattle grazing along in the vicinity. The brick and adobe houses with apparent fear, trembled as if aware of their perilous situation. The day following nothing was left of them but piles of brick and sand, mixed with timber, drift wood, iron doors, tin roofing, etc., as warning monuments not to locate any town on sand and gravel, especially in close proximity to a river. The loss at this place in buildings and personal property, at the lowest estimate, is \$30,000. I am pleased to say my individual loss is but small. I began as soon as I apprehended danger, to remove my merchandise from the store into the court house and not more than ten minutes after I removed the last case of goods the storehouse was entirely destroyed. In the surrounding country also, on Upper and Lower Kings River, all the farmers and stock ranchers have suffered serious loss. All is now at a standstill; all the crossings on the rivers are gone and traveling stopped for the present.—F.

The story is authenticated that great damage at Millerton was done by the battering-ramming of a great raft of uprooted trees that the surging wave of water brought down to clog the river channel. The townsite of today is practically the diminished one that the flood left. It carried away a considerable portion of the bluff on the north side of the river facing the village. This is recalled because there was an early burying ground there, and after the flood there was not a grave left. A large Indian rancheria was also located there.

A tradition is that because of heavy rains a timber covered hillside had slid into the river damming up the channel, some twenty miles up in the mountains above Millerton, until the accumulated back mountain drainage and the stream flow broke through the dam, liberating the stored up water to overwhelm the village. The onrush was swift carrying on the crest of the huge wave an immense raft of uprooted trees. The channel could not carry water and timber, and so the flood water spread to a height of thirty feet, covering townsites to the very steps of the courthouse on the highest ground, the oncoming backwater propelling the trees as battering rams.

This great mass of tree logs was left stranded where the river lost its velocity by spreading over the low plains on the Chidester place, near where Kerman and the Skaggs concrete bridge are today, probably fifteen or twenty miles below Millerton. So great was the accumulation that Badger & Bellus, with whom one Jenkins was associated, erected a small saw mill there, and for a season and longer cut up the trees into lumber. Much of it was used by Majors S. A. Holmes, W. B. Dennett and others for fencing and buildings in the newly colonized Alabama Settlement at Borden (in Madera now). Even thereafter, the tops and trimmings served the cattle and sheepmen as fuel for years. These flood logs may have been treasure trove, but in the flood descent they gathered so much gravel and stones in the grind that they were ruinous of the saws in the mill.

### A BLESSING AND ALSO A CURSE

And thus the San Joaquin, which helped to make Millerton with gift of its rich placers, also led to its undoing—was its blessing and also its curse. What stories that stream suggests of human hopes and disappointments! Its romance is interwoven with that of the men who made fortunes out of it, and of those who failed in the effort to wring more gold from its bed.

To this day may be seen in the river, several hundred yards above the fort, the remains on the south bank of the Fort Miller Mining and Water Company, ambitious enterprise of 1853 of Quartermaster Thomas Jordan, "shrewd, cunning and crafty," to dam the stream, divert the water into the ditch and glean the gold from the shallowed stream. The enterprise failed, and "no one came ahead except Jordan."

Across the river from the old fort, the bluff is all but washed away. In a corner stands remnant base of a brick chimney, and along the brow of the bluff a six-mile ditch to Fine Gold Creek—another promising scheme of the Kentucky Gold Mine. Water was brought by ditch for ground sluicing away the bluff. It was sluiced away, but it is not recorded that the sluicers were rewarded.

Above Pollasky on the river bank, lay corroding, for some twenty years, a huge, iron-riveted, boiler-like, bottle-shaped structure, all that is left to recall another enterprise to take gold out of the shifting bed of the river. The boiler was the invention of a local genius, Peter Donahoo. It was to be set upright in the water, sand and gravel pumped out to be worked over for the gold, boiler sinking deeper to bedrock as the pumping proceeded. Ingenious, but a failure, and good money was sunk.

Then there was later the magnificent scheme of the Ohio Mining Company. It swallowed up \$200,000 of eastern money and was exploited by W. C. Barrett and Karl Brown. Where Fine Gold Creek, once a rich placer, joins the San Joaquin a whirlpool is formed. If the creek was once so rich, why should not be the deep hole at the confluence of the streams? Capital was interested on the showing of a diver, who had brought up from the bottom of the whirlpool a pan of gravel which showed up twelve dollars of gold. A dam was built above the whirlpool and the banks cut into to divert the creek water—a laborious and costly undertaking. The



rush waters of two winter floods carried away ditch and dam. A third season and the hole was pumped dry. The first painful showed up about eighty cents worth of gold. Another fiasco was recorded.

The Ohio tried another plan later with local capitalists interested to the tune of many thousands to sluice gold out of the river bank, four miles above Cassady's bar. A costly pumping plant was erected, and when all was ready to hydraulic away the bank discovery of a fatal error was made. The power plant had been so placed that the gravel washings worked in on the pumping apparatus and placed it out of commission. Disgusted with the outcome and doubtful of its ultimate successful operation, the Iowa marked another failure.

These costly ventures cover a period of many years. Yet gold has been taken out of the river in paying quantities since the mining days, and success made with primitive means. A notable one in this line was about 1898 when the late Charles A. Hart hired a crew of Chinese, who constructed their own devices and midway between Millerton and the fort placered gold in remunerative returns out of the river sand and gravel. Operations have been pursued as late as 1908 from floating dredges, but not with known success.

The most gigantic failure connected with the San Joaquin—though not a mining venture—was that of the Sunset Irrigation Company, exploited in the early 80's. It voted \$200,000 bonds for the largest irrigation scheme in the world under one management to reclaim by irrigation 400,000 acres of arid West Side lands by an immense ditch, miles and miles long, tapping the river a mile or so below Pollasky. The ruins of the granite dam are there, so is the great ditch scooped out of the sides of the hills, but the lands are as arid as ever they were. The water would not stay in the ditch. There were costly wash outs of dam and ditch, the surface soil of the latter so frequently volcanic ash which water would not solidify or hold.

Engineering errors were made, discovered too late in the attempted practical demonstration and not to be remedied save at great cost. The project was given fair test, but in the end was abandoned after an immense loss of money, time and labor. The ditch is grass grown and honeycombed with squirrel holes, and the river flows by as ever.

Sporadic efforts have been made at various periods in the years gone by, more especially during and after the Civil War times, to wash the sands of the river for gold. Chinese were employed in this labor. Experiments were made in even much later years in the line of dredging for gold but never with compensating returns. Possibly the most ambitious effort at a revival of river sand gold washing was the one in the summer of 1878 as recorded incidentally in a newspaper brief of forty years ago in the following words:

"The San Joaquin River is falling rapidly and is now fordable at many points. About 300 Chinamen are scattered along both banks of the river for a distance of thirty miles, beginning about five miles below Millerton and extending up into the mountains, and are washing the sand along each bank in rockers just as fast as the waters recede. By careful inquiry among them they are found to gather from \$1.50 to \$2.50 a day each, and this will continue till the water rises next winter—and each succeeding rise deposits a new supply of gold."

The wealth production of the river as a gold yielder has passed into a tradition. Its present day contribution to the wealth production of the valley and for years to come is in the use of its snow melted waters from the High Sierras for the irrigation of the cultivated areas of the plains which it traverses in its long course to the Pacific Ocean. In that wealth production aid, it is a greater yielder annually than all the gold ever washed out of its sand and gravel banks.

## CHAPTER XXII

## THREE FAMILIES SINGULARLY LINKED WITH MILLERTON'S HISTORY.

NOTABLY SO THE MCKENZIES, HARTS AND HOXIES. THEY WERE AMONG THE EARLIEST PROMINENT SETTLERS. PERSONAL RECOLLECTIONS OF THEM AND OTHER LOCATED FAMILIES. GILLUM BAILEY ELECTED COUNTY JUDGE, THOUGH NO PRACTICING LAWYER. SHANNON A PROMINENT CITIZEN AND MORROW A PICTURESQUE CHARACTER. PERSONAL RECOLLECTIONS OF OTHERS WHO FILLED IMPORTANT PLACES IN THE EARLY POLITICS AND HISTORIC PERIODS OF THE COUNTY.

As in every small settlement, so at Millerton certain families were first and foremost in the history and activities of the community as people to be looked up to, as it were. Three in particular are linked with Millerton's history whether as pioneers, by marriage connections, by present day ownership of the land, or by subsequent prominence in person as well as through their descendants in the later history of Fresno, of which they are also pioneers. The three families are the McKenzies, Harts and Hoxies; but notable also besides them are the Bailey, Shannon, Morrow, Musick, Winchell, Ashman, Boutwell, S. H. and W. W. Hill, McClelland, Henry, R. H. Daly, McCardle, Bernhard, Borden, Blasingame, Braley, Birkhead, Collins, Cole, Darwin, Donahoo, Dixon, Dusy, Draper, the Fergusons, Faymonville, Firebaugh, Goldstein, Gundelfinger, Hedgpeth, Hughes, Kutner, Nelson, Smoot, Statham, Sutherland, Tupper, Wickersham, White and the Yancey families to mention only at random a comparative few. There were other notable resident families in the county in the days before and after Millerton. To enumerate them would make a long list and tax the memory. As pioneers they all contributed to the slow development of the county in its various material and spiritual periods. And this is not to say that there were not others whose past may not be too closely inquired into for the disclosures that inquiry would reveal.

James McKenzie, who died in January, 1864, aged only thirty-three, was of the pioneer Fort Miller garrison, and after termination of his military service in 1858, located above the fort as a stockraiser. He entered the army in 1852, and his regiment was ordered from New York that year to this coast to subjugate the Indians. The travel was by steamer to Aspinwall, by mule across the isthmus, thence by steamer to San Francisco and the arsenal at Benicia Barracks and thence by land to Fort Miller. He was a sergeant in Lieut. Lucien Loeser's battery of the Third Artillery, serving also in Oregon in the Indian hostilities. A son, Edward P., who died in 1888, may be recalled, if at all, only by early pioneers as the storekeeper at Hamptonville, the settlement charted on early maps at the ferry crossing, where now stands the enclosed park at Pollasky.

**William H. McKenzie**

The other son, William H., born at the fort in March, 1857, left five children to perpetuate the name. Alfred H., an enterprising young business man being the active executor of his father's trust estate. He lived at the fort home until 1874, when he came to Fresno as a deputy of Sheriff Ashman. Two years later, he was a deputy under Assessor J. A. Stroud, continuing in various official deputyships until 1880, when he was elected county

assessor for three years under the new constitution. In 1882, he was associated with A. M. Clark in the land title abstract business, which they incorporated and expanded. They also secured an interest in the Fresno Loan and Savings Bank, incorporated in January, 1884, Mr. McKenzie being cashier and manager. The bank has long since been liquidated.

With Fresno's city incorporation, Mr. McKenzie was appointed treasurer, continuing for twelve years. He was interested with Clark and John C. Hoxie in mining operations, and at his death left a valuable estate, with notable chief assets the expanded abstract business, a large interest in the \$300,000, Griffith-McKenzie ten-story sky-scraper, which is such a distinctive object in Fresno's sky line, and the 12,000-acre cattle range which includes Millerton and fort sites. Neither of these would he part with for sentimental reasons. Various efforts have been made, plausible but not always practical, by the Pioneers' Society and the Native Sons of the Golden West to gift the old courthouse with a site of two acres as a public park and a monument and with restoration and preservation make it a museum of pioneer antiquities. The widow was born at Millerton and was Carrie E. Hoxie before marriage. An only sister is Mrs. Mary J. Hoxie, widow of John C. Hoxie, pioneer and expert quartz miner of the county, and one time inexhaustible treasure mine of information on early Fresno history.

Mrs. Ann McKenzie, the mother, who was eighty-five years of age at death in November, 1910, married Charles A. Hart at Millerton in March, 1865, and as the result of this union was born, at the fort, in April, 1866, Truman G. Hart, prominent citizen of Fresno of the younger generation of the old county seat, in his earlier days connected with the national guard; also with the volunteer fire department and as its chief, elected in 1894 county clerk, later a city trustee and identified prominently with the Republican party, and a pioneer in oil well development, besides general mining ventures. He is an administrator of the valuable trust estate of his half-brother, W. H. McKenzie.

Mrs. McKenzie-Hart came to New York from Ireland, in 1848, to visit a sister; her first husband and she were natives of County Sligo. The wedding journey across the isthmus was made on mule back. The McKenzies and Harts lived at the fort until 1861, when they located on a nearby 3,000-acre ranch and range. Besides farming the home place, young McKenzie became extensively interested in mining. With S. N. Griffith, the Fresno Electric Railway Company was capitalized and the system expanded to one of twelve miles when they sold out in May, 1903. He aided to develop the Kern River oil resources, sinking the first wells at Bakersfield and at McKittick, was financially interested in the Four Oil Company and in two other locations adjoining the Kern River property, also in the famous Section 28 in the Coalinga field, all of which yielded rich returns. He was moreover a leader in Democratic politics, county and city.

### Charles A. Hart

The late Charles A. Hart was for years after county seat removal, the lone resident of the fort and of once prosperous Millerton, living in easy contentment his declining days at the old homestead, which was his love and pride and to abandon which in life seemed to him a sacrilege. He was a graduate of the Genesee Wesleyan Seminary at Lima, N. Y., took up surveying and engineering as a special study, for a time surveyed and set grades on the New York and Erie Railroad in 1841, returned home to Palmyra, N. Y., studied law for four years, practiced for one year and then entered the wool and hide commission business in New York. He joined a party of forty from Massachusetts that, in December, 1848, started for California via steamer to Brazos, Texas, overland through the Lone Star State and what is now Arizona, across the big desert, entered California by

the southern route, journeyed north through Los Angeles, then only a Mexican pueblo, to the San Joaquin Valley and arrived at Hill's Ferry in Merced County, August, 1849, after numerous skirmishes on the journey with Navajo and Apache Indians.

For two seasons, he and party mined on the Merced, their efforts with old fashioned rockers yielding a pound of gold to the man daily. In 1853 he settled at Millerton, and upon county organization was elected the first county judge. After his term, he returned to the law until 1874, when with removal of the seat he devoted himself to ranching, cattle and horse raising on 2,000 acres of land. He was the first fruit grower in the county at the fort, experimentally planting oranges and figs about 1878, and himself carrying the water in buckets for irrigation from a nearby spring. The fort being abandoned in 1863, he bought all the improvements at auction. By homesteading, purchase of the McClelland homestead covering the village site, and by inheritance and other acquisitions the McKenzies and Harts became the owners of the 12,000-acre cattle range on both sides of the river, and all thereon.

### Clark Hoxie

Clark Hoxie, who died in 1866 at Sandwich, Mass., at the ancestral home, came to California via the isthmus in 1852 and locating at Tuttletown in Tuolumne County built the first quartz mill in that locality, besides engaging in mining. In 1856 he was at one of the Fresno reservations to teach the redman carpentering, but by 1858 was located at Millerton as a blacksmith and wagonmaker, and participating in local administration affairs. He earned the title of judge as a justice of the peace, and tradition has it that court was held not infrequently on short notice in the shop, the judge astraddle of a wooden horse as a judicial bench and the litigants and others similarly accommodated. Clark Hoxie was a supervisor in 1857, chairman of the board during the term, and a true type of the sturdy and honest pioneer. His descendants are:

John C. Hoxie, who married a McKenzie, and aforementioned.

Sewell H. Hoxie, who resided in later years at Pasadena, Cal.

George L. Hoxie, for successive years county surveyor, afterward city engineer of Fresno, planned its enlarged sewer system with septic tank plant at the city sewer farm, and at present lumbering in Trinity County.

Mrs. Elizabeth J. Hoxie-Barth, who at Fort Miller in 1865 married Capt. Charles Barth of the quartermaster's department of the United States Army and later moved to San Francisco.

And her sister Mrs. Carrie E. Hoxie-McKenzie, the younger daughter, who married W. H. McKenzie and was born in the old wooden hotel and courthouse building that was moved in part, miles below Millerton on the banks of Little Dry Creek.

John C. Hoxie prided himself that all his education was received from his mother, who in 1859 was postmistress at Millerton, also organized the undenominational first Sabbath school and among the early white women in the district was looked up to intellectually as a superior personage.

### Gillum Baley

High in public esteem and regard in Millerton as well as in Fresno, the career of the late Gillum Baley, an Illinoisian, born in 1813, was typical of the adventurous early comer. At the age of nineteen, he participated until its close in the Black Hawk War, and in 1835 married in Missouri, the wife who died during the second year of the union, leaving a son Moses, who died in 1885 in California. Following farming in Missouri, Gillum mar-

ried in 1837 Miss P. E. Myers of Jackson County, the companion of his later days, and the mother of eleven children. It was in 1849 that he came overland, for two years followed mining and rejoined his family in Missouri. The call to California was, however, too insistent, so in April, 1858, via the southern route the second overland journey was undertaken with wife, nine children and a brother, W. R., the five ox team wagons with 100 head of cows and stock cattle joining the L. J. Rose party in the Colorado River Valley.

The sufferings of the party were great because of the heat and superinduced thirst. Besides, the party of sixty was fiercely attacked and as determinedly repulsed an assault on the camp by 800 Mojave Indians, with loss to the party of nine dead and seventeen wounded and of savages eighty-seven killed, wounded unknown. Having escaped massacre, the route was changed by retreat to Albuquerque, N. M., the men trudging along barefooted with feet lacerated by the cactus thorns and sleeping at night on the sand under the wagons. The Baley party recuperated for seven months at Albuquerque, and finally set out for California, resting at Visalia, locating on the Chowchilla in mining, then moving to the Tollhouse, where he farmed and raised stock, eventually settling at Millerton. It was in February, 1861, that he entered upon public life as appointed justice of the peace to succeed John Letford in the second township.

A notable incident in his long and honorable career was his election in October, 1867, as county judge.

A remarkable story has always attached to this worthy man that he was elected judge though having no knowledge of the law and untrained as a lawyer. The truth is that he had read law in Missouri and had been justice-court bench-rider. Experience as a practitioner he had none, nor was he familiar with the technical forms of procedure. He was admitted to practice at Sacramento, Cal., after an examination as to his qualifications by a committee of three lawyers appointed by the supreme court on his application for admission to the bar as was the practice of the day and the times.

Yet with an interim, he occupied a seat on the county bench for twelve years, and his decisions met with general approval. The historical fact is that few, if any, of his judgments were reversed on appeal. The lack of technical knowledge was replaced in the man by an intuitive insight into human nature, judged by experience and common sense. Retiring from the bench, Baley followed the grocery business for eight years in Fresno, located on the ground floor of the Odd Fellows' hall building at the corner of Mariposa and I Streets where now stands the Farmers' National Bank, part of the time associated with the son Charles, during this period serving a term as county treasurer, elected November, 1884, and in 1888 withdrawing from business activity. He died at the age of eighty-five.

He was the organizer of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, in Fresno in 1872, with twelve members and a start with five, four of these of his own family. The house of worship, the first in Fresno, in the erection of which he was instrumental, was completed in 1876 and the first sermon preached in it on March 3. There were eleven children by the second marriage. The dead are: an infant that passed away on the overland journey; Mrs. Elizabeth Ashman that was the wife of the sheriff; Lewis Leach Baley who died at the age of seventeen, Mrs. Rebecca M. Shannon of Alameda, who has been dead for a decade, and Mrs. Catherine Krug of Brazil, who left Millerton in 1871-72 and is survived by four children. The living of the Baley family are:

Mrs. Frances Yancey, widow of Charles Abraham Yancey, of Tollhouse.

George Baley, rancher of Sentinel.

Mrs. Ellen G. McCardle, widow of James McCardle, millman of early

days, and mother of Miss Sarah McCardle, the county librarian of Fresno and of Edward McCardle, the title abstractor of Madera and historical authority, and of James who was county recorder of Fresno for a term.

Charles C. Bailey, long with Las Palmas winery and now watchman at the courthouse park, one of the few reliable authorities on early Fresno history. At the old Academy school he was known as "Dates" because of his gift for recollecting dates in history. This gift he inherited from his mother. Of her it is said that she had at her finger's ends the birthdays of her eleven children and was an authority on the marriage, birth and death dates of the pioneer acquaintances of her day.

Mrs. Nancy J. Greenup-Black of Academy.

Mrs. Parthenia Hill-McKeon, widow of Spencer J. Hill, and wife of R. B. McKeon of Los Angeles.

### Jefferson M. Shannon

Prominent in political and public life was Jefferson M. Shannon, a Missourian born, of whom they tell so many amusing tales that he must have measured up to Hamlet's description of Yorick as "a fellow of infinite jest and of most excellent fancy." Shannon first appears on the local horizon as a pork raiser and seller in 1854 at Coarse Gold Gulch, "making money hand over fist" in his dealings with the Chinese. He crossed the plains in the spring of 1850, as did his father before him, though the son did not learn of his death in the fall of '49 in El Dorado County until his later arrival. Jefferson located in Sonoma County as a butcher, and then came to Fort Miller, after a time serving two terms as under and deputy sheriff and collector of the foreign miners' license tax.

After removal to Fresno in 1873, he became connected with the land department of the Southern Pacific as general townsite agent for California, Arizona and New Mexico, also engaging in the new county seat in the wholesale and retail liquor trade. Removing to Alameda in 1888, he continued as land and confidential agent until his death in June, 1902. At one time at Millerton, he reopened McCray's blacksmith shop with "an experienced and skilful workman," one Ah Kit, the most expert in his line in the county, and devoting special attention to the shoeing of horses and oxen. Shannon's dealings with the Chinese were so extensive and covered so many years that he came to speak their language fairly well. Business relations with Kit were so cordial that in appreciation the latter named his Millerton first-born, Jefferson Shannon Kit. This Chinese-American youth, who died in Fresno in January, 1908, was given a notable funeral, which was a curious combination of the modern and barbaric, the cortege led by a band which played rag-time and quick steps for dirges. Shannon died well-to-do as the result of judicious land investments. Children that survived him:

Mrs. Mary Idria Toms, wife of W. E. Toms of Alameda, now of Fresno.

Scott Ashman Shannon, who manages the Fresno estate.

Sidney J. Shannon from 1889-1901 in the accounting department of the Pacific Improvement Company, for some years thereafter land agent at Los Banos for Miller & Lux, now deputy United States marshal; and

Leland Stanford Shannon, rancher of Fowler. The older brothers are prominent Elks. Save Leland, who saw the light of day at Millerton, the others were born at the fort.

Their mother taught the first private school in the county, receiving seventy-five dollars a month for a term of three months, this school at the fort barracks having an average attendance of fifteen.

### Jesse Morrow

A picturesque character was Jesse Morrow, an Ohioan, who was lured by the '49 story of gold, crossed the plains to pass the winter



at Salt Lake City, but being driven off by the Mormons pushed on with a smaller party which entered California by the Southern pass and disbanded. Morrow and six others, with food and blankets, trudged on westward through Cajon pass, trading rifle for beef, which was "jerked" for food, and crossing the Kern, met at Posey Creek, two survivors of a party of sixteen massacred by Indians. All returned to the Kern, there met an emigrant train, of which Dr. Lewis Leach was a member, and pushed on northward. At Woodville (Tulare County) they came upon the scene of the massacre and buried fourteen corpses. Camping under guard and killing wild cattle as a food supply, they moved on to the Kings and the San Joaquin, and a part of the party was engaged for Cassady & Lane to mine for them at Cassady's Bar.

Morrow mined at Fine Gold Gulch and on the San Joaquin until 1856, when he removed to Los Angeles. He engaged in stock raising, and driving 1,100 head of cattle to the San Joaquin continued here in the stock business until 1874. One year later, he took up sheep raising on the plains, continuing this pursuit until 1882, having at times flocks varying in number from 4,000 to 20,000. Mr. Morrow was at one time one of the richest men in the county, interested in mining, lending money but losing \$160,000 through poor securities, and owning land in the two county seats. In 1874, he was instrumental in erecting the Southern Pacific hotel, which came into his possession two years later. It was the caravansary par excellence of Fresno and bore his name for a time. It was on the site of the present Fresno postoffice building, was the Southern Hotel and the Henry House (Simon W. Henry of Millerton), and later known as the Mariposa Hotel. It was moved to the corner of Mariposa and M on the Jeff D. Statham property, in rear of the courthouse, but after partial destruction by fire a few years ago removed to a third site and present location at the corner of Diana and Silvia streets.

The Morrrows were absentees from the Kings River ranch for fifteen years as residents of San Jose, and in his day he was probably the county's most extensive sheep raiser.

Morrow was one of fate's victims for at death in 1897 he was practically a ruined man. Yet there is the authenticated tale that in one live stock transaction alone about \$80,000 was piled up in payment on a table in one of the rooms of the old Morrow house. The kitchen portion of this structure was part of a building wheeled to Fresno from Millerton. Two earliest deeds under date of June 9, 1855, were by Morrow to McCray, one for \$200 for the Millerton lot on which the Oak Hotel was erected, and the other for \$2,500 for the ferry formerly known as Morrow & Carroll's. It was the irony of fate perhaps that in June, 1874, McCray was sold out by the sheriff on execution, and that Morrow was the judgment creditor buyer, taking back some of the very property sold to McCray, when he came to Millerton a rich man. Morrow was associated with George C. Ferris and J. A. Van Tassel in a flour mill at Centerville, and retaining all interest on dissolution bought the grist mill of J. W. Sweem, three miles northeast of there, and for a time had the milling monopoly of the county.

### E. C. Winchell

The E. C. Winchell family did not come to Millerton until 1859, but its position and standing in the community was a commanding one. For two years by a special dispensation from the government care-taker, it was permitted to occupy as a domicile the hospital building at the fort, and then moved to a settler's primitive cabin in Winchell's Gulch until a residence could be erected. The family lived in the gulch for fifteen years. It continued as residents of Fresno until 1896, when it moved to Oakland, Cal.

Judge Winchell, who died July 24, 1913, at Berkeley, Cal., was a recognized leader of the local bar, and influential in educational circles. Mrs.

Winchell conducted a select school for young ladies. He was of a literary turn and was in frequent demand for addresses on public occasions and celebrations. He was county judge from 1864-67, district attorney from 1860-63, and the first county school superintendent appointed in February, 1860, with the organized Scottsburg, Millerton and Kingston districts. Mr. Winchell was a large property holder in the heart of Fresno City on Mariposa, near J, and on J, between Mariposa and Fresno, but it passed out of his hands at loss. On this property he had erected in 1889 improvements involving a total investment of \$42,000. Three children survive him namely:

L. A. Winchell, a well-known citizen of Fresno, an authority on local history and secretary of the Fresno County Pioneer Association.

L. F. Winchell of Oakland, Cal., long connected here with the national guard in the days of the Third Brigade under Gen. M. W. Muller with Fresno headquarters and the Sixth Infantry battalion (later a regiment of six companies) under Cols. Eugene Lehe and J. J. Nunan, both of Stockton, and S. S. Wright of Fresno, as the organized military.

Miss Anna Cora Winchell, newspaper woman, music and art critic for one of the San Francisco dailies.

## CHAPTER XXIII

A CONSIDERATION OF THE SOCIAL SIDE OF PIONEER DAYS IN FRESNO. ROUGH THE MANNERS, THE LABOR AND THE AMUSEMENTS. WOMAN'S LOT A SPECIALLY TRYING ONE. BIG FAMILIES THE GENERAL RULE OF THE DAY. NO MARRIAGEABLE WOMAN NEEDED TO BE WITHOUT HUSBAND. WEAKER SEX IN NUMERICAL MINORITY. FIRST WHITE CHILDREN BORN IN COUNTY. PRACTICAL JOKES CHARACTERISTIC OF THE DEVIL-ME-CARE SPIRIT OF THE TIMES. ARTLESSNESS OF THE POLITICAL CANDIDATE. NO MINCING OF THE KING'S ENGLISH.

The mollycoddle was unknown in the pioneer days. Had he existed, life would have been made an unbearable burden for him. They were rough times those days, especially in a mountain mining, or railroad border village. The men had rough ways and hard labor, were rough and plain spoken in language, rough in their games and amusements, and lacking the restraint of social environments and of the refining influence of the presence of good women, even their horse-play was the quintessence of boorish roughness. Life amidst such rough surroundings was to be borne only with the philosophic reflection that when among the Romans do as the Romans do.

In the early days, every miner was a walking arsenal. Naturally, a popular amusement would be rifle and pistol practice, and tempted by the surroundings hunting and fishing. A game of cards called "rounce" was a prime favorite. Of course all the card and mechanical devices for gambling were at hand to tempt the unwary and reckless. And scrub mule and horse races had their attractions. Refining and intellectual entertainments were unknown in Millerton's earlier days. The coming of a political stump speaker, as in later times, was a veritable godsend, though as caviare to the multitude, because what need of Democratic pabulum in a hide bound Democratic stronghold—carrying coals to Newcastle as it were.

Woman's social lot was a specially trying one. No literary club, the time was not ripe for suffrage, no sewing circle, no relief society meeting, no weekly evening prayer meeting. Not until county seat removal had been practically resolved upon, was there church service once in a month, and not until shortly before the removal was there a Sunday school established.

Eighteen years of village life with never even a missionary chapel cabin. At great intervals, mass was held on stated church festival days, with a clergyman sent for the occasion from Visalia for the benefit of those of the Catholic faith at Millerton. Masses were held on improvised altars at the fort residence, Mrs. McKenzie-Hart being a member of that faith. Supervisor J. B. Johnson recalls as a boy living at Visalia accompanying the priest several times to act as acolyte.

The annual Methodist circuit camp meeting was always a great event and an opportunity for the exchange of social amenities. The main camp ground was on Big Dry Creek, near the Musick residence, though protracted meetings were also held near Centerville and at other points. Mrs. E. Jane Hyde kept the public table where board could be had at reasonable rates, a corral was maintained for the feed of horses by the day or week, and due reminder was given that "those expecting to remain overnight will please bring their bedding."

No Millerton hubby could habitually absent himself from home at night on the lodge meeting plea, for it was not until almost the last that Odd Fellow and Good Templar lodges were formed, and they met at seven o'clock in the evening, and there was no "missing the last car home." True, there was the even then threadbare excuse to fall back on of "seeing a man on business," but if hubby overstepped the time allowance it was ten to one he could be speedily rounded up at Lawrenson's, or Friedman's or at McCray's, the latter the popular resort with sundry drawing attractions other than monte, faro, roulette, chuck-a-luck and the other devices.

Mothers with their large progenies had their days fully occupied, so that after the domestic toils they were in no mood after supper hour for sociabilities. Family social calls were the main expedient for killing an idle period and exchanging the latest village gossip morsel. There was no threatened danger of race suicide then. Big families were the rule—the more the merrier apparently—and with no school and no compulsory education law there was not the frequent scrubbing, washing, combing and brushing of the young hopefuls to pass the critical muster of the schoolma'm. It was an ideal existence for the young ones compared with the present day school attending preliminaries.

### BIG FAMILIES WERE THE RULE

To hark back to big families. There was the Baley household of ten with eight budding girls, the Sample colony of twelve with six buxom lassies and the "Uncle" S. H. Cole aggregation of ten by a first and third marriage, the Helm progeny of seven, the Gower of nine, the nine living of the eleven of John A. Patterson, a founder both of Fresno and Tulare counties and an organizing supervisor of them, the living three of the S. A. Holmes family of ten, the surviving six of the nine by the first marriage of the late Dr. W. J. Prather to which were added two by a second marriage, John Sutherland with six, John H. Shore with seven, A. H. Statham with eight, and Russell H. Fleming and John Krohn each with nine, and Henry N. Ewing, the father of Treasurer A. D. Ewing and of D. S. Ewing, the lawyer, with eight, of which six lived to come to California. He hit upon an idea in giving the children names, the initials of which from A to H established their natal sequence. This is no fiction for here is the proof in names:

- 1—Achilles D. Ewing of Fresno;
- 2—Belle Z. Ewing (deceased);
- 3—Cora L. Clasby (deceased);
- 4—David E. S. Ewing of Fresno;
- 5—Emmett Mc. Ewing (deceased);
- 6—Forrest B. Ewing of La Habra, Cal.;
- 7—George M. Ewing (deceased); and
- 8—Harry M. C. Ewing (deceased).

But instances of such large families are easily multiplied. The numerically large family circle was the rule: the small or childless, the exception. Ponder a moment on the battalion of kin that the marriages in one family of the offsprings and relatives can in time muster up. A case in point is that of Mr. and Mrs. Josephus Hutchings, who in April, 1911, at Belmont in this city celebrated their golden wedding anniversary with a reunion of kindred. The Hutchings have three children and his living relatives then were four married sisters. A tally was made out of curiosity at the celebration, and the exhibit of local kindred was the following:

Hutchings, 32; Stevens, 10; Nolans, 23; Burnetts, 23; Pecks, 28. Total 116.

The Hutchings are ox team emigrants from Iowa, who arrived in California in October, 1861, lived eight years at Stockton and then moved to near what is now Fresno, he and his brother, William, being credited as the first to sow a crop of grain on the plains at what is now the Fairview vineyard, eleven miles east of Fresno. Robert Edmunds, a neighbor, erected the first domicile so far out on the plains, standing today at Fairview; William, the second, and Josephus, the third. The latter and P. E. Daniels were first to enter the Coalinga field and develop it for oil, sinking, about 1899, a well on the Wabash holding, proving it a million-dollar property. William surveyed and built under contract the big Gould irrigation ditch and system.

Another notable illustration was furnished on April 13, 1917, at Clovis in the annual home-coming of the descendants of Mrs. Jane Sweany-Cole, "Grandma Cole" as she is known, to make joy over her eighty-seventh birthday anniversary on the fifteenth. As the result of the marriage with William T. Cole in 1854, ten daughters were born, nine living, the one deceased Mrs. Alice Hoskins (wife of the late William Hoskins) having lived to be aged forty years. Mrs. Cole counts eighty-two living descendants, all save ten resident in the county. Death has invaded the family to remove the father in June, 1907, one child, six grandchildren and four great grandchildren. The surviving family members are:

Children, nine; grand children, forty-one; great grand children, twenty-one. Total, seventy-one.

The daughters are: Mesdames Sally, wife of D. C. Sample; Angeline, wife of J. T. Birkhead; Mary, wife of J. A. Stroud; Jane, wife of F. S. Estell; Ida, wife of John Bell; Kate, wife of W. F. Shafer; Grace, wife of R. L. Hoag; Emily, wife of W. J. Heiskell; and Harriet, wife of A. H. Blasingame.

"Grandma" Cole crossed the plains with parents from Missouri at the age of twenty in 1850, family consisting of nine children. The journey occupied five months, California was entered at Emigrant Gap via Truckee and halt was made in Solano County. Cole came overland in 1849, also from Missouri. The Coles came to Fresno in 1860 and have lived here since, forty years at Academy where he died, whereafter she moved to her present Clovis home.

William Temple Cole named for his American progenitor, who was a Kentucky companion of Daniel Boone, was the eldest of nine brothers and five sisters, but the only family representative in California. He possessed remarkable physical strength and endurance, never met his superior in wrestling and in St. Louis attracted attention by lifting 500 pounds. Of splendid physique, he was noted as a pedestrian and runner, beating the stage often and walking fifty miles in a day from Auburn to Sacramento, carrying \$5,000 in gold dust. He was a volunteer in the Mexican War. At twenty-one he was an Indian trader in Kansas for two years, crossed the plains with mule team upon the report of gold, leaving the party at Goose Creek and pack-horsed to San Francisco, arriving August 10, 1849. Returning with the company's mail, he met the party on the Bear River, near the present site of Nevada City, closed up its affairs and then mined on the

Yuba until sickness compelled a change in location. He embarked in stock raising, two miles from Sacramento, also furnishing river steamers with wood for fuel. He prospered but lost all in floods.

Ten years later he moved to Fresno, settling on the Kings River and two floods left him poorer by \$15,000 and a good farm. Moving to Academy for the superior school there, he engaged in stock raising on a section of land and in 1897 retired from active pursuits. The wife whom he married in Solano County, was the daughter of James Sweany, a pioneer of 1850, who lived in Nevada City, farmed in Solano and died in Visalia. In public affairs, it was said of W. T. Cole that he took no part "aside from casting a straight Democratic ticket at all elections."

The pioneer men lived up truly to the biblical injunction that it is not good for man to be alone, and the women included themselves in the category. Second marriages were common and third not unusual. No marriageable lass in Millerton, or early Fresno, had to seek a beau. She had her absolute pick. The supply of girls did not meet the demand. No widow had need to repine for a provider. Every marriageable woman had only to say aye and she was snapped up in a twinkling. R. W. Riggs, the local historian and Pine Ridge philosopher, came to Fresno in February, 1881, and he is authority for the statement that he had reason for learning that even at that late day there were only fourteen marriageable girls in Fresno city but 200 willing ones to take them off their parents' hands. In the early days there was a disproportionate ratio between the sex representatives, and it continued until after Millerton had ceased to exist and Fresno was no longer a railroad border town.

That white woman was no drug on the market was given published corroboration in the Expositor on August 7, 1872, in a humorous news item to the effect that ten or fifteen marriageable young ladies, "either of comely or plain appearance," are wanted immediately, Millerton being then without "a single one" and "at least twenty-five old bachelors in search of ribs." The inducement was held out that "there will be no necessity of long courtships as they all mean biz."

The marriage relation naturally suggests the question, Who was the first white child born in Fresno County? At the Millerton second reunion of the Pioneers' Society in June, 1915, Stonewall J. Ashman went through the public mock ceremony of being crowned such. The honor was not disputed by the then living holder of the distinction, though commented upon at the time by her and W. J. Hutchinson, the president of the society, who had attended her wedding. The distinction then belonged to Margaret A. Boutwell, daughter of Hugh A. and Elizabeth Carroll, who married B. S. Boutwell, while a deputy of Sheriff Ashman. The first born white girl in the territory was her older sister Mary, born in 1854 and died in 1865. Mrs. Boutwell died April 6, 1916. The newspaper "send off" on her wedding read:

"In Millerton, April 26th, 1872, by Hon. Gillum Baley, Bedford S. Boutwell to Miss Maggie A. Carroll, all of Fresno County. Bully for you, Steve. We congratulate you. We hope that you and your blushing bride may have a long, pleasant and prosperous journey through life and finally die happy, and while we do not wish that your issue should be so great as that of your namesake, the treasurer of the United States, we do hope that your offspring may be sufficiently numerous to gratify your every desire and that they be honored at home and abroad."

A specimen of the bucolic style of journalism, was it not?

The first white male child born in the county is said to have been Scott Burford, who is living near Clovis. This is on the authority of John C. Hoxie.

Charles C. Baley names Allen Stroud, late of Coalinga, and son of the pioneer Ira Stroud, as the first white male child born in the county. Of half

breed children, there is a plenty in the county, offsprings of white fathers and of Indian and even Chinese mothers.

### BUCOLIC AMUSEMENTS AND JOKES

The roughness of the bucolic amusements and practical jokes was in accord with the "loose devil-me-care style" of the times. Early historians ever noted with elaborate glee the story that has become a stock one since 1853, how Quartermaster Jordan of the fort—"shrewd, cunning and crafty," but for Jordan "first, last and all the time"—was checkmated by one John Newton. Jordan contracted with him to deliver all the hay he could furnish at fifty dollars a ton. Newton cured in the spring ten tons that he gathered in an immense stack. It was measured and accepted at fifty tons and paid for. The first load that Jordan hauled away laid bare the imposition. The hay was only a thin covering of a great rock boulder. Newton conveniently decamped, Jordan was beaten at his own game and the populace said it served him right.

Another shop-worn tale is the one of 1856, anent T. J. Allen's restaurant with bar and justice of the peace annexes and the trial before a jury of three of Dr. Leach's case on a claim of \$350 with full verdict, notwithstanding that the court's jurisdiction was limited to \$300. On the last day of grace for an appeal, Lawyer James T. Cruikshank came from Millerton to perfect that appeal on the unimpeachable ground of lack of jurisdiction. Warned of his coming and errand, the genial and frisky spirits that hovered around Allen's bench and bar to make themselves serviceable occasionally as jurors plied him with drink so assiduously that he was unable to prepare the papers, and at midnight was tenderly put to bed, the legal time for appeal having then expired. Cruikshank took in the situation next day (Sunday) and tramped home an euchered man.

There was always something astir when Shannon was at leisure. He had a little horse known as "Jeff Davis" that held the blue ribbon in the county and brought him in many a dollar at races until he was matched one day at Kingston and met his Waterloo. But long before that in the summer of 1856, according to another tale that has been worn to a frazzle, Shannon and James Roan discovered a new sport—a footrace between buxom squaws. Shannon backed and trained the red, Roan the blue. The red won and Shannon was the richer by \$150. Editor L. A. Holmes of the *Mariposa Gazette* commented on the novel race to record that if Roan had kept his squaw in as good training as Shannon the race would have had another ending.

The name of "Gabe" Moore, an Arkansas slave, black as the ace of spades, and brought to this state by Richard and William Glenn, early settlers on the Kings River, has been handed down, because he "contributed more toward the fun and amusement of those people than any other man in the settlement," for which reason some of his transgressions were winked at. Gabriel was once in serious trouble, having coveted a squaw of Kings River Agent Campbell, who had introduced the Brigham Young custom of a plurality of wives with the red-skinned damsels. Tempted to his melon patch, Gabe committed an act comparable to the incident that befell the Sabine women, and Campbell vowed to kill him but consented to submit the matter judicially before W. W. Hill. The cabin courtroom was crowded at this cause celebre, Gabe who always appealed to his former masters when in trouble, was in fear and trembling at the outcome, nothing very intelligible was extracted from the native daughters, but the case being submitted acquittal followed, after consideration of the case far into the night and the free introduction of liquid stimulants to ward off slumber. Years after in condoning his act, Gabe chuckled and grinned, "Ah massa, 'omen was scarce dem days."



Gabe died in May, 1880, leaving for one in his station in life a nice little estate in trust for his black widow, Mary.

McCray had a Newfoundland dog named "Dawson," whose wonderful sagacity is the subject of many a tale. There was no fish for the hotel guests one Friday and McCray confided the fact to "Dawson." The dog jumped into the river from the ferry scow, swam about and anon returned with a fresh salmon in his mouth. They had fish for dinner that day. On another occasion and being overcome by too many of the cups that cheer even singly, McCray turned to "Dawson," intimating that it was bedtime. "Dawson" scampered off, returned with the candle stick for lighting and piloted his master to bed. "Dawson" was made a gift to Len Farrar, a Fresno saloon keeper and there long exhibited his intelligence for the amusement of many a patron in the role of valet in the bringing of hats on departure and in like tricks.

Recklessness in gambling was characteristic, with Converse a notable example of it. There was nothing that he would not risk the hazard of chance on. He would wager any stake on who could expectorate closest to a given mark. He and McCray laid a bet whose road was the longest from their respective ferries. Converse lost, and after the wager was paid it leaked out that the night before the surveyor's measuring chain had been shortened by several links. On another occasion, it is related, Converse was in a card game for high stakes—gold dust in buckskin sacks—at McCray's with cutthroat "greasers," and Converse was cleaned out. Undismayed, he excused himself, asked that the game be not halted, and on return reentered it, won back all he had lost, and more too. The buckskin with which he regained everything contained only sand that he had scooped up on the river bank during his temporary absence.

Theodore T. Strombeck, a member of the Mariposa Battalion, known as "Swede Bill"—in those days a nickname was fastened on every one and surnames had not come into fashion—came nearest losing life as the result of a practical joke. He had placed a dab of limburger cheese in the hatband of a Millerton dandy, who resented the familiarity with a loaded shotgun. He met Strombeck and fired, but the latter being alert dodged behind a protecting rock and saved his life.

Strombeck was another squawman. He died at the age of eighty-two in November, 1910. He was one of the Mariposa Battalion in the Indian War of 1851. He was a Stockholmite born, and in him the history of the territory for nearly sixty years was epitomized. He gained his nickname at a convivial gathering at T. J. Allen's Coarse Gold Gulch store of which he was keeper and at which all the Bills had been toasted and a second bottle was brought out for another round beginning with a pledge to the long life of "Swede Bill." The name ever after stuck to him, though William was not his. In January 16, 1918, John Strombeck, aged thirty-four of Auberry, and a descendent, took out license to marry Topsy Buffalo, aged thirty-eight, also of Auberry and the half breed couple matrimonized.

### PRO BONO PUBLICO APPEALS

Published card appeals of political candidates were frank and artless. Here is an example:

#### For County Surveyor

The undersigned respectfully announces himself a candidate for County Surveyor of Fresno County at the ensuing election to be holden in September next, 1871. Having been a permanent citizen of this county since organization is believed to be a reasonable apology for not traveling over the county, renewing old acquaintance and establishing new, and having no inclination and but little tact for electioneering, I will not be found among the canvassers discussing the issues of the day.

Millerton, May 2nd, 1871.

M. B. LEWIS.

Unique was the following asking reelection as county judge, after a first election to the bench:

#### For County Judge

Millerton, Fresno Co., April 12th, 1871.

FELLOW CITIZENS:—I take this method of announcing through the FRESNO EXPOSITOR, our county newspaper, that my name will be placed before you at the ensuing Judicial Election for reelection to the office which I have the honor now humbly to fill. My official acts as County Judge for the past three years are known to the voters of this county (whether good or bad). I do not claim that I have not committed any errors, but I do claim that whatever those errors may have been, they were of judgment and not of the heart. I feel a desire to fill the office for another term, as I feel that I can do so more satisfactorily to myself, having gained some knowledge of the statute laws and practice of courts of this State. Feeling thankful, fellow citizens, for past favors, if reelected will continue, to the best of my ability, to discharge the functions of the office conscientiously under oath of office.

GILLUM BAILEY.

In those days people minced not the King's English in newspaper published declarations over their signatures as witnesseth the following:

#### Caution

Under the above caption a notice has been published in the Fresno Expositor by J. C. Wood warning all persons not to trust his wife, Annie Wood, on his account, as he will not be responsible for any debt contracted by her. He need not fear or bother himself about me, he cannot pay his own debts, let alone mine; he was run out of Stockton for not paying his debts and then beat me out of \$600 and left me and my little children to starve. He has come here for me to support him, or he says he will kill me. It is a shame that our little quiet village of Fresno should be disturbed by such a worthless blackguard as he is. Even the clothes he has on his back the vile wretch robbed me of the money to purchase. The citizens should tar and feather such a miscreant and ride him on a rail.

Fresno, February 8, 1877.

MRS. ANNIE WOOD.

But with all crudities and shortcomings, and after all is said and done, be it recorded to the credit of Millerton, at least, that it masterfully dodged the pitfalls of church choir, amateur choral or dramatic societies and silver cornet band.

## CHAPTER XXIV

A CHAPTER, THE SADDEST IN THE COUNTY'S HISTORY. PATHETIC END OF THREE MEN PROMINENT IN THE EARLY TIMES OF FRESNO. GASTER AS A DEFAULTER DIES UNMOURNED IN A FOREIGN CLIME AFTER THIRTY-TWO YEARS OF DISAPPEARANCE. CONVERSE, WHOM FATE LINKED WITH HIM AS HIS EVIL GENIUS, FILLS THE NEGLECTED GRAVE OF A SUICIDE. CLOSES A CHECKERED CAREER FIGHTING OFF STARVATION AT THE END. MCCRAY, ONCE RICH, INFLUENTIAL AND A PRODIGAL DIES A CANCER AFFLICTED PAUPER. HE LIES IN A LOST SEPULCHER, THE THIRD SINCE HEARTBROKEN DEATH.

No chapter in early Millerton history, and that means of the county, is sadder and more pathetic than that dealing with the lives and tragic end of three once prominent men—Stephen A. Gaster, Charles P. Converse and

Ira McCray. The order of mention is not a measure of their relative importance or prominence, but a sequence for the greater convenience of the narrative. Gaster rests in an unknown grave in a far off land, Converse, in a suicide's, in the San Francisco potter field, and McCray in an unmarked and lost one somewhere in Fresno, after two exhumations. Of the trio, Gaster paid the heaviest penalty for the one great mistake of his life in trusting pretended friends too implicitly.

### STEPHEN A. GASTER

Fate ordained to connect Gaster and Converse in extraordinary manner. Converse, who was a singular and incomprehensible character, may be regarded as having been Gaster's evil genius. Gaster's disappearance and reported later end in a far tropical clime furnished the basis of a mystery that never has been satisfactorily cleared. The man, who, it is believed, might have thrown all light on the subject, took the secret with him into the grave. Gaster never was heard from in self defense, but bowed submissively to his fate. No one has removed the stigma that rested over this unfortunate man without a country, with the name and memory of being Fresno's first official defaulter and a fugitive from justice, whereas while technically a defaulter he was more the victim of fate and of cruel circumstances.

Converse came to California in 1849, mining for gold on the Mother Lode in Mariposa County, later marrying and coming to Fresno, adding the cattle business to his mining operations and running a ferry at Millerton. He acquired wealth rapidly and spent it but not in dissipation. Neglecting a young wife, she took a divorce and in October, 1873, married Dr. Lewis Leach, whom she survives. After the separation, Converse became more "restless and reckless." His courthouse building contract was completed in admittedly "honest, skilful and creditable manner." It was during the progress of the work that Gaster departed one day for San Francisco, ostensibly to be away one week. When he did not reappear, Converse gave out that he had a large sum of money deposited with him and needed it urgently to pay off his laborers. There was no deputy treasurer, the safe was locked, and the key was with Gaster. Converse hurried to the city ostensibly in search of Gaster, returning with the information that he had disappeared, leaving no trace. A warrant was issued for Gaster's arrest for the embezzlement of public money.

While all these circumstances looked bad for Gaster, still there was no proof that the money might not be in the safe. The doubt was judicially resolved by County Judge Winchell before whom the criminal proceedings were pending. He ordered the safe cut open in the county clerk's yard in the presence of nearly the entire assembled male population of the village. Fifteen twenty-dollar gold pieces were in the safe, which upon unquestionable proof and according to the attached tags to the buckskin bag were the property of Andrew M. Darwin of the Upper Kings, to whom they were delivered, he having deposited \$3,000 with Gaster several weeks before. The safe had otherwise been cleaned out of money. According to the report to the supervisors, of which there is minute record, some of the twenty-dollar pieces had found their way out of the bag, and in the removal of the safe from the courthouse had scattered into various compartments.

It has always been a debatable question whether Gaster took any of the public money for own use and benefit. He was an old resident, of excellent repute and lived with wife and children in simple manner. The last seen of him was at noon on a hot summer's day in August, 1866, walking from the front gate of his cottage yard, and upon approaching the stage-coach rumbling down the street on its way to Hornitas, thrusting arms into the sleeves of a thin alpaca coat. He was lightly attired, burdened with no baggage or incumbrance, entered the coach and never was again seen.

At this time coin was the circulating medium, unless mayhap gold dust. There was no bank, express or post office money order offices in the county, nor any form of printed money, except greenbacks for a brief period during the military occupancy of the fort, and these had disappeared quickly. It was physically impossible for Gaster to have conveyed with him any considerable portion of the \$6,600 missing funds in coin or dust without attracting notice, nor could he have drawn on the alpaca coat, so burdened. Gaster had no evil habits, did not drink, gamble, play the races or speculate. Nor was there proof that Converse knew what became of that money.

Gaster was an amiable and generous fellow, ever ready to aid or assist a friend. Inexperienced in public life, or in caring for large sums of money, he was such an impressionable man that "trusted friends" might have induced him to loan out \$1,000 or \$2,000 of the idle public money in the safe for brief periods to be returned on call, and "overborne by such specious arguments he may have loaned to trusted but faithless friends nearly all of the public money in his hands," and "when they treacherously failed to repay it his only escape from arrest and imprisonment would be in flight."

Not a dollar of Darwin's money was touched. No receiver of Gaster's favors has ever been mentioned by name. Intimation has been that Converse received large sums that were not returned, but there was never proof of it. Both are entitled to the benefit of every charitable doubt. Following Gaster's disappearance, some believed he was in concealment, others that he was dead, asserting he had been murdered. The wife obtained, two and one-half years later, divorce on the ground of desertion, married Converse and after a few years was divorced from him, also because of desertion. Thirty-two years after vanishing from sight in Millerton, Gaster passed away in Central America, possessed of a little property.

Gaster was a man who weighed 140 to 150 pounds and was as dark as an Indian—in fact the general belief was that he was of Indian blood. His induction into office was under George Rivercombe, the first county treasurer from 1856 to 1863. Rivercombe was a "squawman," living as a patriarch among the Indians. He had so long and so thoroughly merged himself into their free and unconventional mode of life that it has been said of him that he was more Indian than white man. Gaster succeeded him from 1864 to 1866, closing his career with the disclosure of the defalcation. Gaster was a butcher at one time with J. B. Royal and later with Ira Stroud, also in the saloon business with one Folsom, the estate continuing it until sale to Theodore J. Payne, who was shot and killed near the Tollhouse in the summer of 1873. Folsom was a full blooded Cherokee, described "as an educated ward of the nation and a magnificent specimen of physical manhood."

Twenty years ago, when the Gaster case had been well nigh forgotten save only by the older residents, light was thrown upon it by the publication of an account that the theory had been generally accepted that he had been murdered probably for the money that he was supposed to have taken with him on disappearance. The last seen of Gaster was when he left Millerton on the stage for Stockton whence he was to go by river steamer to San Francisco, the traveled route before the railroad's coming. Converse accompanied him on the stage to the bay. Converse returned after a few days. Gaster was never again seen. Converse said they parted at Stockton but that Gaster had said that he would return home also in a few days.

Suspicion fastened on Converse for Gaster's disappearance, based on the ground that he was the last man known to have been in his company and that suspicion was never fully removed. However, after nearly three decades had passed, and while engaged in mining in Nevada and Utah—and quite successfully as the doubtful report had it—Converse made attempt to clear himself of the murder charge at least by locating Gaster as a hale and hearty old man at Leon, Nicaragua, whither he had gone in 1866 after disappearance. The information was imparted in a letter by Converse to a friend,

and announced the successful result of his efforts to locate Gaster through and with the assistance of the Washington Department of State.

Appeal had been made to Secretary Olney who directed United States Minister Lewis Baker at Managua to investigate with the result of the following letter from James Thomas, general agent for Central America of the Equitable Life Assurance Society of the United States and stationed at Leon. The letter read:

"Replying to your favor of the 9th inst., I have to state that Mr. Stephen Gaster resides in this place (Leon) and is running a sawmill.

"Mr. Gaster is an old man of seventy years but as energetic as most men at forty-five, and leads a very laborious life as he has always done since coming from California thirty years ago. He is generally esteemed for his honesty, industry and other good qualities, and though he has not been very successful in his business pursuits, has a few thousand dollars out at interest.

"Gaster was born at Baton Rouge, La., and went to California in 1850. He is of a respectable Creole family. He lived in California until 1866 when he came here. I have often advised him to go back to California and end his life with his children."

In that letter Converse stated that he had located Gaster eight years before through the efforts of Secretary Blaine, but the documentary proofs had been lost. It was said that an estate left by his father awaited the son. According to Converse's letter he (Converse) had made good the amount of Gaster's defalcation. This statement was pure fiction because no restitution was ever made. The Converse letter established nothing more than that Gaster was alive.

After the disappearance, the wife accepted the theory that so many others entertained that he had been murdered, though probably not sharing in the popular suspicion of Converse, for she secured divorce and married him. In February, 1900, Emma R. Clark as a daughter, aged thirty-six, petitioned the superior court to administer upon the estate of her father, which was represented to consist of sixty acres valued at \$7,500 in Madera County, the site of the Ne Plus Ultra Copper Mine. The distribution was to the petitioner, to a son Henry M. Gaster, forty, of Madera, a daughter, Arza D. Strong, thirty-eight, of Oakland, and another daughter, Orena V. Lowery, thirty-seven, of Visalia. Their mother could not participate in the distribution because she had been divorced and could lay no claim.

In later years in Fresno, when she kept a rooming house in the Garibaldi-Olcese building at Mariposa and K, report had it that she was cognizant of Gaster's existence in Nicaragua and report also had it that she was in correspondence with him.

### CHARLES P. CONVERSE

Converse, who erected the courthouse, was also the first man to occupy one of its dungeon cells as a prisoner for the homicide of William H. Crowe on election day in September, 1876. The grand jury liberated him on the theory that he had acted in self defense. The homicide historically illustrates the passions that political campaigns aroused in those days. With the exception of William Aldrich, the pick and shovel miner, as the sole Republican for years before and after the war, every other man in the county was either an Andrew Jackson or a Jeff Davis Democrat, excepting a few old-line Whigs, who though their party expired with Daniel Webster, still held to their beliefs and scouted the new Republican doctrines. Thus any political quarrel in the county could only arise in the house of Democracy itself. It arose during the shrievalty campaign of J. S. Ashman and James N. Walker, honest, capable and uncompromising Democrats, and both incumbents of the office for two terms each.

Converse announcing himself for rotation in office, espoused the cause of Walker with all energy and activity in a "hot and exciting canvass" not so much between the principals as between "rash and reckless adherents." Election day passed off quietly with the exception of the presence of armed men in public. The vote was light, and all qualified electors had voted by three o'clock in the afternoon when by common consent the count was started in the courtroom. Converse was in front of Payne's saloon, when a cobble hurled from within by a half drunken fellow passed close to his head. He fired at his assailant, missed aim and ball lodged high in the wall. Crowe, a confederate of the cobble thrower, sneaked up behind Converse and struck him on the back of the head with slungshot, only the thickness of a felt hat protected the skull from fracture.

Stunned by the blow, Converse fell to his knees but arising fired and shot Crowe through the body. Crowe fell on hands and knees ten feet away, and tried to arise, and mutual friends rushed in to aid. In the general melee, John Dwyer, teamster with the original fort garrison and for years later in Fresno the driver of the "sand wagon," took to his heels to avoid the bullets and in the flight his hat was blown off by a leaden messenger. Converse struggled against a throng whom he fought as supposed assailants, but was landed finally on the courthouse steps and by multitude of hands his Samson like strength was overcome. After this tragedy, he became "more uneasy, irresolute and unsettled."

He withdrew into the mountains, south of the Kings River. There he laid claim upon location to "a large amphitheater of forest and chaparral encircled by mountain ridges." It bears to this day the name of "Converse Basin," though he never secured title. It has been ruthlessly denuded of its timber, including Big Trees, in the Millwood lumber mill operations. Upon return to the plains, he professed reformation, was admitted as a member of an orthodox church and publicly baptized in a font excavated for the ceremony. For a time he discharged faithfully the newly assumed responsibilities, regained the confidence of former friends and secured that of new ones. He was in the real estate business, but the old unrest seized him and he drifted to San Francisco, where for ten years or more "his checkered life was spent in desultory endeavors to keep starvation at bay." He announced himself as a mining expert and engineer. Converse was a striking figure, six feet tall, weighed 200 pounds or more, and in later years was largely developed abdominally. He was a man of great physical strength, and an expert swimmer, a demonstrated accomplishment that is cited to refute the assertion by some that his drowning in San Francisco Bay was accidental. The fact is that he met death in a second attempt at suicide, and when the waters of the bay gave up the corpse it was weighted with rocks, a circumstance that alone effectually disposes of the accidental death claim. He was a sociable companion, but a change came over him after Gaster's disappearance. A shadow seemed to hover over him, say those who had known him in the days of abandon, when he was not always overneat or precise in attire, and yet was remembered for kindly and animated face, topped by a shock of stand-up-straight-in-the-air hair.

For one of his physical proportions, Converse was of intense mental and business activity. He was a man of means in his day. Among his activities were the lumbermill at Crane Valley, which after the 1862 flood passed into the hands of George McCullough. The ferry below Millerton, likewise the property on the village side of the river, also went to others. He was known as far back as 1851, when he and T. C. Stallo were general merchants at Coarse Gold. So well established was his reputation for restlessness and financial improvidence, that despite strong partisanship and position he was never seriously considered politically. In connection with his Kings River sojourn, he tried to exploit a plan to cut the virgin timber in the basin, float the logs down the stream to railroad connection, and from



there out as lumber from the saw mill. Converse was a glib and plausible talker and almost interested capital in the enterprise. Logs had been floated to prove the feasibility of the water transportation. A financial panic came on and capital dropped him.

With the building of the railroad, Converse is found on its payroll as a legislative lobbyist and an active partisan of its proposition of a \$5,000 a mile subsidy for constructing the road through the valley counties. Senator Thomas Fowler made one of his record fights against the measure and the legislature killed it in the end. The closing years of Converse's checkered career were spent in San Francisco as a curbstone broker and mining expert, pursuing such a precarious course that not infrequently he was on the verge of starvation. To hail a former Fresno acquaintance was like clutching at the straw by the drowning man, for it meant a temporary loan, never to be repaid, to hold off the gaunt wolf of hunger. A perfunctory coroner's inquest with no relatives or acquaintances attending, and with no effort at a positive identification of the barely recognizable remains has left a doubt on which has been impinged a far fetched belief, entertained by some, that he returned to his native state and there ended his days a charge on the bounty of an old negro "mammy" in Georgia. This is manifestly incorrect for well is it remembered that A. H. Statham financed Converse to go to Georgia to claim an inheritance. It was thought he had been rid of for good and always, but the surprise was when he returned to close a subsequent precarious career in San Francisco.

Extraordinary physical energies and activities, excellent intellectual abilities and fine social qualities were combined in a strange make up, with many elements of goodness that would have made him a useful and influential citizen, had he not lacked the regulating balance wheel of rigid principle, or perhaps if his lot had not been cast among the turbulent and restless scenes of early California life. Converse and Gaster are in unmarked graves, yet singularly on the present site of Millerton stand, side by side, only two structures of the days when they lived, monuments to their memory—the courthouse that Converse built and the adobe saloon where Folsom & Gaster held forth, and Payne after them.

Payne was shot in the leg in May, 1873, and bled to death at Tripp & Payne's store on the Tollhouse road to Humphrey & Mock's mill. It was a wanton act, claimed to have been an accidental shot after target pastime by John Williams, a negro, who in December, was sent to the penitentiary for two years for manslaughter. Payne had sold his saloon to retire from business, and was buried at the fort.

### IRA McCRAY

Ira McCray came to Millerton a rich man, credentials which made it easy for him to jump into prominence, to be public spirited and as early as 1857 to erect a \$15,000 stone and brick hotel structure that was in all Millerton's time surpassed only by the courthouse. He was the prince of good fellows, liberality personified, and if he had no other redeeming quality would have stood high alone for his credit, for it was said of him that "his word was as good as his bond," in marked contrast to Converse.

McCray was a man physically as large as Converse, but better proportioned, weighing about 180 pounds. Bearded and mustached, he passed for a handsome man. As early as 1854, he and George Rivercombe, as hotel and liverymen, did "an enormous business," thanks probably in a large measure to the side issues. McCray was for years the popular idol, heart and soul in every public enterprise and movement, and an influence in the county to be reckoned with. He was one of the commissioners named in the act for the creation of the county. He filled the office of coroner from 1861 to 1871, acted in that capacity before that, under appointments, no one presuming

to test popularity with him at elections. The coronership was peculiar in that in the very early days the office sought the man, and by tacit consent the award was to the most popular saloon man.

The Oak Hotel was the popular resort. No bar was better equipped for the times. It was so commodious that four billiard tables were set out on one floor. Any game of chance was at call. There were card dealers under regular stipend, and one of these, it was said, was a backsliding Stockton preacher who had been a professional gambler before conversion. The Oak may not have been as luxuriously equipped as the modern hotel, but it was comfortable and well kept. It was prominently located across the way from the courthouse, the rear overhanging the river. Alongside were capacious stable and barn and the ferry, the river bank shaded, and connected with the house a park like retreat, very popular in the hot summer evenings. McCray was not a hotelman. He was a bachelor, accounting in part for the easy code of morals that reigned in the house. His factotum was a dandified negro known as Tom, such an amusing and forward fellow that he presumed at times on his familiarity with the whites in those easy and loose times.

Various were the enterprises of McCray. He grubstaked miners and lumber prospectors, ran stages, including one to the discovered gold deposits at Sycamore Creek in the county in 1865. In the 60's he was in the zenith of full prosperity. The 1861-62 flood was only a temporary setback which was overcome for the overwhelming with other financial complications by the greater flood of that Christmas eve night, necessitating razing the hotel to one story, and ferry carried down stream and left a wreck at Converse's ferry at Rancheria Flat. His affairs had not prospered in the later 60's. He was struck a hard blow in this flood, at a period when he could least bear it. Neither he nor the village recovered from the disaster. His losses drove him to drink, and he never again took courage. Efforts were made to recoup but it was a vain effort to retrieve a lost fortune. The Henry hotel opposition was enjoying the trade. Intoxicated with popularity and prosperity, McCray had neglected his own interests, being much of the time an absentee—known over the route to San Francisco as a prodigal spender, and his clerk, named Sullivan, equally as neglectful in his absence. The downgrade was swift and litigation followed on inability to realize on outstanding loans, accelerating closing out by the sheriff while on the brink of bankruptcy.

McCray was probably the first man to set out a vineyard in the county. It went out in the 1861-62 flood of the Kings. But dejected over his desertion by fickle fortune, McCray closed out his affairs and as a practically penniless man disappeared in the summer of 1874 from Millerton. Report had it that he was mining in Arizona. He is back again in August, 1877. The prodigal had returned but Millerton was no more, those he once knew were scattered, and he, broken in spirit, health and purse, a dependent on the cold charities of the world. He tarried awhile with charitably inclined friends near Kingston, was also given shelter by the Balleys in Fresno, and was a sufferer from cancer of the right hand which Dr. J. A. Davidson of Kingston amputated.

So wretchedly poor was he, that his removal in September, to the county hospital at Fresno City was at public expense. McCray was dying of cancer and a broken heart, an inmate at the hospital on the bounty of his old time friend, Dr. Leach. The thought of neglect and desertion by those whom he had aided and befriended in the days of affluence, when they were in need, embittered him and made him cynical. The cancer on the back of the hand was rapid in the developing, and despite the amputation spread and fastened upon him in the back of the right shoulder. He realized that the end was approaching. He was at the hospital less than three months and died on October 5, 1877, at the age of fifty years. Seven days after publication of his

obituary, appeal was made in behalf of a raffle of an oil painting to raise money to fence in the grave.

Even in the expressed choice of a last resting place, fate denied him. McCray and a boon companion named McLeod had chosen their burial spots on the banks of the San Joaquin River, where two oaks grew which for some unexplained reason leaved in the spring earlier than the surrounding trees. McLeod was interred at the chosen spot on the Madera side of the river. McCray was to have been on the Millerton side on the sloping hill that merges into the river bank townsite and beyond the Baley residence. He was fated not to rest at peace even in the grave.

The first interment was in the Fresno pioneer cemetery on what is now Elm Avenue, embracing part of Russiantown. With the building up of this quarter the cemetery was closed for a new one in the hollow east of town, in the vicinity of the Pollasky depot, including a portion of Hazelton Addition. The remains were presumably exhumed and removed thither. The living crowded out the dead even there, and when M. J. Church donated for a public cemetery a portion of the sandy tract, now in Mountain View Cemetery, northwest of town, McCray's remains were supposedly a second time taken up for a third burial in a spot that no one could locate today.

McLeod was a clerk for the L. G. Hughes merchandizing firm at Millerton and the son of a Hudson Bay Company trapper, inheriting the roving spirit of his parent and Indian mother. He returned to the Far West after his education in Scotland, allured by the discovery of gold. McCray being of Scotch ancestry, a natural bond of union sprung up between them, severed only by death.

After closing out his sawmill interests at Sawmill Flat, Tuolumne County, in 1852, McCray set out for Texas with his accumulations amounting to \$40,000, purchased cattle and drove the band to California, locating in the valley and starting out on his early career of prosperity. He left no known kin. He ended his career as a pauper, when once he did not value money save for the pleasures it commanded. And yet from another viewpoint, it can be and has been said of him that the good in him outbalanced the bad.

As with Gaster, so with Converse and equally so with McCray: "The evil that men do lives after them; the good is often interred with their bones."

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## CHAPTER XXV

SOUTHERN SECESSION SENTIMENT STRONG IN THE COUNTY. MILLERTON BORN NEWSPAPERS KEPT ALIVE THE POLITICAL RANCOR AND PERSONAL ANIMOSITIES ENGENDERED BY THE WAR. DEDICATION OF THE FLAG INCIDENTS. FORT MILLER REOCCUPIED BY SOLDIERY IN 1863. FIRST TWO PUBLICATIONS OF THE SWASH-BUCKLER CLASS REVILED AND VILLIFIED THE ADMINISTRATION. FRESNO A GRAVEYARD FOR NEWSPAPERS. ASSASSINATION OF EDITOR MCWHIRTER, A BOURBON REFORM DEMOCRAT. THE ALL SURVIVING REPUBLICAN, THE CONSPICUOUS JOURNALISTIC SUCCESS IN THE COUNTY.

If it was the covert design of the Millerton born newspapers to stir up and keep alive the rancor, personal animosities and political hatreds unfortunately engendered by the Civil War, they succeeded. As news givers, they were parodies.

It is to smile to read in historical reviews that "the earlier settlers of

the county cared little for politics." Fresno was ever a Democratic hotbed of politics, and things were done and said sometimes that were repented of in later years. This subject phase is one that conservative old-timers prefer to gloss over in charity. Like the record of "crime and deeds of blood and violence" that marks the first twenty-eight years of the county's history, it did much to retard progress, and it was longer than a generation before the evil effect was lived down. And in this chapter, the term "Secesh" is employed in no detractive sense, but is used as an expression that was on the tip of the tongue more often then than it is today.

The people of the South suffered poignantly as the result of the war and the subsequent "Reconstruction Period." All honor is due the brave and chivalrous, who staked their lives, health and property in upholding what they religiously regarded as a just cause and a principle. It was natural that they should stand with their native states. But the early Democracy in Fresno of some swashbucklers, who had placed nothing at stake for the cause and kept a continent between them and the scenes of battle strife, was not always a sane, rational or safe one. It was of the fire-eating, unforgiving, seditious brand that lived up to the declaration that the war was a failure, that reviled Lincoln as a despot and tyrant, even secretly exulted over his assassination.

The two Millerton papers were of the stamp that never made allusion to the Republican administration—Radical they called it—save to abuse and vilify. The short-lived Times was the fiercer, the Expositor the milder of the swashbucklers. The honest conservatives—the Democrat and Southerner from principle for principle's sake—were not with them. So bitter was the hostility that in the face of this "Secesh Democracy" in control, ever rolling under tongue its "constitutional rights and privileges" as a tender morsel, and holding on to office, it was not always safe to proclaim one's self a Republican or a sympathizer with the Union cause. This state of affairs was not singular to Fresno. It was duplicated in other localities in the state. Fresno had as loyal and high minded citizens as there were in the land, whatever their politics, but they were sometimes in the minority in places as against the bravos. There was no lack of desperate adventurers as shown in the recruiting for various Central American filibustering expeditions in California.

A great change has, since the old days, come about in public sentiment. What with the population accessions, Fresno cannot be absolutely reckoned as once as in the Democratic ranks. In county and municipal affairs, party is no longer a fetich, but non-partisanship rules—it is the man and not his party. The old time party-line distinctions are not drawn or considered in home government affairs, and Fresno with county offices fairly well divided as between Democrats and Republicans has boasted for some years of its government administrations. Party lines are not even so strictly adhered to on legislative and representative offices. The ideal has not yet been attained, but the progress toward it has been more than satisfactory.

Of the things above referred to there is no hint or suggestion in the local prints or reviews. The military administration kept watchful eye and ear, and took measures accordingly as in the reoccupation under Col. Warren Olney of Fort Miller, in August, 1863, owing to a rumor of an intended uprising in the valley in support of the Confederacy. Possibly it was an exaggerated report, but nevertheless serious enough to be acted upon, with no telling what repressive effect the presence of the military had, even though it was well disposed enough toward the citizenship to aid in getting out a seditious Times paper publication.

It was reported about this time there was at Millerton a military company that drilled in secret, composed of avowed Southern sympathizers, and that when the federal soldiers came it disbanded and concealed its arms.

As late as in the 70's, there was another, or perhaps the same, secret society, oathbound never to assist at the political preferment of one who had ever borne arms against the Confederacy. The flag was desecrated and worse than dragged in the mire. A show of the banner on the national holiday was as likely as not to invite a demand to lower it, enforcing the mandate with show of Derringer or Colt revolvers. These are facts. There is no record proof of them. You have to learn them from living survivors of the times.

Such an incident occurred at Centerville at a popular gathering. The flag was torn down, trampled upon, tobacco juice spit upon it as one version has it, defiled with human ordure according to another. The offender was a Confederate veteran, but a later loyal man, who deeply repented his act. At Arcola, where Borden stands today, the townsite of the Alabama Settlement, one of the first agricultural communities of Southerners after the war, the German hotel keeper, a Union man, was almost beaten to death in a general melee over his refusal to lower the flag on the 4th of July after demand.

At Merced, Harvey J. Ostrander, a pioneer, the father of ex-Judge F. G. Ostrander, a former attorney of Fresno, and one who cast his presidential vote for Fremont in 1856 at the mouth of a six-shooter, vowed he would kill whoever pulled down the flag to be raised on the news of the firing on Fort Sumter in April, 1861. The excitement was so intense that the Unionists decided to defer the flag raising until the 4th of July, but the night before the pole was chopped down. In 1862, with the consent of those who had contributed to the buying of the flag, Ostrander unfurled it on his premises. It was not molested, but was kept flying during the war. Ostrander was a man whose word was not to be doubted. He died at the age of ninety-one, remarrying at eighty-three.

The late Frank Dusy, who was in many early day fields of activity, had a more pleasing ending to his experience at Hornitas in Mariposa on the national holiday, when he drove into town, displaying two little flags in the harness of his mules. He was commanded to remove them. He gave reminder of the day, and announced he would display them in his drive through town, and let the man beware that touched them. Dusy whipped out two revolvers and with one in each hand drove through the village street from one end to the other with flags and revolvers in defiance. His spirit and courage won the day. An impromptu parade formed, and those that had gathered to molest him tarried to listen to the village orator spread eagle harangue. Snelling, former county seat of Merced, was another hotbed of Secessionists. When the news came on August 9, 1861, of the bloody defeat at Manassas Junction, the Snellingites fired salvos of cannon in rejoicing over the slaughter of 10,000 "Yanks." P. D. Wigginton stumped the county several times for the anti-union candidates, aided by one Jim Wilson, who fiddled to songs. Two of his favorites were: "We'll Hang Abe Lincoln to a Tree," and "We'll Drive the Bloody Tyrant, Lincoln, from Our Native Soil."

Wigginton became, in 1886, the candidate for governor after the Fresno state convention of the new born American party, and John F. Swift was the Republican nominee for governor, and Bartlett the Democratic. The vote was: Bartlett (D), 84,970; Swift (R), 84,316; and Wigginton (A), 7,347.

The Merced Banner was the war time sedition spreader. William Hall of the Merced Democrat was arrested in July, 1864, for uttering treasonable language and cooled off on Alcatraz Island. The day after, Charles L. Weller, chairman of the Democratic state central committee, was also arrested on a similar charge in San Francisco. He took the oath of allegiance and was liberated after three weeks spent on the island.

One form of disloyalty among the so-called Copperheads in California was the advocacy of a Pacific Republic by northern men with secession leanings. There was not infrequent reference to this movement in the Democratic journals. It was a thinly disguised one in aid of the Confederacy. Its flag was actually raised at Stockton on January 16, 1861, on a craft in Mormon Slough, but the halyards were cut down and a small boy climbed the mast and hauled down the banner. But while other instances can be cited, sufficient as showing the intolerant spirit of the times. The subject is not a pleasant one, and is dismissed with the following quotation from an Expositor editorial of January, 1871, defining its attitude. It said:

"We are not in favor of Union, if it means that we must unite with a party composed of scalawags, political demagogues of the meanest and most corrupt order, negroes, thieves and every other class of nondescript, such as are found in the ranks of the so-called Union party."

And as late as 1879, when war animosities should have been mollified, the Expositor had this contemptible allusion in a historical review to the military reoccupation of Fort Miller:

"When President Lincoln died, men had to be very careful about expressing themselves in regard to the matter, for spies were employed to report to headquarters any thoughtless or inadvertent expression of satisfaction at Lincoln's death."

Lincoln's assassination referred to as a "death!" That "any expression of satisfaction" over a murder should be mitigated as "thoughtless and inadvertent!"

Fort Miller was evacuated September 10, 1856, after the Indian troubles and placed in charge of T. C. Stallo as government caretaker. It was reoccupied in August, 1863, by the Second California Infantry under Lieut. Col. James E. Olney and garrisoned during the war by various organizations as late as November, 1865, when again abandoned to a caretaker, Clark Hoxie, and the buildings sold later to Charles A. Hart as the best bidder for a bagatelle.

## CALIFORNIA IN THE WAR

Fort Miller was the first permanent post south of the next nearest military establishment at Benicia Barracks and the arsenal there. There is no disguising the fact that the military authorities kept watchful eye on the region in the San Joaquin Valley which was believed to be a stronghold of Southern sympathizers with nests at Snelling, Millerton, Visalia and in Kern County. Camp Babbitt was located in Tulare County as next to Fort Miller, and Fort Tejon as the last in the string in Kern. There is no record proof of the fact but the incident was a matter of common knowledge as indicative of the spirit of the times and recalled by old timers that early in the war a lot of young university students, including a handful from Fresno, enlisted in the army (Second California Infantry) organized at San Francisco and Carson City, Nev., in October and November, 1861, with earliest enlistments in September. The plot was to enlist ostensibly to be sent to fight the Indians notably the Apaches that were on the war path, but to desert en masse in the field and join the Confederate troops. The story is that the plot was discovered and instead the program was changed after regimental organization by sending five companies to Oregon and Washington territory to relieve the regulars and two to Santa Barbara. Thus the plot was foiled.

The Second's first colonel was Francis J. Lippitt, who was mustered out in October, 1864, and in March, 1865, brevetted brigadier general. He had come to California as a captain in Stevenson's New York regiment in 1847 to occupy California after the war in Mexico. He was also a member of



the 1849 constitutional convention at Monterey. After the muster out of the original regiment, the veterans were reorganized with new recruits into a regiment with Thomas F. Wright as colonel. He was a son of Brigadier General George Wright of the Ninth Infantry regiment who during the war commanded the Department of the Pacific. The son was brevetted a brigadier in 1865, was mustered out in the spring of 1866, subsequently became a lieutenant in the regular army and was assassinated at the peace palaver with the Modoc Indians in the Lava Beds in Northern California April 26, 1872. Gen. Geo. Wright was drowned July 30, 1865, in the wreck of the Brother Jonathan en route to assume command of the Department of the Columbia.

To nip in the bud any Confederate uprising in the valley region the Second California Infantry garrisoned Fort Miller during the following periods:

Regimental headquarters and Company A, August 3, 1863, to October 9, 1864; Company B, August to December, 1863; Company G, August 1 to August 23, 1863; Company K, December 26, 1863 to October 1, 1864.

Company A, Second California Cavalry, September 30 to November 31, 1865, then moving to Camp Babbitt, near Visalia, until called to Camp Union, near Sacramento, for muster out in April, 1866. The following troops of the regiment also garrisoned Camp Babbitt: E from August 31 to October 31, 1865; G from February 1, 1864, to August 1, 1864, and I from April 30, 1863, to January 1, 1864.

Fort Tejon was occupied at various times during this period and July 24, 1864, a detachment of Troop F of the Second Cavalry was sent to Snelling, Merced County, from Camp Union to arrest William Hall of the Merced Democrat for treasonable publications and to convey him to the military prison at Alcatraz Island.

Located so far away from the more active scenes of the war, California was not called upon to furnish troops for immediate service against the Confederacy. No quota was assigned it. Yet during the war calls were made upon it for two regiments of cavalry, a battalion of four companies of Native Cavalry notable for the "unusually large number of desertions from it," about eighty from one and more than fifty from another troop, eight regiments of infantry, a battalion of seven companies of Veteran Infantry, and one of six companies of Mountaineers, serving in the northernmost counties as infantry. There was also the "California Hundred" company that went East accepted as Troop A of the Second Massachusetts Cavalry and later the California Battalion also attached to the Massachusetts regiment as Troops E, F, L, and M. These Californians were in hard service for nearly two and one-half years participating in over fifty engagements. They were at the surrender at Appomattox courthouse and in the grand review at Washington on May 23, 1865, when and where "the California companies' colors were greeted with enthusiasm by the highest and bravest in the land." Eight companies of the First Regiment of Washington Territory Infantry Volunteers were also recruited in California, making altogether 17,725 volunteers furnished by the Golden State.

With the exception of those in the Massachusetts regiment, the Californians took no part in the great battles. Their service was notwithstanding of as great importance as that rendered by those from other states. It was as severe and entailed long and fatiguing marches across burning deserts and over almost inaccessible mountains. They were engaged in hundreds of fights with Indians and small forces of Confederate troops on the frontiers in Texas and New Mexico. They never knew defeat. The government for good reasons deemed it wisest to keep them on the Pacific Coast and in the territories. They occupied nearly all posts from Puget Sound to San Elizario,

Texas, and by their loyalty preserved peace in the western states and territories and drove the flag of rebellion beyond the Rio Grande.

It will be recalled that at the outbreak of the war the United States forces on the Pacific Coast were under command of Brev. Brig. Gen. Albert S. Johnston. His loyalty was in doubt because he was a southern man. Brig. Gen. E. V. Sumner was ordered under date of March 22, 1861, to leave New York April 1 to relieve Johnston and "for confidential reasons" the order to sail was to remain unpublished until his arrival at San Francisco. Having arrived Sumner reported officially that it gave him pleasure to state that the command was turned over to him in good order. In a later report he stated:

"There is a strong Union feeling with the majority of the people of this state, but the Secessionists are much the most active and zealous party, which gives them more influence than they ought to have from their numbers. I have no doubt there is some deep scheming to draw California into the secession movement; in the first place as the 'Republic of the Pacific,' expecting afterwards to induce her to join the Southern Confederacy. . . . I think the course of events at the East will control events here. So long as the general government is sustained and holds the capital the Secessionists cannot carry this state out of the Union."

General Johnston was a high minded man. History has done him injustice. He was committed to the doctrine of state allegiance. He had declined the command of the Southwestern Department because he held that if Texas seceded he would be bound in honor to surrender to the national authorities the public property intrusted to his care. Persuaded that his native state had a permanent claim on him he would not place himself in the position where he might be compelled to antagonize it. Letters written by him at the time viewed with alarm the threatening dissolution of the Union and many believed that he had asked assignment to the Pacific Department that he might be removed from participation in the impending issue. He always congratulated himself that no act of his contributed in bringing on the issue.

General Johnston had sent on his resignation before Sumner's arrival and with his relief severed forever connection with the United States Army. His resignation was withheld from the newspapers until after he had been relieved to guard against any ill effect that his act might have upon others and he declared that so long as he held a commission he would to the last extremity maintain the authority of the government. "If I had proved faithless here," said he, "how could my own people ever trust me?" Johnston was ordered to report at Washington for active service; he was advised by letter that he enjoyed the confidence of the secretary of war; and when President Lincoln learned the facts he executed a major general's commission for Johnston but the latter having already started for Texas the commission was canceled. Johnston accepted a general's commission in the Confederate army and was killed while in command at Shiloh. When informed that a plot existed to seize Alcatraz Island in San Francisco Bay he caused several thousand muskets to be removed from Benicia arsenal to the island where they would be less exposed and informed the governor that they could be used by the militia to suppress insurrection if necessary. His integrity was so universally recognized that he was not approached on the subject of a Pacific Republic favored by many in the event of a dissolution of the Union.

The first call for troops from California was in a telegram at eight-thirty P. M., July 24, 1861, to farthest point west and thence by pony express to California, accepting for three years a regiment of infantry and five cavalry companies to guard the overland mail route from Carson Valley to Salt Lake and Fort Laramie. The First California Infantry of ten companies

and the first battalion of five companies of the First California Cavalry were raised. In 1863 seven more cavalry companies were raised, making a full regiment. August 14, 1861, a telegram to Fort Kearney and thence by pony express and telegraph came as the second call. It was for four regiments of infantry and one of cavalry. The Second Cavalry and the Second, Third, Fourth and Fifth regiments of infantry were mustered in.

There were at this time and later many evidences in this state and adjacent territories of sympathy with the rebellion and there was a feeling that "California is on the eve of a revolution." The Confederate government had entertained hopes in the earlier period of the struggle to secure New Mexico and Arizona and thus if possible gain foothold in California to obtain supplies, horses and money. A large force did come through Texas, captured New Mexico and advanced almost to the Colorado River. A party of seventeen organized in California by one Dan Showalter was surprised near Warner's Ranch on the border of the desert between that place and Fort Yuma, Ariz., by First California Cavalry and Infantry detachments. It was loaded down with arms and ammunition, armed with repeating rifles and from dispatches intercepted and also found on their persons it was discovered that several of the party were commissioned as officers in the Confederate service. The entire party was confined as prisoners of war at Fort Yuma until exchanged.

At this time it was considered that "there is more danger of disaffection at Los Angeles than at any other place in the state," and troops were transferred there from Forts Mojave and Tejon. Insurgents were also designing to seize upon the province of Lower California as a preparatory step to acquiring a portion or the whole of Mexico and having possession cut off American commerce, seize the Panama steamers and with the aid of the treasure extend the conquest to Sonora and Chihuahua at least. With the check at Los Angeles, the Secessionists became active in Nevada territory then without a civil government and the country "a place of refuge for disorganizers and other unruly spirits." It was a time for vigilance on every hand save in Oregon where there was no secession element.

When the first call for troops came it was understood that they would be used to guard the overland mail route via Salt Lake. But it was afterward decided to use them for an invasion of Texas by way of Sonora and Chihuahua, landing at Mazatlan or Guaymas in Sonora, permission having been granted by the governors of those Mexican states and by the Mexican government. General Sumner was assigned to the command and the expedition troops were selected. This proposition to send California troops out of the state created intense excitement and feeling and in response to an earnest appeal the secretary of war countermanded the order. The protest was by sixty-five business men and firms of San Francisco dated August 28, 1861, and it stated among other things that their advices "obtained with great prudence and care" show "that there are upwards of 16,000 Knights of the Golden Circle in the state and that they are still organizing even in the most loyal districts." The protest had its effect.

It is not the intention to follow the movements of the California troops during the war further than to emphasize that there was danger from the Secessionist movement on the Coast. The Texas invasion having been abandoned, General Sumner was ordered East and was relieved by General Wright. The California troops were stationed at various places throughout the state. The regulars with the exception of the Ninth Infantry and four companies of the Third Artillery were ordered East. At this time (November, 1861) there were in the department a force of 200 officers and 5,082 enlisted men. Then followed the organization of the California Column that recaptured New Mexico which at that time comprised territory within the present limits of Arizona. The column proceeded as far as Texas and the

Rio Grande, driving the Confederates before it, a military achievement reported to have been creditable to the soldiers of the American army, the march of the column from California across the Great Desert having been in the summer months in the driest season that had been known for thirty years.

California and the Pacific Coast states and territories remained loyal to the Union. The secession movement was after all mere propaganda as the sequel proved.

### TIMES OF MILLERTON

Fresno went along for nearly nine years after county organization before it had a home paper in the *Times*, whose first published number appeared on Saturday January 28, 1865. It was delayed two weeks in coming out. It issued ten weekly numbers and its last was on April 5, 1865. The lack of a paper was not that there was dearth of news, but that the time was not ripe for one, primitive and apologetic as were the "cow-county" publications of the day, hazardous financial undertakings at best, and ever remembering Millerton's isolation and as yet comparative sparse population. Ira McCray was the financial sponsor of the *Times*. His own affairs were not flourishing. The *Times* was published in a shanty on the river bank, opposite McCray's Hotel and poorly equipped.

In the 50's and early 60's, the Millertonites had the *Mariposa Gazette* for county official organ (merged with the *Free Press* in 1871, as a Democratic paper) and others that had a local circulation were the weekly *Visalia Delta* (a pioneer of October, 1859), and the *Argus* of Snelling, Merced. In vogue among the miners was the *Sacramento Union* (now the *Record-Union* and oldest continuously published newspaper in the state), and from San Francisco the pioneer *Alta California* and the *Bulletin*, both boosted into prominence by the Vigilance Committee of 1856, and during and after the war the original *Examiner* as an evening paper concerning whose true blue Democracy there was not the shadow of a doubt and whose editorial declarations were accepted as articles of faith. In 1856, when Fresno had its birth, there were in the state 116 publications classified as follows: Dailies twenty-five, weeklies seventy, steamer day or semi-weeklies sixteen, monthlies four, quarterly one. Politically twenty-three were Democratic, nine American, eight Republican for that party was in the gestation and thirty-three independent; seven were in languages other than English; and thirty-two in San Francisco, seven at Sacramento, five at Marysville and three at Stockton as the commercial and population centers. In fourteen counties there was no paper issued.

The Millerton *Times'* delayed first issue was brought out with the volunteer aid of citizens and the soldiers at the fort to run the Washington hand press. The plant was that of the defunct Tulare Post of Visalia. The editor of the *Times* was Samuel J. Garrison, also of Visalia, who died three or four years ago, and who was a bitter, uncompromising, fire-eating Secessionist. He was a son-in-law of T. O. Ellis, who was for three terms county school superintendent of Fresno and who asserted that the blood of Princess Pocahontas coursed in his veins. Before coming to Fresno, Garrison was the junior of Hall & Garrison, who in September, 1862, at Visalia, began the publication of the *Equal Rights Expositor*. It raved so loud and persistently in seditious, treasonable and personal utterances that on a certain March evening in 1863 a long suffering populace sacked the printery and flung the type out of the window into the street. The immediate provocation for the outbreak was an article headed, "California Cossacks." This at Visalia, a stronghold of Southern sympathizers, with a camp of

federal soldiers on the outskirts of town, sent as at Millerton to curb any threatened or proposed demonstration.

There is in existence only one known file of the ten issues of the Times. It was the one preserved by William Faymonville while county clerk, presented by him to J. W. Ferguson and being bound with the first volume of fifty-two weeklies of the Expositor came after his death into the possession of Edward Schwarz, bibliophile and curiosity collector. He made gift of the first number, protected in glass frame, to the late Dr. Rowell, the founder of the Republican. The Times was a little six-column folio publication and unique, aside from the fact that it was the pioneer journal in the county and six weeks in the travail of birth. Neat and clean in typography, the Expositor was so similar in size and make-up that there was little to distinguish them, save in the first page headlines. During its brief career, the Times flatly repudiated the Democratic party wing in power in the state, asserting that "the party claiming to be Democratic is a sham," with "no fixed principles," lacking "the courage to defend the past nor the sense to grasp the future," etc., and that "no great party will submit to the leadership of such men as McClellan, Seymour, Weller, Bigler," etc. As a curiosity the file repays examination. In course of time the printing plant was hauled back to Visalia.

### FRESNO WEEKLY EXPOSITOR

An interval of five years elapsed before the second journalistic venture at Millerton on April 27, 1870, in the Weekly Expositor, published on Wednesdays by Peters & Company and launched with the coming of J. W. Ferguson, a California pioneer of August, 1849, from Yuba City, J. H. Peters retiring in November, 1871; then by Ferguson & Heaton until purchase of the latter's interest in October, 1873, C. A. Heaton going into the real estate and agency business at Millerton.

The Expositor's birth was in humble surroundings, and its first issue, 200 copies, was worked off on a Washington hand-press. The printing material was hauled from Stockton for a supposed rate of two cents a pound. The bill was seven cents and the plant was mortgaged to meet charges to Chicard & Company, who took part pay in advertising. Being notified to secure other quarters within three days, the Expositor was installed in a stable. Eight months were passed there, with the journalists cooking in the printery on a second-hand stove, because business would not justify boarding at a hotel. A carpenter shop was the next locale.

The Expositor moved with the town to Fresno and on April 22, 1874, was the first paper issued in the future Raisin City, in a building, the lumber of which was brought from Millerton. It was located on the site of the Fresno National Bank, and now by the Bank of Italy's skyscraper. In 1881 the paper moved to a location midway in the block on J Street, the first daily was issued on April 3, 1882, followed by several enlargements, the erection of a \$12,000 two-story brick building, with other enlargements up to January, 1890.

The Ferguson residence was on the bank corner in which depression an orange grove was planted, later removed and now surrounding the Ferguson Mansard roof residence at J and San Benito, in its day one of the most pretentious city residences and long a notable landmark.

The Expositor ceased publication during the Spanish-American War. It had lost prestige in its last years with ownership changes as the personal organ of ambitious political aspirants, dying slowly from inanition and neglect after losing the patronage and support of its own party following one of the many divisions and quarrels in its ranks. For years it did "a land office business" in a most lucrative field, with practically no opposition. A sensa-

tional episode connected with its long career was the alleged assassination of Louis B. McWhirter, a Democrat of the Bourbonistic school, who after disposing of his part interest in the daily Democrat in August, 1888, became editor of the *Expositor* and was a leader in party reform politics in the early 90's.

The first trial before the late Judge Holmes of Richard Heath for the killing, on August 29, 1892, was one of the celebrated cases in the county, the evidence supporting the assassination theory being largely circumstantial. The claim was set up on the trial that McWhirter had committed suicide—one of several constructive defense pleas.

Heath was indicted in March, 1893, with Fred W. Polley, a carpet layer, by a grand jury of which the late ex-Judge Hart was foreman. The June trial lasted thirty-two days ending in disagreement. The jury stood eleven for conviction and one for acquittal—Juror J. H. Lane who made declaration that firearms were coercively exhibited in the jury room. Change of venue was denied and the thirty days' second Fresno trial in March, 1894, before Judge Lucien Shaw of Tulare, also ended in a disagreement. Change of venue was granted to Los Angeles County, but the case never again came up. The Polley indictment was dismissed in October, 1893, and Heath died later in Alaska in the Klondike gold fields.

### FRESNO REPUBLICAN

In March, 1875, Heaton mentioned before, issued the weekly *Review*. It lived only a few weeks, followed on September 23, 1876, by the *Fresno Republican* as a weekly, established by the late Dr. Chester Rowell with whom were associated representative citizens, Republican in politics, popularly called "The One Hundred," and the founders of the party in the county. The first issue of 750 copies created a stir, herald as it was of the party that was to combat Democracy in its stronghold.

After the presidential election that year, it was \$900 in debt, with practically no subscription list and only limited advertising patronage. Dr. Rowell assumed personal management and all obligations. He kept it alive by frequently meeting its labor hire demands, for the struggle was a hard one calling for frequent sacrifices to make deficiencies good. The conduct of the paper gave him, however, the popular confidence and respect, that in 1879, elected him a state senator from a strong Democratic district.

In April, 1879, sale was made to S. A. Miller, stipulating that its politics and name should never be changed, nor its policies as regards public matters and never to amalgamate with its rival *Expositor* for business or politics. Under Miller the paper prospered. John W. Short from Nebraska became associated with the paper in May, 1881, for four years, and with J. W. Shanklin as partner they bought a half interest and on October 1, 1887, established the morning daily and met with success. A sale followed in May, 1890, to T. C. Judkins, whose regime lasted about one year with many improvements. Financial obligations undertaken were so great and pressing that Dr. Rowell came again to the rescue and the incorporated *Fresno Republican Publishing Company* took charge with a clean slate and has continued ever since. After being in various locales, the *Republican* was located under Short & Shanklin in the Grand Central Hotel annex, then in the Edgely block, and in a brick structure in rear on J Street, and in 1903 moved into its present commodious home opposite the postoffice.

The directors are: Chester H. Rowell (president, editor and general manager), John W. Short, Milo F. Rowell, F. K. Prescott and William Glass (secretary and business manager). The personnel is practically that of the incorporators, Milo F. succeeding the late Dr. Rowell in the board and the nephew, Chester H., to the presidency, when before he was vice-president. The *Republican* has a splendid plant, and while it is the paper of the San Joaquin Valley it is ranked also as one of the foremost journals in the state.



## OTHER NEWSPAPERS

Fresno has been a veritable newspaper graveyard. The list of dead ones is a formidable one. The Republican is the one conspicuous success and the survivor of all. W. S. Moore of Franklin, Ky., began in March, 1883, the publication of the weekly Democrat, issued as a daily in 1886, discontinued and revived in November, 1887, as the Weekly Inquirer issued in March, 1889, consolidated in February, 1891, with the three-year-old weekly Budget as the weekly Central Californian in espousal of the Farmer's Alliance cause.

Another daily, the Evening Democrat, was launched in 1898 in consolidation in September, with the weekly Keystone and in August, 1899, with the weekly Watchman, prospered for a time but went by the board before a decade closed over it with confessed liabilities of over \$50,000. It was under four or five different managements afterward, including the Calkins Syndicate in the defense cause of "the Higher Ups" in the San Francisco graft prosecution, and finally became what is the Fresno Evening Herald of today.

It is published by two enterprising young newspaper men from Michigan, George A. Osborn and Chase S. Osborn Jr., who have made a manful and successful struggle to live down the evil reputation of the paper by reason of its numerous proprietorship, policy and political changes and have established it on a firm and certain basis in its own home at Kern and L Streets. It is the second largest newspaper in the valley. Democratic stronghold that Fresno was once, as a county, it has for years not had a party organ.

Before the county lost the territory north of the San Joaquin River, there was the Madera Mercury in 1890 by E. E. Vincent, also John McClure's County Review, both weeklies then. Selma's Irrigator first issued in 1886 as a weekly and as a daily in 1888 by W. L. Chappell and W. T. Lyon is still in existence as a semi-weekly under J. J. Vanderburgh. The Enterprise dates from 1888. Sanger has a breezy little Herald that saw the light of day in May, 1889, under E. P. Dewey and does to this day. Reedley has the Exponent started by A. S. Jones of Mandan, N. D., in March, 1891, and still publishing. Fowler in the Ensign, Kingsburg in the Recorder, Clovis in the Tribune, Kerman and Raisin City have their local publications. Coalinga has the Oil Record (Shaw Bros.) as the survivor of a batch of ventures that marked the oil development period. Fresno has a freelance in R. M. Mappes' Sunday Mirror that has passed the fortieth semi-annual volume mile-stone.

## CHAPTER XXVI

COUNTY SEAT REMOVAL IN 1874. BIG DEFALCATION IS DISCOVERED IN THE TREASURY. "FRESNO STATION" IS STAKED OUT IN MAY, 1872, IN A MOST FORLORN SPOT ON THE PLAINS. MILLERTON DESERTED AS RATS LEAVE A SINKING SHIP. FIRST RAILROAD PASSENGER TRAIN SCHEDULE OF 1873. DEPARTURE FROM ORIGINAL PLAN IN LAYING OUT THE NEW TOWN. COURT-HOUSE CORNER STONE LAYING A GENERAL FESTIVAL DAY. FRESNO TAKES ON CITY WAYS. VISIT OF FIRST CIRCUS TO COUNTY IN 1874. 1895 FIRE IN THE ENLARGED COURTHOUSE.

Throbbing with sensations and promises of great changes in the future for the Millertonian, was the year 1874. The new railroad town—in embryo—first called "Fresno Station," won hands down at the county seat removal special election. Historic Millerton, the mining village, was officially abandoned by September 25 for the first meeting of the supervisors in the new county seat on October 5. General dismantling of houses for the

lumber and timbers kept the villagers busy while bewailing fate. The sentiment to abandon the place was almost unanimous. Its desertion has been likened unto that of rats leaving a sinking ship. Contemporaneous with the petition for seat removal election was the discovery of a defalcation in the treasurer's office, the largest in the history of the county, followed by a smaller one in the office of the district attorney, S. B. Allison for \$882.41, less \$250 due for the closing quarter of the year.

"Fresno Station" had been surveyed and staked out in May, 1872, as a townsite on the barren sand plain in lots 50x150 with intersecting alleys between streets by the Contract and Finance Company, a subsidiary of the Central Pacific Railroad building the Southern Pacific line. The latter had not yet reached the site in the sink of Dry Creek. Water was no nearer than the San Joaquin, ten miles away, no settlement of any kind, not a shack. Nothing there but a vast prospect. It was a most forlorn looking spot. None but an optimist would ever be tempted to locate there.

The old-timer relates that there was not a drop of water to be had on the journey from the settlements on the Kings to Millerton—from river to river—and of course none plainwards towards the new town which was not on the traveled way; that not a human habitation was passed en route; so desolate was the plain that one could journey twenty miles or more in any direction without so much as finding a brush large enough to cut a horse switch; and so level and unobstructed that long in after years on a bright day the courthouse dome could be discerned by the wagon traveller as far as Centerville, fifteen to twenty miles away.

By September, 1872, a postoffice was established at Fresno with Russell H. Fleming, the stagedriver and liveryman as postmaster. Before that the mail was brought sixteen miles. By November, there were four hotels and eating houses, three saloons and as many livery stables and two stores, besides one or two living shacks, the railroad employees living in tents. By July, 1874, there were fifty-five buildings in the town—twenty-nine business and twenty-six dwelling houses. There were optimists in the land.

The petition for the seat removal election was presented February 12, 1874, signed as required by a number equal to one-third of the qualified electors at the last previously held election. The supervisors had no discretion on such a request in legal form and granting it set the election for March 23. Millerton's doom was pronounced on that Monday. Three days after the Expositor exultingly flared out with the following scarehead announcement:

THE COUNTY SEAT ELECTION!

FRESNO WINS THE VICTORY!



OLD FOGYISM PLAYED OUT

OUR COUNTY HAS IMPROVED HER  
OPPORTUNITY

HER FREEMEN SPEAK

THORN ELECTED TREASURER

A DAILY MAIL, TELEGRAPHIC AND  
RAILROAD COMMUNICATION

VOTE OF THE PRECINCTS AS FAR  
AS RECEIVED

The vote was:

Fresno .....	417
Lisbon .....	124
Centerville .....	123
Millerton .....	93
Total .....	757

Out of sixty-six votes cast at Millerton precinct, thirty-nine were for Fresno. Fresno cast 112 in all, 111 for herself, Centerville 101 for herself and the largest other precinct vote was Kingston's sixty for Fresno. It was the participation in the election of the railroad hands that carried the day. The section boss was kept busy hustling voters to the polling place, and as an inducement to vote for Fresno tradition has it that whiskey was carried in bucket and ladled out in tin cup. But the Expositor's "freemen" dealt the solar plexus blow and the "old fogysim played out."

It is not to say that the site contestants offered at the time accommodations or inducements superior to or even equal to those at Millerton, save Fresno in location on the railroad and central as to the county, and in magnificent prospects—in the hazy future. There had been more site offers but with withdrawals before election day the contest was reduced to four.

Alfred Baird had offered forty acres of his Poverty Rancho, town blocks to be each one acre and stipulating among other things to reserve two blocks for a graveyard. Chairman Henry C. Daulton of the supervisors had offered 1,000 acres of his farm, if gift of land was the consideration in selecting town location. Fresno City citizens published notice that they "will run this place for the county seat," and "ample ground will be donated for all public buildings." A "place" to be called "Lisbon" in S. 22, T. 12 S., R. 21 E., with thirty acres donated to the county, was also "run," and Centerville offered "all necessary lots for county buildings" over the announcement of Mrs. Paulina Caldwell. One argument advanced was that, if removal be had, it should be to a locality which would "never need moving again," an impression prevailing that the county would be divided by the next legislature and that the northern boundary of the southern county would be the San Joaquin. That division came, but nineteen years later.

## DEFALCATION IN COUNTY TREASURY

W. W. Hill, who succeeded the unfortunate Gaster as treasurer and himself filled the office for so many years, died on February 3, 1874. The safe being opened, there was found \$27,497.25 cash, when there should have been over \$80,000. A statement at the time was that "notes held against private persons will probably make good this deficit." The supervisors appointed N. L. Bachman treasurer and increased the official bond from \$60,000 to \$100,000. At the special election A. J. Thorn was elected treasurer for the unexpired term. In April Mrs. Paulina Hill for the estate was given credit for \$3,257.27 on account of redeemed warrants, still leaving \$56,313.20 as a deficit. The bondsmen were sued, and, while after the appeal had gone against them and they asked in vain for more time to pay the judgment, little was ever recovered. The district court judgment against the sureties was for \$31,313.20 with ten per cent interest from March 4, 1874.

The Hill and Gaster defalcations have one feature in common in the general belief that neither was beneficiary from the money shortages, but both were the victims of misplaced confidence. The Hill affair was another evidence of the "loose, devil-me-care style" in which the public's business was conducted. The general belief was that Hill had loaned out the money on notes to importuning friends, who ignored or delayed meeting their obligations. In these days the cash in the treasury is counted and verified

monthly by law designated officials; in those days it was done at long intervals, quarterly or semi-annually. And it is a tradition of the times that when cash counting time approached the money needed to correspond with the auditor's vouchers, if not on hand, was expressed in as an accommodation and reshipped before the ink was dry on the report of the count. It was not the counters' inquiry to "go behind the returns," so to speak. For them it was enough that the cash presented to view corresponded with the total called for, it mattered not whose money it was in fact.

Two months after the staking out of the new townsite, the supervisors were appealed to for wagon roads to "Fresno Station" from Centerville and Dry Creek in anticipation of early railroad connection. In fact the first passenger train service was not operated until Sunday May 4, 1873, according to the following meager schedule from Fresno:

#### **Northbound**

2:10 A. M.—Daily except Sundays to Merced, Lathrop, San Francisco, Stockton, Sacramento and East.

4:50 A. M.—Sundays only.

#### **Southbound**

2:10 A. M.—Daily except Sundays to Goshen, Tulare and Tipton.

9:45 P. M.—Sundays only.

Previous to the above and on December 2, 1872, a tentative schedule was in effect as follows:

#### **Northbound**

Local Passenger Train to Merced, Lathrop, San Francisco, Stockton and Sacramento: 4:30 A. M.

Freight Train to Merced and Lathrop: 6:35 A. M.

#### **Southbound**

Local Passenger Train for Goshen, Tulare and Tipton: 2:10 A. M.

All above trains excepted on Sundays.

Even this was a vast improvement on the old stage coach routings.

The vote on seat removal was too decisive, so there was naught to do but "pull up stakes." In April, 1874, proposals were invited in San Francisco and Sacramento for courthouse plans. Those of A. A. Bennett of Sacramento were accepted and visit was made to Fresno to locate on Blocks 105 and 106, the proposed building to face Mariposa Street and the depot. Before contract award on May 14, Merced was visited to view the courthouse there, which was and is a \$55,970 duplicate of the one erected originally for Fresno by the same company, the California Bridge and Building Company, Alfred W. Burrell president. The Fresno award for \$56,370 was \$1,105 less than the next lowest of four bids and \$2,530 lower than the highest. For change of county seat and necessary expenses a bond issue of \$60,000 was authorized, one of the last acts of the supervisors at Millerton at its September, 1874, session. A. M. Clark as county clerk moved the county's archives and property, and until the courthouse completion housed the public offices and jail in a 24x80 temporary structure on the Tulare Street side of the courthouse reservation, the building sold in September, 1875, to A. J. Thorn for \$146 at public auction.

The Millerton orders were for removal by October, 1874, according to a resolution passed on Admission Day. The last transfer was on Saturday, the third of that month, of the county hospital inmates at Millerton in stages of Fleming under supervision of Dr. Leach, he following with family and friends and completing the official exodus, with the exception of the jail





FRESNO COUNTY COURT HOUSE, 1881



incarcerated left in the care of Charles J. Garland of the Courthouse Exchange Saloon. Subsequently a \$400 offer was made for the old courthouse and spurned. The last assemblage in it was of thirty-three of the thirty-six shareholders of the Ne Plus Ultra Mining Company, with H. C. Daulton as president. It formally voted to move to Fresno and reelected Daulton president, Dr. Leach treasurer and Judge Winchell secretary, completing transfer of the last organization having birth and headquarters at old Millerton.

Fresno's townsite occupied a spot unfrequented save by roaming wild cattle, mustang horses, antelope, elk and coyotes. The original town plan of the C. and F. Company was signally departed from in the end because of a notion that provokes a smile at this day. It planned that Fresno Street as the only eighty-foot wide business thoroughfare in the city should be the main artery through town, obstructed though it was at that time in the center by a partially covered ditch from M. J. Church's Champion flour mill at N and Fresno, carrying off westward to the plains the surplus water from the mill race supplied from Fancher Creek. With this plan in view, grant was made for courthouse site of Blocks A, B, C and D bounded by Merced, Mariposa, N and P as the first recorded town plat of December 12, 1873, shows, with courthouse facing Fresno Street.

But nearly all first private improvements and business locations grouped on H Street, facing the projected depot, crossing or slowly groping their way into Mariposa Street. The cry was that the four blocks "were too far out of town," and so a compromise arrangement was made by which the C. and F. Company deeded for county public purposes Blocks 94, 95, 105 and 106 as platted June 8, 1876, the present location. Mariposa Street became the retail center street, though thoroughfare is blocked at H Street westward by the railroad reservation and passenger depot, and eastward at K by the courthouse reservation. One of the original four blocks at Fresno and N, opposite the mill, was taken as a schoolhouse site, now the Hawthorne. It is in fact only one block removed from the exchanged site, being the block Fresno, Merced, N and O. Thus a pretty sentimental idea was knocked on the head to have wide Fresno Street as the main business boulevard of Fresno City in Fresno County.

### COURTHOUSE CORNERSTONE LAYING

At the first supervisors' meeting at Fresno, the tax rate was fixed at 64.9 for state and 83.1 cents for county purposes—total \$1.48. Contractor Burrell for material and labor was given bonds for \$9,900 gold value, having agreed to accept them at ninety-nine cents on the dollar, and the offer of J. M. Shannon for \$1, "for any length of time," was accepted of a room in his building on H Street, near Tulare, for court purposes. Courthouse cornerstone was laid on Thursday afternoon October 8, 1874, and building reported completed for acceptance August 19, 1875. Cornerstone day was a festival occasion in the new town. According to the Expositor, never before had the county "known such a large and fashionable assemblage," coming from Merced, Modesto, Lathrop, Stockton, Visalia and all portions of the county.

The day was pleasant, the heavens overcast with clouds preventing the scorching rays of the sun from pouring down, and a light rain sprinkle at noon purifying the atmosphere and rendering it refreshing. The Masonic fraternity had charge of the ceremonies with Isaac S. Titus, M. W. G. M., attending and Merced lodges, Free and Accepted Masons, and Independent Order of Odd Fellows participating with the county officials and citizens in the parade headed by Woodman's brass band from Stockton. The choir at the stone laying comprised: Mesdames W. W. Phillips, who was also the organist, J. C. Hoxie and William Lambert and Messrs. William Faymonville, A. W. Burrell and S. W. Geis of Merced. District Attorney C. G.

Sayle for the supervisors invited the grand lodge to lay the stone for an edifice which when completed, he said, "is expected to stand the heats of summer and the storms of winter for a period of 1,000 years or more." The Masonic ritual was proceeded with, and at the close Judge E. C. Winchell delivered the prepared oration of District Judge A. C. Bradford, who being in the East could not return in time to fill the engagement. In the casket were deposited nineteen miscellaneous contribution parcels, mainly documents and newspapers, besides a twenty-dollar gold piece of 1874 by A. W. Burrell, by the supervisors eleven pieces of coin of the realm, nineteen dollars and sixteen cents in all from a ten-dollar gold piece to a copper cent, and as historical documents contributed by Justice of the Peace W. T. Rumble and Dr. Leach notes of the first twenty years of the San Joaquin Valley with a copy of the Fort Barbour treaty of peace of 1851 with the Indians, and a copy of the 1851 muster roll of the Mariposa Battalion of Major James D. Savage. A bible contributed by Dr. Leach was a notable presentation, because according to the tradition it was the only one in town available for immuring.

That night Magnolia hall was filled to repletion at a ball with over 150 couples attending, the dance continuing until about one thirty in the morning when the Merced excursion car came to bear away the guests and the music and close the festivities. The supervisors had appropriated \$200 for the day, and of the \$326 ball receipts a balance of sixty-six dollars was donated to the city school fund. Tickets to the ball were three dollars.

The walls of the building that was erected stand today in the present courthouse after the addition of the wings and other changes. Building was sixty by ninety-five, three stories high, surmounted by a cupola topped by a plaster figure of Minerva. It was brick with granite trimmings, covered with cement. Plaster figures of Justice ornamented front and side window arches. The building was fifty-seven feet high above the grade and 112 to the top of the cupola figure. In the basement was a six-cell jail and all in all it was ornamental in exterior. Eight hundred thousand bricks entered into the construction. Designer Bennett planned other public buildings for the valley counties, and the company of Oakland erected them according to stock designs. Windmill and tank were erected and well sunk near the northwest corner, grounds graded by J. B. Stephens, parked and planted by A. J. Witthouse and fenced in by L. D. Fowler later, a special act of the legislature authorizing the expenditure of \$20,000 for various public improvements.

The enlarged and winged courthouse building caught fire on the night of July 29, 1895, in the copper sheeted dome, the glare lighting up the city. The flames were so high up that the fire apparatus could not reach them. The dome was 223 feet from the ground and "a veritable forest of timbers," built two years before. A strong north wind blew and dome finally collapsed upon the south wing, carrying down tons of burned timbers. There was general wreckage on the second and third floors of the central structure of 1874 and in the south wing, entailing a loss of over \$75,000. It was a spectacular fire. But this is anticipatory.

Fresno was cityfying at the dedication period. All the vagrant cows were taken up under the trespass act. General appeal was made to clean up premises. The press of advertisements was so heavy that the Expositor had in one issue to leave out two columns of "live ads." New buildings were going up. The hope was expressed that the hotels would be enlarged because beds were not to be had on cornerstone day or the night before. "The Grandest Organization that Ever Crossed the Continent, Montgomery Queen's Gigantic Menagerie, Circus and World's Fair," the first circus that ever struck the county with two shows given at Borden on the Saturday before, exhibited on Monday October 19, 1874, at Fresno, and in its next Wednesday issue the "county official paper" recorded that besides nine in-

fants baptized at the Dry Creek church the Sunday before, "nearly a dozen fights" had occurred in town since that Sunday—circus, court week and too much whiskey producing the result—and confessing that "we can go without food and clothing on a pinch but we will see every exhibition of horse opera," and that "the circus attracted all alike 'colored and plain,'" and the Indians from the foothills.

## CHAPTER XXVII

INDUSTRIAL PERIODS IN STATE AND COUNTY. LUMBERING WAS CONSPICUOUS IN FRESNO FROM EARLY TIMES. IT HAD ITS PICTURESQUE SIDE. HABITATIONS WERE THEN MERE MAKESHIFTS. FIRST HANDWORKED "SAWMILL" WAS AT FORT MILLER. HULSE AS THE HISTORIAN'S OVERLOOKED PIONEER OF MILLMEN. PINE RIDGE THE BUSY MOUNTAIN SCENE OF MILL ACTIVITIES FOR YEARS. INDUSTRY IS THE BASIS FOR A FRENZIED CRAZE IN 1890. DIRECTORY OF FIRST "BULLWHACKERS" AND SAWMILL MEN. CORPORATE FLUMING OPERATIONS. SMALL ENTERPRISES ARE CROWDED OUT OF THE FIELD BY THEM.

According to Historian Bancroft, the state's industrial periods have been the age of grass, the age of gold, the age of grain and the age of fruit. He comments thereon to say that the golden age was neither the age of gold, nor the pastoral age of grass, but the age of fruit, meaning thereby the real, positive, lasting and substantial economic wealth basis. Fresno County has also passed through four stages of industrial development.

Its birth was during the mining period, which while it cannot be confined to hard and fast lines of demarcation any more than can the others, lasted until about 1860-64. It was followed by the stock raising period (cattle and sheep), growing out of the gradual decadence of placer mining and lasting until about 1874, though sheep raising continued for years later. Third, the springing up of farming about 1868, more especially in the growing of grain, or "dry farming" as it was called. Before the advent of the railroad in 1870, agriculture may be said to have been in the experimental stage. Fourth, and assuming importance in the early 80's, the viticultural and horticultural period, with the introduction of irrigation.

These last have become the leading and distinctive industrial features of the county, and as California holds first place among the states for irrigation, so is the county the leader in the state, having more than double the acreage under irrigation than has any other in California. The development periods followed one another by slow and gradual processes, at the time almost imperceptible, so easy the merging of one period into another. The above general division omits one early and large industry, conspicuous for its scope even during the mining era and before the passing of that picturesque period. The lumber industry had its picturesque side in the men that "toiled with the lash and goad long before Fresno City was built," or even dreamed of; that hauled lumber, shakes, posts and shingles with mule and ox out of the mountains over the roughest of roads through the uncut timber and underbrush, descending trails so precipitous that great trees were tied on behind the wagon or truck as safety drags in the passage of narrow ravines or washed out creek beds.

In early days most of the lumber was hauled to the mining camps on the San Joaquin, or to the Upper Kings settlements above Centerville. Later and after the war, the Alabama Settlement at Borden, down about Gravelly Ford on the Sycamore bend, called for teaming. By this time not a few mills were running at full capacity as Ball & Rimmell on Pine Ridge at Corlew Meadow.

the first and for a time only steam mill in the county. C. P. Converse, then in prosperity, ran one with water power at Crane Valley, associated later with George McCullough and Thomas Winkelman on the north fork of the San Joaquin. John Dwyer hauled from the nearby and then untouched mountains the logs from which the lumber was cut for Fort Miller, or rather the blockhouse. An ordinary cross-cut saw was used. In the work with him were engaged Peter Fink, George Newton and Clark Hoxie. This was the first sawmill in the county, the forerunner of all on the north sides of the San Joaquin and the Kings, and on Pine Ridge crest between the rivers. Joseph Elliot, George Green, Abe Yancey and Bill May were the first "bullwhackers" working for Alex Ball as far back as 1854 and making their starts in life.

The acknowledged historian of the Pine Ridge lumber region is R. W. Riggs, who being also a photographer, has spent many a season in the mill and lumber camps. Few, save the very earliest, that he did not know personally. He gave his efforts for three years to gather "from the earth's four corners" 361 pictures of teamsters alone, classifying them in four groups: (1) the early ones before 1875, (2) the Glass and Donahoo, Lane & Frazier and Smyth & McCardle men and (3) those of 1888 to 1900. The collection was short some 100 pictures.

In the first collection may be named the following:

Abe Yancey, Dan Bruce, Andrew Farley, Peter Fink, V. F. Moore, Bill Wyatt, Ed. Burnett, Tom Bates, Steve Boutwell, Cub Jacks, Ransome McCapes, Jim Mitchell, Fred Winkelman, Pack Qualls, Joe Medley, Alfred Haecker, Joe Carter, Bill May, Mark Chapman, Ellis Pitman, Charles Beard, Joe Hutchins, Jim Wyatt, Cy Dean, Billy Anderson, Mark Gentry, Dave Watson, Bill Holmes, John Moore, Gassy Rodgers, Joe Taylor, Dan Clark, Charles Williams, Dan Miller, Lije and Jim Perry.

The earliest habitations, if such they can be designated, were of canvas, old sacking and the interlaced branches of small trees, sides, ends and roof of the same material. Not a few lived in wagons, utilizing in favored places rocky boulders as walls. Cooking was done principally at open camp fires. The Dutch oven was an important culinary utensil, and many an appetizing "flap-jack" was browned on a shovel. A cast-iron stove was a curiosity, flour a luxury at fifty cents a pound, beans or rice seventy-five cents, sugar, bacon or dried fruit cheap at a dollar, and tea and coffee reasonably so at two dollars. And there was no hue and cry about the high cost of living, either.

The first Pine Ridge sawmill man was in 1852, James Hulse, who two years later sold to Alexander Ball. He moved mill farther back into the forest at the upper end of Corlew Meadow. Historians have to a man withheld credit from Hulse, accorded it to Ball and referred to the surrounding country as "Ball Mill Meadow." Ball was "a rough and ready and good natured man, a hard worker by day and an ardent poker player by night" —\$7,000 of debts with burning of mill landing him a bankrupt early in his career.

After this for a time, the lumber supply source was Crane Valley on the other side of the San Joaquin, where Converse and George Sharpton located a mill in 1860, and George McCullough, who built the first house in Fresno, Jeff Dunlap and one Brown had another, both run by water power. About 1866 John Humphrey imported a mill from Mariposa, and Moses Mock buying the McCullough water mill, the consolidated Clipper was moved up Pine Ridge, below Kenyon's or Armstrong's, and eight years later became the property of Donahoo & Glass. C. D. Davis, Milton Jacks and James J. Phillips formed a partnership, built the then largest and finest mill at Moore's Flat and not inappropriately called it the Lightning Striker, for it was reduced to ashes that same year and another replaced it.

In 1875 Henry Glass bought the Flintlock from Humphrey & Mock and moved the Clipper farther into the woods at Hoxie's Flat, taking in

next year as a partner Jeff Donahoo, who had been his foreman the season before. After Glass' death, Humphrey took up the Glass interest and Donahoo & Humphrey sold in 1887 to William Ockenden. In 1879 Alonzo Littlefield dammed creek on his timber claim, and by a series of wooden wheels and cogs turned out brake blocks and later erected a more elaborate mill, operated as a one man concern. Cy Ruth of Big Sandy built the Paiute mill on Rush Creek in 1880 at the base of Old Baldy, but sold out to C. M. Bennett, who had a planing mill at Tollhouse and who continued the Paiute for twenty-five years at various locations, the last one quarter of a mile below the Ball mill site at Corlew, destroyed by fire in 1905.

William Foster and August Behring ran for a season the Phoenix on Riley Anderson's claim with James Fanning and L. B. Frazier as lessees for the second. On Behring's death, Adolph Lane and Frazier bought the mill and moved it down near the old Flintlock site at the present Pine Ridge postoffice. Here was made the first experiment on the coast with horses in logging. The firm dissolved in 1885 and the mill was burned in storage. Moses Mock reentered the field on Rush Creek. John Smyth, sawyer for Donahoo & Humphrey, and James McCardle bought him out and theirs was for a time the largest mill on the Ridge until the one at Shaver.

The Lane-J. J. Musick copartnership lasted several years until the withdrawal of the first named. The Musicks owned several sections of the finest timber land. In 1886 A. C. Crossman, who was city engineer of Fresno, leased the mill but before three months assigned to William Black and John Nelson of Tollhouse, who ran it for the first season. Upon the death of Musick, the sons, Henry and Charles, carried on the business until fire in 1893 led up to merger with the Fresno Flume and Irrigation Company, the "irrigation" part of the name inserted to facilitate rights of way for the flume for supposed irrigation. In 1887 or 1888 W. S. Bouton and W. M. Ewing built a box factory on the Dinkey road beyond Ockenden, first enterprise of its kind on the Ridge. Fire destroyed it. William Ockenden, who for a decade had conducted hotel and general store at Donahoo & Humphrey's mill yard, bought the mill at this time with Henry Hamilton and Frank Peabody, and after a season moved it down hill, with a road leading out from Kenyon's. That summer welcomed back John Humphrey with a mill on the Swanson lands and with Swanson as a partner. On the latter's death Richard Beall and Joseph Paddock bought the dead man's interest. The mill went up in fire.

In 1890 and for six years there was a veritable craze for sawmill ownership—"frenzied finance" on a small scale to swallow up many a modest competency. As was said, it "looked as though whoever had a tin can, a buzz saw and six bits started a sawdust factory," and "when the can blew up, the saw became bent or the hands wanted their pay, the concern shut up shop or the creditors took it and ran it on the dividends that didn't divide." But what need to follow the many, frequent and bewildering changes? In early days what later was known as Kenyon's was Behring's, afterward Pine Ridge or Armstrong's; in 1881 it was Donahoo's mill, later and now it is Ockenden. The locations of early mills would be difficult to trace with names as the only guide.

It was in 1892 that the F. F. & I. Company commenced damming of Stephenson Creek to create Shaver Lake, and to build the flume to Clovis, and the next year it was in operation, cutting more timber and bringing out more lumber seasonally than all mills combined, with possible exception of the Herman Peterson mill run by a stock company and formerly the Smyth & McCardle mill. The Fresno railroad logs from the forest.

The Pine Ridge sawmill men come under two general classifications. In the first are these:

From 1852 to 1892 following as near as can be learned the order of their entering the business—James Hulse, Alex Ball, John Humphrey, Moses

Mock, C. D. Davis, J. J. Phillips, Milton Jacks, Henry Glass, M. J. Donahoo, Cy Ruth, C. M. Bennett, William Foster, Gus Behring, Alonzo Littlefield, Joseph Bretz, James Fanning, L. B. Frazier, Adolph Lane, J. J. Musick, W. S. Bouton, W. M. Ewing, John Smyth, J. McCordle, H. Peterson, Wm. Ockenden, Andrew Swanson, Joseph Paddock, Richard Beall, A. C. Crossman, John Nelson, W. Block, C. Cummings, Henry and Charles Musick, Warren Brown, Jerome Bancroft, Winn Lichfield, Frank Peabody, Henry Hamilton, William Kip, James Kerns and John Sage—forty-two.

From 1892 to 1907—A. T. Moore, Theodore de Marias, W. H. Hollenbeck, E. E. Bush, Martin Fahey, Al McMurdough, Bert. Moore, C. B. Shaver for the Fresno Flume and Irrigation Company, later changing the name by substituting the word "Lumber" for "Irrigation," M. W. Madary, W. W. Wilson, Frank, George and James Landale, Conn Short, C. G. Sayles, S. Lehman, E. C. Winchell, Lew Roland, Elmer Damon, Frank Bacon, J. F. Rouch, Walter Pixley, W. H. Walsh, J. C. Huston, C. C. Corlew, W. H. Barnes, William McKinzie, A. W. Petrea, Daniel and Forest Dake, B. Payne, Marshall Cardwell, J. F. and L. Shafer, S. J. Finley, Edward and George Chambers, Ray and John Humphrey Jr., Reuben Morgan, T. J. Ockenden, E. J. Van Vlette, Roy and Arthur Bennett and John Beguhl—forty-five; total eighty-seven.

Great have been the *modus operandi* changes since the early efforts by individual partnerships. Today a lumber enterprise can be only undertaken by associated capital, so costly is the initiative outlay. The 1874 California Lumber Company laid out in 1876 the town of Madera and there terminated its flume on the gift of W. S. Chapman and Isaac Friedlander who owned the land site and nearly all the adjacent territory. It became the Madera Flume and Trading Company of 1878 with its two mills, fifty-two miles east of Madera, on the headwaters of the Fresno and on the north fork of the San Joaquin. They are connected with the town yards by a thirty-inch V flume constructed in 1876 at a reported cost of \$460,000, with a daily transportation capacity of 50,000 to 75,000 feet. It was the longest flume in the world. Mills had an annual capacity of 10,000,000 to 12,000,000 feet of yellow and sugar pine and fir. The original Sequel mill has moved location innumerable times. The two mills had a daily productive capacity of 130,000 feet of lumber. In 1881 the company made a cut of over 11,000,000 feet.

Sanger of 1888, fifteen miles from Fresno, is the flume terminal of the original Kings River Lumber Company of A. D. Moore and H. C. Smith, with timber interests and two mills on the head waters of the Kings and mill at Millwood, sixty-five miles from Fresno. Running ten hours a day, they had a capacity of about 3,000,000 feet a month. Its flume with a daily capacity of 250,000 feet was sixty miles long with laterals. Mills and property passed into the hands by purchase of the Hume-Bennett Lumber Company of Michigan capitalists, who moved the plant across a mountain ridge, greatly improved and enlarged it and founded the settlement at Hume on Ten-Mile Creek, a lumber mill mountain community, seventy-five miles away in the Sierras. Its annual approximate output is 35,000,000 feet. Its flume is the longest in the world. The company filed amended articles of incorporation in February, 1917, with name changed to the Sanger Lumber Company.

The lumber mill town of Clovis, eleven miles from Fresno, is the terminal of the forty-five-mile flume of the Fresno Flume & Lumber Company at Shaver, where it operates a tow steamer on the lake in the Sierras and a twelve-mile mountain logging railroad. Mill capacity is 35,000,000 feet yearly and flume capacity 200,000 daily. The Shaver-Swift interests sold the property a few years ago to Michigan capitalists through Ira Bennett.

These large enterprises introduced two new features—the sinuous flume traversing mountain, valley and dale, ravine, gulch and stream like a huge



serpent for the floating of the cut lumber to the mill; and the damming of creeks to conserve the water in artificial lakes for the reception of the logs, where practical, and to furnish water for the flume to be used for irrigation after it has served the transportation purpose. Ten-Mile Creek feeds Hume Lake, Stephenson and other rivulets form Shaver Lake, and at Millwood at the edge of General Grant Park is Sequoia Lake. These sheets of water are stocked and are popular trout fishing grounds. Eastern visiting journalists have made much in their write ups of the mountains of the hair-raising flume journeys in a trough shaped shell, a sensation compared with which the descent on a scenic railway is as slow running as molasses in December.

Lumber making was next to agriculture and mining a leading industry, and the annual output, up to the time after 1890 when the business was concentrated in the hands of a few of the larger companies, now reduced to two, of the leading mills was: Ockenden 1,200,000, Smyth & McCardle 1,000,000, Stephenson 1,200,000, Musick 3,000,000, Humphrey 4,000,000, North Fork Lumber Company 2,000,000, Kings River Lumber Company 30,000,000, and the Comstock mill above Camp Badger at the edge of Tulare County across the line with timber region about Mill Creek in Fresno, about 3,000,000. The flume solved the question of freight teaming and the lack of railroad transportation from the foothills and crowded the smaller concerns out of the field.

The horse and mule killing Tollhouse grade was sold in 1878 to the county for \$5,000. In July, 1892, A. M. Clark, George L. Hoxie and others incorporated the Fresno and Pine Ridge Toll Road Company and furnished a much easier graded mountain road, which in December, 1896, was sold to the county for \$7,500. Both roads became free and opened the mountains to the public.

The county's annual lumber output ranges from 60,000,000 to 75,000,000 feet, including 5,000,000 in shakes, shingles and box and tray material, representing a value of from one and one-half to two millions or more—almost ten percent. of the state's lumber production, a material addition, but at the sorry expense of denuding the forest shaded slopes of the Sierra Nevadas.

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## CHAPTER XXVIII

PASTORAL PERIOD NATURALLY SUCCEEDS PLACER MINING IN 1864.

STOCKRAISING BECOMES THE DOMINANT INDUSTRY. DAIRYING IS PRACTICALLY NEGLECTED. EARLY STOCK WAS OF INFERIOR BREEDS. UNLIMITED WAS THE RANGE. THE "NO FENCE" LAW PROVED THE TURNING POINT TO FAVOR AGRICULTURE. IT TOLLED THE REQUIEM OF THE STOCK BUSINESS. THE "SAND-LAPPER" COMES TO THE FORE. TRIBULATIONS OF CATTLE AND SHEEP MEN. WOOL RAISING AN IMPORTANT CONSIDERATION. PROMINENT STOCKMEN LISTED. THEY DISCOVERED THE SIERRA'S SCENIC WONDERS IN THE QUEST FOR PASTURE.

It was natural that with the passing of placer mining in 1864, except for sporadic and speculative efforts, the people of the county should turn next to stockraising and make it the dominant industry. Every condition favored it. There was the suggestive precedent of the mission fathers and of the Spanish and Mexican eras, when herds counting up in the thousands were slaughtered for beef, or for the tallow and hides as the territory's sole export. There was a limitless open range on the plains. Climatic conditions the year around were ideal. There was no need for herding. The owner

concerned himself about the stock once a year only at the spring rodeo for the counting and branding.

A market was always to be found by simply driving the cattle there. The stockman waxed fat and was the monarch of the plains and the grassy foothills. It was in one sense of the word an ideal existence, with nature an important member of the business copartnership. Cattle of every kind and age ran wild. They multiplied and in great herds grazed on the hills and roamed the valleys and plains as freely as deer. The industry in Fresno County was at its height in 1870. The early Californians introduced their cattle from Spain and Mexico; the Americans, the longhorns from Texas, driving the herds across the desert and the plains. To market, they were driven in the summer to the mining camps, or to San Francisco, following the river courses and foothill creeks for convenient camps and water en route. In this county the range was an immense one, extending from the Chowchilla to the Kings River and from the foothills of the Sierras to those of the Coast Range.

In the 70's and the days before the introduction of superior stock had absorbed the original Spanish cattle, herds of these and mixed cattle yet ran wild, especially in the southern part of the state. These "resembled the wild beasts of the forest more than cows," it is said, and as herders and vaqueros were always mounted these beasts unaccustomed to seeing man afoot would encircle him and often furiously attack him. Cattle, as well as other live stock in California, ran at large, never were housed, and had no food other than that which nature spontaneously provided, and this was ample save in dry seasons. In periods when pasturage was scarce, or in summer when the plains were parched and feed lacking, bands in great number were driven into the mountains to the very summits to graze in the natural meadows on the succulent wild herbage and brush.

Before the American occupation, little or no attention was paid to milk and butter. With irrigation and alfalfa growing, dairying became an industry which has grown wonderfully. Notwithstanding the genial climate, the open range and splendid pasturage, one-third of the butter used in California in the 70's was imported from the eastern states. The state produced about six million pounds of butter annually and one-third of this came from Marin County, with 24,000 neat cattle out of about one million in the state. The largest dairy farm was the 75,000-acre ranch of the Shafter brothers in that county. Merced was credited with 60,000 neat cattle and only produced about 9,000 pounds of butter. Kern, Tulare, Colusa and San Diego were the next largest cattle counties.

The state produced then annually 5,000,000 pounds of cheese, of which 3,000,000 were credited to Santa Clara and Monterey Counties. Santa Clara with 22,000 cattle, 7,000 of them cows, made as much cheese as the entire state, the two counties excepted. It was solemnly asseverated in "The Golden West"—a book on California—that in a part of the southern counties, where cattle were so numerous that they swarmed about telegraph poles to scratch themselves and rubbed down the eight-inch square masts for miles, one could not taste butter, nor cheese, nor milk in a journey of 200 miles!

Fresno was one of the interior "cow counties." As late as 1890, when it was out of that classification, there were about 70,000 head of cattle in the county, and fully 1,000,000 sheep, wool being an important export item. This section is also favorable for the raising of horses and mules. The ranges became more limited, however, with the spread of farming from year to year, yet even today cattle raising is no small industry. Alfalfa cultivation has made it more profitable, though on a reduced scale in scope, while giving dairying a great stimulus. The cattle, sheep and wool business represented a million-dollar asset in 1890. Today it is a combined asset of more than \$3,923,000 in value. In 1861, Spanish stock cattle were assessed at ten dollars per head, American stock at twelve dollars and twenty-five dollars

was the valuation placed on the better above three-year-old.

The "cattle barons" of Fresno had bands ranging in number from 200 to 3,000 and 4,000 and over. They contributed to their own undoing when farming and irrigation came on. Cattle were not herded as sheep are, but roamed at will over boundless areas. Every man marked his by a particular brand burned into the left hip, and these "irons" were as title deeds recorded and it was a felony to obliterate or alter them.

### NO-FENCE LAW OBLIGATIONS

In the San Joaquin Valley generally in connection with the spread of orchards, vineyards and farms, and locally due to the agitation of the Alabama Settlement of grain growing colonists at Arcola (Borden), the adoption of the "No Fence" law was the turning point in agricultural advancement and prosperity. Before, the stockmen lorded it over all, and regarded it as an encroachment on their rights to sow a field of grain, and to that extent abridge their open pasture, or restrict their horizon between the foothills of the eastern and western ranges. The question at issue in the law was: which was the most desirable industry for the permanent settlement and development of the virgin land, the farmer or the stockman?

The pastoral period brought the "sandlapper" to the fore. The derivation of this term is obscure, but the appellation was one given in contempt and derision by the stock owners to a class that loaded all worldly goods on a wagon and with family drove out on the plains to take up a quarter section of government land out of the stockman's self-appropriated range. It was then yet a question whether the soil of the plains, away from water, could be successfully farmed without irrigation, but the "sandlapper," whose coming was almost contemporaneous with that of the railroad, was quite willing to assume the risk, with transportation to a seaboard market as an incentive.

It cost, so it is said, \$2,240 to fence a quarter section against the inroads of roaming herds. The "sandlapper" was in a large measure responsible for the "no fence" or "herding law," the agitation over which started about 1870 and continued with much bitterness and personal animosities until the enactment in 1874. The stockmen came to a full realization of the new order of things, when a heroic remedy was employed in ranging up marauding cattle and shooting them. This enforced compliance with a law that at first was generally ignored by those whom it most directly affected.

The "no fence" law obligated the stock owner to herd his cattle and sheep, whereas before the stock roamed at will and was not assembled except for the annual rodeo. He was also made responsible for damage done by his beasts. The farmer was not required to fence his holding, though as a custom, "more honored in the breach than in the observance," he occasionally did so. In particular localities hedges served more as sheltering wind breaks than farm dividing lines. Senator Thomas Fowler, then a cattle king and for whom the village ten miles from Fresno was named, championed the opposition against the law in the legislature, and paid the penalty in defeat at the next election. The law requiring the stockman to herd on his own land tolled the requiem of the pastoral period in Fresno, and passed the land over to the husbandman, though the tillable area was so vast that years elapsed before the small farmer ceased to be the exception and became the rule. The stockman gradually retired from the field. Sheep replaced cattle in thinly settled localities, but agriculture in time encroached even there upon them.

In springtime the rodeo was held. The word is from the Spanish verb meaning to gather, to surround. It was a rounding up of the cattle to enable the owners to select their own, count them and drive them off to their own pastures with the calves following the mother cows, and to brand the

calves and mavericks. Rodeos were held at stated places and at pre-arranged times, succeeding one another until all cattle had been counted in a district, and the calves marked. At times 20,000 head of stock would be gathered on a plain for singling out. Clever feats of horsemanship and of lasso throwing marked the rodeo and with the trained character of the horses put to blush the exhibitions at Wild West shows.

### STOCK INDUSTRY ON THE WANE

Cattle and sheepmen had other troubles. There were early losses by reason of floods in destruction of pasture. The drought of 1856 was too early to affect the infant local industry. That of 1864 was disastrous, cattle and sheep starving by the thousands in the state. The one of 1870-71 was not productive of such general ruin. But in 1876-77 followed another as disastrous as the one of 1864, with perishing herds and bands. An industry of the drought year of 1877 was the stripping of the carcasses of cattle for the hides and of sheep for the pelts. Since that year the stock business has never regained the importance that it once held as a general industry. Oak and other trees were felled for the animals to browse on the foliage and tender twigs. Bands of sheep numbering thousands were abandoned to die of starvation. Animals were killed for their pelts and in districts the air was polluted with the stench of thousands of corrupting carcasses and the sky blackened with attracted carrion birds. Bands of sheep were sold for a bit (twelve and one-half cents) a head, when ordinarily worth two dollars and three dollars, and thousands were killed and tried for the fat. The stockman's losses were very heavy, and in certain sections the industry never recovered, many abandoning it. With the continued encroachment of agriculture, the consequent cutting of the pastures and the advanced value of tillable land, the larger surviving stockmen took themselves off to Nevada and Arizona. As ineffectual was their opposition to the introduction of irrigation in the valley.

Raising sheep for the wool was commenced in California in 1853 and the 1855 first exportation was 360,000 pounds. As showing the development of wool growing, the following figures are illustrative:

Year.	Pounds.	Value.
1857 .....	1,100,000	\$ 173,500
1862 .....	5,900,000	1,062,000
1868 .....	13,225,000	2,428,000
1870 .....	19,010,000	3,506,000
1871 .....	22,323,000	6,697,000

Original stock was of poor quality, the remnants of old mission flocks and bands of inferior sheep brought into the state overland from New Mexico. As wool growing attracted attention, blooded stock was introduced. Still flocks of the old Mexican stock roamed the sandy plains of southern California, described "as much like wolves as regards wool as like sheep." This class averaged a fleece of wool, sand and dirt as sheared of only two pounds, the inferior American sheep of four and improved breeds and Merino from six to eight, often as high as ten to fifteen pounds. In 1875 there were about 2,500,000 sheep in the state, flocks of 3,000, 8,000, 10,000 and 20,000 being not uncommon. California was highest on the list of wool growing states. The first shipment of freight from Fresno City was wool that Frank Dusy loaded on the cars on the track before a freight depot had been built.

Sheepmen underwent the same trials and tribulations as did the cattlemen. The great flocks have fallen off since 1870, when they numbered 4,152,349, reduced in 1910 to 2,417,477, a decrease from the year preceding of 1,734,872. 1880 was a banner year with 5,727,349. After the "no fence" law, sheep were herded where there was no farming, and at this day they are

pastured principally on the uninhabited West Side plains to feed on the wild alfilaria, or driven by the shepherds to rented stubble land and vineyards in season to clean them off.

Sheep had once, as the cattle have, the unlimited range of the mountains until the organization of the National Forest under the act of March, 1907. Then followed a practical exclusion, except in restricted number and under regulations, the claim being that their cloven hoofs and their presence destroy and spoil pasturage for cattle, the latter never feeding in pasture that has been ranged over by sheep. Before the above act, the areas were called Forest Reserves. Of course there is no restriction on land patented or deeded before the act, but the passage to and from these lands is under guard of the rangers. Sheep first began to go into the mountains for pasturage in 1877, a "dry year." In March, 1899, the supervisors through the legislature at the behest of the sheepmen memorialized Congress to open the forest for the grazing of stock to avert financial disaster to the industry that year because of the lack of rain and consequent lack of natural feed.

Firebaugh, which is near the great Miller & Lux cattle ranch domain, was the shearing center for years, the aggregation of Basques, Portuguese, Mexicans, Italians and Indians giving it riotous life in season, but the sheep business does not longer measure up with its picturesque past. In its day shearing stations were at Millerton, Centerville, Dry Creek and at Laton on the Laguna de Tache grant.

The readily accessible western slopes of the Sierras have been pretty well gone over for the trees in the timber belt varying from twenty to forty miles in width. The sawmills surely left their impress, but as seriously maintained and as stoutly disputed the sheepmen destroyed as much as ever did the mills in a year. The sheep were not corralled in the mountains, but to protect them at night from prowling wild beasts encircling bonfires were lit to keep them off. These fires being negligently left burning were spread by the wind and at times covered wide areas. It has been asserted that the evidences of fires can be traced seventy-five miles into the mountains at the base of great sugar and yellow pines.

The roll of Assessor Thomas W. Simpson for 1870, the year when the stock business was at its height, is interesting as showing the county's wealth during the pastoral period. Total acreage was 1,344,078. Total valuations were \$3,219,503—land and improvements \$1,575,761, personal property \$1,545,034; taxes on same \$68,673—\$27,832.49 state, \$40,219.07 county and \$532 on dogs. Common sheep were assessed at \$1.50 a head and this was the general character of the stock in 1870. M. J. Church, "the Father of Irrigation," is assessed \$1,950 for 1,300, Supervisor D. C. Dunagan \$2,700 for 1,800, William Helm \$9,000 for 6,000, while Sheepman Gus Herminghaus is assessed \$10,000 for 8,997 sheep and \$9,100 for 5,800.

Incidental showings are these: Judge Hart total assessment \$2,825—Fort Miller improvements \$800, Millerton Chinatown \$500, 600 goats one dollar each. Ira McCray assessed for a total of only \$740. The New Idria quicksilver mine with 1,920 acres \$102,130, Peters & Ferguson in the Expositor plant \$700, William C. Ralston, Bank of California president, \$53,000 on dollar-an-acre land, W. S. Chapman, Edmund Jansen, Frederic Roeding et al \$77,000 for like valued land. Besides his vast land holdings, Chapman with J. M. Montgomery was associated with William Deakin in 7,572 head of cattle. Darwin & Ferguson with three stock establishments, had 7,429 acres assessed at \$9,300, besides 2,200 at \$3,000. In the early 80's along the Kings River and near Traver in Tulare lay large tracts owned by them. Their brand known in all the region about was "76", and the land was called "the 76 country." Isaac Friedlander, "the wheat king," had in Fresno County 57,360 acres assessed at \$57,400. Senators Fowler and Kerman had 300 steers at \$7,500 and 5,000 head of stock besides at fourteen dollars each. John Heinlen 1,000 at \$14,000, Jeff G. James and Selig & Company (whole-

sale butchers of San Francisco) assessed for 16,877 acres at seventeen an acre, 200 beeves \$5,000, 2,600 head of stock at \$36,400, total \$60,900, Miller & Lux assessed \$102,600 for land, \$61,250 for personal property and 4,000 head of stock \$56,000, L. Perez and E. Alttube 3,000 at \$49,000, John Sutherland 600 stock horses \$6,000, 500 beef cattle \$12,500 and 5,000 stock cattle \$70,000.

### AMONG THE BIG SHEEPMEN

Among the big sheepmen in 1870 may be recalled W. T. Cole with a band of 5,000, William Helm 6,000, E. J. Hildreth 4,000, James R. Jones 5,000, J. A. Patterson 4,500, Frank Dusy who counted 13,300 in his band in 1882, Alexander Gordon and W. C. Miller 10,000 in one year, John Sutherland who drove 12,000 to Texas one dry year, B. S. and J. T. Birkhead who counted 4,600 in their possession and J. N. Walker 6,000. Charles J. Hobler, who was an extensive raiser, was the first after 1872 to introduce the French Merino. William Helm, who came to Fresno in 1865 from Placer County with sheep, was probably at one time the largest individual sheep raiser in this section. He bought 2,640 acres of land on Dry Creek at one dollar an acre and established winter camp on the site of the present county courthouse, having at one time 22,000 sheep that browsed in the mountains in the summer. In conveying his wool to market at Stockton, he employed three wagons, each drawn by ten mules, spending twelve days on the round trip.

The following from a newspaper publication of forty years ago is of passing interest as marking the scope of the sheep industry at the close early in May, 1878, of the shearing season:

"In the two shearing establishments here over 80,000 sheep have been sheared up to date and dipped and not more than 10,000 have been engaged for the next week. Frank Dusy has sheared a little over 42,000 and has not more than 4,000 more engaged. He has employed white men, has superintended the work himself and has paid from six to seven cents a head for shearing, the men boarding themselves. His dip has been lime and sulphur and he charges two cents each for sheep and one cent for lambs. Mr. Foster has sheared over 40,000 sheep and has between 6,000 and 8,000 yet to shear. William Helm and Jesse Morrow have had over 20,000 sheared at his corrals. He has employed white men, paid the same wages, and has charged one and one-half cents for dipping sheep and three-quarters of a cent for dipping lambs."

Just as today, every other farmer or retired land owner may be either a vineyardist or an orchardist, so in the 60's and 70's every other one in the county owning land was a stock raiser. In the county recorder's office are two interesting book records of the registered cattle brands. They are of historic value as the brief abstracts of the cattle period, and of the men who were the backbone of that once dominant industry of the county. Examination of this register is like turning back the pages of time with recall of the familiar names of the long ago dead associated with Fresno's second industrial period. The record runs up into the thousands.

The stockmen were the discoverers of the scenic wonders and the Big Trees of the Sierras. They were the pioneers that opened and marked the trails to the most inaccessible places in the search for feed for their animals. The name of many a pioneer stockman is perpetuated in the government quadrangle topographical maps. They are responsible also for the uncouth nomenclature of the landmarks. The forest service has improved their trails but adopted their routings as shown by the blazes on the trees. The stockmen's early mark is a rectangular chip clipped deep from the bark; that of the foresters on the same trees a chip the width of the ax blade and under it a longer vertical strip, the combination suggestive of the letter "i."

Dinkey Creek was named by Frank Dusy for a little pet dog that was



killed there by a bear. An enthusiastic naturalist and mountain climber, describing a journey to the High Sierras, put in book print that Tunemah Pass takes its name from the melodious Indian! In fact, it is the vile epithet that was uttered by a Chinese sheep herder of Dusy in giving vent to his opinion after descent of that well nigh impassable mountain ridge cleft from the north to the middle fork of the Kings River and the Tehipite Valley, rival of the Yosemite. Dutch Oven Creek gives reminder of the disaster to a party in fording that swift stream and the recovery of the indispensable oven as the only article of the camping outfit.

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## CHAPTER XXIX

AGRICULTURE FORMALLY TAKES POSSESSION OF THE VALLEY IN THE 70'S. GRAIN GROWING OR "DRY FARMING" CONDUCTED ON A GIGANTIC SCALE. BELT EXTENDS FROM RIVER TO RIVER. FIRST COLONISTS HAD MUCH TO OVERCOME IN LACK OF FAITH IN FARMING BY THE OLD RESIDENTS. STOCKMEN DISCOURAGED THEM. FERTILITY OF SOIL DEMONSTRATED. DEVELOPMENT OF LABOR SAVING MACHINERY. IMPROVEMENTS ON EARLY METHODS. FIRST FARMING ON THE PLAINS. FAILURE OF THE ALABAMA SETTLEMENT. WHEAT AS THE AGRICULTURAL KING OF CALIFORNIA WITH THE "DRY FARMER" AS HIS PRIME MINISTER.

The third general industrial period in the county's development came with the springing up about 1868 of farming, more especially grain growing, or "dry farming" as it was called. It was far more important in its effects than the superficial reader of local history wots of. It proved the agency that blazed the way for the fourth and most distinctive era that has made Fresno what it is in the line of fruit growing and in the products of the grapevine.

The "dry farmer" disproved the popular fallacy entertained in the middle 60's that the valley plains were unfit for agriculture because of the uncertainty of the rainfall, and anyhow because "farming was too much of a gamble." In the 70's the valley was throughout almost its entire length and breadth used for grazing, and the cattle barons doggedly disputing ground with the few widely scattered farmers. Then came the notable conflict, with the No-Fence law as the result and small farming as the heritage. Before that the belief was tenaciously held that the plains had value only as pasture. One journeyed for miles and saw nothing save cattle and sheep and an occasional herder's tent or brush shelter. Cattle roamed the plains practically from Stockton to Bakersfield.

In the 70's agriculture formally took possession of the valley. In due time the two valleys "began on a great scale the first experiment in irrigation that the Anglo-Saxon has undertaken." It resulted in a remarkable success. The important fact must not be overlooked here that agricultural land in California means good, rich soil, free from rocks or trees and almost wholly fit for the plow. Valleys and rolling hills are as a general thing covered with wild oats and grasses and free from timber, brush, stones and other obstructions. Wheat growing was once on a colossal scale in the valley. Nothing attempted in California was done on a minor scale, it would appear. Measure was taken from the lofty mountains, the big trees, the great territory and the broad valleys as the scale. It was moreover "the thin edge of the entering wedge that displaced the stockmen and pushed them back, step by step, until the only refuge left them was the remote and less desirable land for cultivation," or the vast Spanish land grants.

The wheat ranches were of great size, operated necessarily on a gigantic scale and corresponding cost. One thousand to 3,000-acre grain fields were not uncommon. The individual largest grower in Fresno was Clovis M. Cole, who in 1891 had 10,000 acres in wheat. Instead of enriching him, it impoverished him in the end. Cole and his grain domain was a frequent subject of magazine articles and newspaper write ups. The rapidity of the growth of farming with irrigation once under way, the one naturally leading up to the other, was noticeable. Fresno's grain belt lay between the eastern foothills and the railroad, with exceptions at Borden, Kingsburg and Selma. The rainfall almost double in the foothill country was as a rule ample for the well tilled soil. That soil was better adapted for cereal crops. The time was when you could say that the eastern foothill country from the Chowchilla to the Kings River was one vast grain field, and what is true of Fresno was equally so in the adjoining counties.

Experimentation with irrigation was in progress during the "dry farming" period. The first colonists had many discouragements to overcome and especially to contend against the lack of faith of the old resident in the possibility of successful farming on the plains, even with irrigation. There were no pessimists like the stock and sheepmen, and none more heavily stocked up with hard luck tales of dismal failures of health and crops.

The climate? Worst in the world—they had seen the thermometer 130 degrees in the shade, and no shade, and had seen birds drop dead from the heat. Fruit? Oh, it grew, but it also baked on the trees before ripening. Vegetables? Wouldn't grow even when irrigated, and then either rotted in the water or dried up in the sun-baked mud. Butter was out of the question, except during the winter, rainy months. Potatoes? Invariably crop failures, and what few were raised rotted when dug up. Trees and vines? A losing proposition, because the pestiferous jack-rabbit overran the plains, and the durned rabbit-proof fence was a snare and a delusion because the rabbits burrowed under it. Chickens had never done well on the plains and could not be profitably raised, and besides there were the coyotes. Sandstorms, hot and cold winds and whirlwinds made life a burden. Instances were detailed of fever and ague following up the bringing of water for irrigation, and as a finale the truly sympathetic stockman earnestly and charitably advised the listener to hurry away before his last dollar went for grub to keep body and soul together.

### WHEAT GROWING LONG HELD SWAY

The fruit and vine industries had inception about 1880, but wheat growing held sway for about thirty years. Unceasing repetition of crops with consequent impoverishment of the soil and added indifferent cultivation had their effect. Grain growing did not then bring in the returns that the earlier years had. Resort was had to summer fallowing and irrigation. This proved an aid in the crop production, but even then the soil did not yield as once, and the profits grew beautifully less in the face of the large acreage sown. This led to the consideration of other crops, and fruit and vine attracted attention. Bees and poultry were found to give good returns on small investments and comparatively little care. Alfalfa proved a specially adapted forage plant. Trees and vines returned greater profits, and so orchards, vineyards and alfalfa fields eventually supplanted the grain ranches. They ushered in the wine, raisin and cured fruit industries, while the pastures gave stimulus to dairying and live stock.

With average rainfall the plains produced rich grain crops, yielding from fifteen to twenty bushels an acre, varying according to climatic and rain conditions. San Joaquin Valley wheat was, all in all, of excellent quality and considered as among the best milling wheat anywhere. The grain crop values proved greater than the gold yield. In 1860 the wheat crop

was 2,530,400 bushels, in 1870, 6,937,038, in 1880, 29,017,707 and in 1889, 40,869,137, the largest wheat crop save that of Minnesota and wheat worth a dollar a bushel, equaling the gold yield before 1856 and almost doubling any two seasons in wheat since.

The success of farming on the plains, with proof of the fertility and possibility of the soil, was stimulating. Population increased and the building of permanent homes resulted. The coming of the railroad was, to be sure, an important factor to help bring about the new life. Fresno city grew—indeed outdistanced its rivals, notably Stockton, Visalia and every other new town on the railroad. In 1870 the county had 6,336 population, in 1880 9,478, in 1890 32,026, in 1900 37,862 and in 1910 75,657. Land that had been in the market for two and one-half dollars an acre sold for fifty dollars, \$100 to \$200 and more where under irrigation. The changed conditions necessarily made cultivation and harvesting more rapid and economical. Cradle, reaper and single plow were too slow for the San Joaquin Valley big wheat-grower. Implements and machinery adapted to the times and needs were improved upon as in the great gangplows and combined harvesters.

Cultivating from 400 to 1,200 acres, a single plow was first used, then two were fastened together. Then came the gangplow with one man and ten horses plowing ten acres in a day turning up a three-foot swath. Then it was eight feet, sowing, and harrowing at the same time with an oil burning machine. The pioneer used the old fashioned mower for grain cutting. Then came the invented California Header, levelling a twenty-foot swath and sending a steady stream of grain into the receiving wagon. Later the great hay-fork operated by horsepower lifted the grain from wagon and stacked it. The McCormick thresher burned straw for fuel instead of wood, threshing 2,000 bushels in a day. James Marvin, a San Joaquin farmer, contrived a combined header and harvester, but it was not successful until after improved. Then when drawn by thirty horses, it cut, threshed and sacked fifteen acres in a day and later it was operated by its own motive power.

The threshing machine is popularly supposed to have been first operated in Fresno County on Dry Creek in 1870 by Hewlett, Jack and Wyatt. The heading machine was a notable improvement on the thresher. It was worked by the team pushing, as it were, instead of drawing it. The driver lowered or raised the sickle bar according to the height of the grain stalks. The heads dropped into a traveling gangway attached to the machine and into a wagon driven alongside of the header, the side of the bed next to the header receptively lower. Wagon after wagon followed the header, the loaded going to the thresher and dumping grain on a platform to be cleaned at the rate of hundreds of bushels in a day. This machine was superseded by a most economical and ingenious contrivance, the combined harvester driven by fifteen to twenty-four horses, harnessed six abreast, attended by four to five men cutting, threshing and sacking grain on thirty to thirty-five acres in a day, twenty to thirty bushels to the acre.

The grain threshed in the field filled sacks of 100 or 200 pounds each. The long dry season dried the grain ready for the mill or for shipment in bulk or in sacks. The sacked grain was left in heaps in the field measurably secure from rain until November, or if transported to shipping points piled up on wharves until loaded on shipboard. So dry was the grain that it went direct from the thresher aboard ship or car without damage. Mills have had to dampen it before grinding into flour. A peculiarity of California wheat is that the kernel does not shell, however ripe, or how long it stands in the field. Rain or weather change does not open it. In ordinary seasons enough grain was shelled in the handling to make seed for a volunteer crop, and good harvests were had for several seasons without plowing or sowing. But best crops follow the annual sowing with deep plowing and summer fallowing. Custom was once to burn the straw on the field where the thresher stood, and with fire to clean off the stubble. Drought and cold and long

winter rains taught the farmers the lesson and straw burning was abandoned. It was stacked, shedded and secure from rain and summer's scorching heat the feed was saved for a time of need.

Prior to 1868, settlements for farming operations were few in the county save in the foothills as on Dry Creek, and on the lower Kings River. The great waterless plain between the rivers "was common pasture ground for whosoever chose to turn stock upon it." The government had surveyed and sectionized most of the land, but no one was tempted to acquire or occupy on account of the lack of water. Land was acquired for speculative purposes in great blocks and sheep turned out upon it when driven out of the mountains by the snow. Here and there a venturesome farmer sowed grain upon the too dry soil, took desperate chances on the season, and harvested only too frequently defeat, ridicule and I-told-you-so triumph for the sheepman, who having crowded out the cattleman himself stood in fear of speedy elbowing out by agriculture.

Still one of the large productions of the county was wheat in its day. The area devoted to wheat during the season of 1880-81 was 100,000 acres, the county export about 800,000 bushels, worth not less than \$750,000. It was the high price of wheat that induced grain farming on a large scale in Stanislaus County, and in turn prompted William S. Chapman and Isaac Friedlander, the wheat market manipulator in California, to take up great tracts of "plain lands" in this county in 1868 and 1869, around Borden and covering the present site of Fresno City.

"Dry farming" in grain growing was at best a venturesome undertaking. There had been droughts and short crops in 1869, 1870 and 1871. Other years to 1876 were more or less fraught with woe for the "dry farmer." The very instability of this "dry farming" suggested the thought of irrigation, but "the man of the hour" had not yet come to the fore. 1862 was a set-backing year—year of the big flood—with the valley basin from Sacramento to Visalia under two feet of water, fifty lives lost and damage estimated at fifty millions entailed. Two years later was another dry period, with scarcely any rain in the winter of 1863 or the spring of 1864. Little hay was cut. The wheat crop was a failure. Hay went to sixty dollars a ton and wheat was scarce at five dollars a bushel. Horses, cattle and sheep perished wholesale. The poorest beef sold at twenty-five cents a pound. Hay and grain were imported from Oregon and Nevada.

But aside from all these causes, the time came when it was apparent that there was no longer profit on the big grain ranch. There was the fall in the price of wheat to seventy-five cents due to financial panics, the reduced yield in ever taking from the soil and adding nothing to overcome its impoverishment, the increased value of land for the more profitable orchard and vineyard and alfalfa field, all leading up to the practical surrender of the field to the small farmer and his varied crops.

### FIRST FARMING ON THE PLAINS

It is a disputed question who first farmed on the plains of Fresno. The account most susceptible of proof is that the late A. Y. Easterby of Napa and a pioneer in development about Fresno, became the owner in July, 1868, for \$14,496 of about 5,000 acres, which an association of San Francisco merchants, mainly Germans, bought in a block of 80,000 acres from Chapman and Friedlander, who had purchased from the government for scrip. The purchase price from them was one dollar and eighty cents an acre and the highest hoped for selling price was five dollars. An experimental crop of wheat was put in by Easterby in November, 1869, on land near Miller-ton as the nearest populated point, on which alfalfa and sunflowers ten feet high were growing luxuriantly, being in the northwest corner of Section 8, Township 14 S., Range 21 E. M. J. Church, "the Father of Irrigation,"

whom Easterby had permitted to bring his sheep there to save them from starvation in Napa, bored the well and a man named McBride sowed wheat and barley.

The seed germinated nicely, but for lack of spring rain dried up and what survived the drought was eaten up by roaming horses and cattle. Easterby had four sections set aside later for his own use after survey. They constituted the Easterby Rancho, first named the Banner Farm because of the raising of the flag on the barn staff on July 4, 1872, probably the first display on the plains of which there is record. The story is added that when Easterby presented the deeds for recording, County Recorder Dixon hesitated to accept the fees, intimating that the man must be crazy who thought of cultivating the plains. In 1871 Easterby put in wheat 2,000 acres, partly irrigated, paid in 1872 \$1,207.32 freight on lumber and \$2,574 for fencing and lumber and in August and September shipped 20,000 sacks of wheat to Friedlander, the first wheat shipment from the plains of Fresno over the Southern Pacific. The eighteen carloads of lumber for fencing was the first shipment of the kind over the new road to this locality. Outlay on crop was \$2,600; for lumber and freight \$3,781. The Easterby rancho is a few miles east of town, comprising some of the best known pioneer vineyards in the district now called Sunnyside.

The Alabama Settlement of 1868 formed of Alabamans, Mississippians and Tennesseans who came after the war, was the first concerted effort on the plains to raise grain. They had a drought the first year, suffered several more in after years, water was not always available for the irrigation of other crops, and besides they were in frequent conflict to save their scant product from roaming cattle. The Alabama proved a failure, as did in after years the much vaunted and advertized John Brown Colony. The southern enterprise did not prosper, most of the founders removed to other localities and those who remained drifted into more congenial and lucrative fields—politics was a popular one—so that in 1874-75 the place had few of the original settlers. The failure was a conspicuous one. Besides the local conditions contributing to it, there was the important fact not to be overlooked that the southern planter and gentleman was evidently not cut out for the new and untried conditions of the life of pioneer farming in the Far West with accompanying hard labor and struggling poverty.

The first name of the settlement was Arcola from which town in Alabama the leading colonists came. It was afterward named for Dr. Joseph Borden, one of the leading spirits of the enterprise. Among the prominent colonists, who became men of note in Fresno politics and circles, were the R. L. Dixon, S. H. Holmes, W. B. Dennett, J. A. and J. H. Pickens, C. A. Reading and other families. Hardly a notable but had a military or judicial title.

The cereal acreage of the state has greatly decreased in recent years. The soil has yielded much greater profit when devoted to fruit, vine and forage, alfalfa giving from four to six cuttings. As far back as 1852, California has held first place for barley, North Dakota and Minnesota slightly exceeding it in 1915. Since 1901 the acreage has been upwards of one million. That of 1910 with 1,195,000 and a product of 36,000,000 bushels is the largest on record. In 1915 the estimated acreage was 1,360,000 and the acre average twenty-nine bushels. In wheat the production notably decreased between 1900 and 1910. The acreage in 1915 was 440,000 and the acre yield sixteen bushels, one less than in 1914 with 400,000 acres. Rice growing is comparatively new in the state. In 1915 the state's acreage was 32,110, with 3,135 in the San Joaquin Valley and Fresno leading with 1,120. The state's production was about 888,000 100-pound sacks, average return one dollar and eighty-five cents per hundred. The 1916 crop was almost double that of 1915 with more than 2,500,000 pounds harvested. Rice growing was started as late as four years ago on a comparatively large scale with

50,000 acres under cultivation in the state in 1916. The prospect is for a 100,000 acreage in 1917 of the "short kernel" variety of rice.

Passed, however, is the day when wheat may be hailed as the agricultural king in California with the grain grower as his prime minister. It is Charles Nordhoff in his remarkable little book, "California for Health, Pleasure and Residence," unquestionably the best, most truthful and oft quoted of practical works on the subject for travellers and settlers, who relates in connection with the phenomenal and rapid production with labor saving machinery in the field the incident that with combination steam header and thresher the grain in the field in the morning was in sacks and frequently at the shipping depot for steamship or car to market before night, or even carried to the mill to be returned to the ranch as flour, so that the laborer who helped harvest it in the morning bolted it down at supper time in the evening as hot yeast powder bread or saleratus biscuits. Nordhoff locates this story in Fresno, but leaves it to the imagination to conclude that the stunt was a performance on the Cole 10,000-acre grain ranch, which embraced the region about Clovis, named for the P. T. Barnum of "dry farmers." Cole is, by the way, engineering a steam thresher in his old days at a per diem.

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## CHAPTER XXX

VASQUEZ AND HIS ROBBER BAND IN THE LIMELIGHT FOCUS. MILLERTON IS GIVEN A GREAT SCARE. AUDACIOUS TWILIGHT ROBBERIES COMMITTED WITHIN A FEW MILES FROM THE COUNTY SEAT. MURIETA'S RETREAT IN A DEFILE OF THE COAST RANGE IN THE COUNTY IS THE HAVEN OF REFUGE AND THE STARTING POINT ON RAIDS. STATE IS TERRORIZED AND HALF A DOZEN SHERIFFS ARE KEPT BUSY IN THE PURSUIT. VASQUEZ THE MOST DARING RASCAL SINCE MURIETA'S DAY. HE IS HANGED AT SAN JOSE FOR A MURDER AT TRES PINOS.

Towards the close of the year 1873, and while warming up to the subject of county seat removal, Millerton was given a great scare by Tiburcio Vasquez and his robber gang. It was not groundless as were the periodical Indian uprising reports started on the occasion of every pow-wow by the excitable located remote from the settlements. A considerable portion of the state was likewise agitated and for the same long suffered reason.

The robber gang came as near to Millerton as Jones' store, three miles below, and at Bliss' ferry at Kingston, being driven off here by armed citizens and leaving one bandit dead on the field. Sheriff's posses pursuing the robbers were out several times, but never with any result. Vasquez and his gang had become such a terror that the sheriffs of a half a dozen counties were in pursuit, and the state had offered such a large reward for capture, dead or alive, that speculative bands of man hunters were tempted to go on the trail. Millerton so confidently expected a robber visit that as a precautionary measure the two mercantile establishments expressed out all their unused money.

In the history of California highwaymen, this Vasquez made a record for himself second only to Murieta for notoriety and achievements. Bancroft says that except "in skill of horsemanship and dexterity in catching and killing men," one was opposite to the other. Murieta was "of gentle blood, handsome, gay and chivalrous"; Vasquez, a "hybrid, half Indian, coarse, treacherous and brutish." His boyhood was "spent in taming wild horses, cutting flesh with bowie knives, and shooting, dancing the bolero and fandango, and betraying young damsels." Bancroft adds that he was "a



be-deviled Don Juan at love, for repulsive monster though he was the dear creatures could not help following him."

Vasquez had selected Cantua Canyon, a defile in the Coast Range, near the New Idria mine, as a retreat and a starting point for robber descents. This was generally known and his proximity made the Millertonians so fearful of a visit as to necessitate especial watchfulness—"preparedness" as it were. Vasquez ended his career on the gallows in the Santa Clara County jail on March 19, 1875, for one in a series of murders in the raid of the store at Tres Pinos in San Benito County on the evening of August 26, 1873. He was not apprehended until March 14, 1874, near Los Angeles. The near-home robberies that so agitated Millerton were at Jones' November 10, and at Kingston December 26, 1873.

The Jones' affair occurred early in the evening, when ten or a dozen were smoking or playing cards in the store. Front and rear doors opened and three men entered with drawn and cocked revolvers. The inmates were ordered to lie down and keep quiet. They obeyed and submitted to be bound. Smith Norris, the clerk, was forced to open the safe and it was cleaned out. The robbers helped themselves to clothing, firearms and each to a saddle. Their visit lasted nearly an hour and a half, and when they departed they left the bound victims prone on the floor.

The store was on the main stage road at the ferry, and no house near save the hotel in rear. Jones was there, but had no inkling of what had gone on. The robbed were: John E. Bogg, John Gilmore, Capt. E. P. Fisher, Smith Norris, Jack Hazlett, H. Kohlman, John Fuqua, Hugh Clark, Walter Brown, John Berry and Bob Trumbull. All were searched. The old Chinese cook, who lay near Fisher, unbound him and he in turn liberated the others. Fisher took the information to town, arriving about eight thirty o'clock, and Sheriff Ashman and posse set out in fruitless pursuit on the following morning, which was a Tuesday. Raid enriched the robbers in goods and money to the value of \$1,000.

For audacious daring, this exploit was surpassed in the little town of Kingston on the Kings River flowing along the southerly edge of the settlement and spanned by a bridge owned by O. H. Bliss. On the south side of the one street were two stores and a hotel, and fronting them to the north Bliss' bridge and stable. L. Reichert had the hotel. Stores were owned respectively by E. Jacob & Louis Einstein, and by S. Sweet. The robbers crossed the bridge on foot and encountering Bliss compelled him to lie down, tied his hands and feet and searched his person. He complained that his head was in an uncomfortable position, and a blanket was brought him for a pillow.

Next were halted John Potts, Pres Bozeman and Milt Brown near the stable yard gate. Bozeman and Potts laid down, but Brown objected and being marched to the hotel laid down there. Potts and Bozeman were searched and the last named yielded \$180. The road being clear, a guard was placed at each store. In the hotel saloon were ten or more, who were made to lie down, tied and relieved of watches and money, realizing \$100, besides Reichert's watch. In the dining room was Edward Douglass of Visalia, who would not lie down but being knocked down with a revolver lost money and watch. Launcelot Gilroy was at supper, when a bandit entered, whereupon Miss Reichert screamed and ran. Gilroy concluded he had insulted her, arose to his feet and gallantly floored the robber with a chair, but in turn was pounded with a pistol.

At Jacob & Einstein, Edward Erlanger, the clerk, instead of lying down, ran to Sweet's store and gave the alarm. Sweet thrust his head out of the door, was seized by the guard, shoved back and made to lie down and be tied. After Erlanger's exit, Einstein was asked for the safe key, but pleaded that the clerk had it. He was forcibly prevailed upon to produce another, and the safe yielded about \$800 cash. At Sweet's \$54 had been secured, when

the crack of a Henry rifle was heard, followed by another, and the guard sprang forward against the door, exclaiming, "I'm shot!" More shots followed and the robbers beat a hasty retreat across the bridge and scampered off on horses.

J. W. Sutherland and James E. Flood had learned what was going on and arming themselves arrived at the moment of the attack on Sweet's store. Flood armed with a revolver in which only one charge was left tried to head off the fugitives at the bridge, but failing gave them the parting shot. The robbers secured over \$2,500 in money and jewelry. They bound and robbed thirty-five individuals. Great excitement prevailed, a crowd collected, but nothing was done in pursuit that night. Next morning Sutherland and others found about four miles from Kingston a Mexican in the brush and he confessed that he was one of the party.

He told a story in effect that he was going to Kingston for clothes, was overtaken by the party, robbed of \$20 and then upon threat of death compelled to go on guard at the hotel. He disclaimed acquaintanceship with anyone in the party. Ignacio Ronquel, which proved to be the name of this fellow arrested near the California ranch, pleaded guilty before Judge Baley in February, saying he was "one of those fellows at Kingston," but he "did not go into the houses with the rest of them and attended the horses." He pleaded for mercy and it was meted out to him in ten years in the penitentiary.

Two weeks after the robbery, a party of Kingstonians satisfied that they could not have been such bad marksmen visited the California ranch and extorted information from an old Mexican suspected of knowing more of the late raid than he would volunteer to tell. He chose to remember that a Mexican named Ramona, a sheepherder, was killed in the affair and he pointed out his grave. The body was exhumed and one bull's eye was scored.

Not long after, the legislature appropriated \$15,000 as a reward for the pursuit and capture of Vasquez and his gang and so many were in the field spurred by the offer that undoubtedly some of these amateur man chasers themselves overstepped legal bounds by threatening innocent Mexicans. The consul of Mexico made protest from San Francisco and Sheriff Ashman received this caution:

Sacramento, Cal., January 20, 1874.

TO SHERIFF OF FRESNO COUNTY: I understand from the Mexican Consul that the Mexican settlers of Las Juntas and Rancho California, near Palo Blanco, are threatened with violence and their lives are in danger. You are required to protect them.

NEWTON BOOTH, Gov.

Twenty years or more elapsed between the bloody reigns of Murieta and Vasquez, though two decades also intervened between Vasquez's first and last murders. Tiburcio slew his first man at the age of fifteen and almost within the year after Joaquin's worldly exit.

Vasquez stole the wife of his most devoted follower, a cousin, but as Bancroft sarcastically pleads for him, "who could resist Vasquez, the adored of all, he who never sighed to senorita or senora in vain, the fleet of foot, the untiring dancer, the fearless rider, the bold brigand?" Vasquez was cunning, had always ready conviviality for his comrades, money for the needy, and a smile for everybody. His personal magnetism and influence over others are said to have been wonderful, and followers joined him because forsooth they could not resist him.

Vasquez was born at Monterey in 1835, of Indian and Mexican parentage, and was bold, cruel, alert and cautious. In 1859 he was a convicted horse stealer but escaped in June to be again convicted in August, his terms expiring in August 1863, when he walked forth free but not reformed. A third time was he convicted of cattle stealing in Sonoma in 1867 and he was immured at

San Quentin until June 1870. Before this in 1865, he was wounded in the arm in a pistol duel with a Mount Diablo farmer with whose daughter he had eloped. In the autumn following his last penitentiary release, he and associates overran Santa Clara, Monterey, Fresno and Alameda counties, robbing stage passengers, plundering ranchos and running off horses in swift and startling succession. One associate was shot dead in a hand to hand battle with Sheriff Morse of Alameda, the others skedaddled to Mexico but shortly returned to San Francisco, where a new combination was formed and Cantua Canyon was selected as a retreat and refuge. It was once the favorite camp and shelter of Murieta.

In the hills here, Vasquez was comparatively safe. White settlers were few, and the native Californians almost to a man aided and befriended him, largely through fear. He was known to have appeared openly at the New Idria mine on various occasions. The law-abiding were prevented from doing anything towards bringing him to justice, fearing the consequences. It is probable that the Mexicans there would have resisted any attempt at an arrest. One superintendent permitted Vasquez from motives of policy to come to the mine as long as he committed no depredation there and Vasquez never did trouble the miners or cast covetous eye on their horses. Several attempts at capture were made by Sheriff Adams of Santa Clara, but on every occasion and in spite of disguise and the utmost secrecy, so Vasquez stated, he was apprised of Adams' movements and designs before half the journey was made.

The robber band halted the Visalia-Gilroy stage near San Felipe, robbed passengers, tied them, laid them on their backs in the field to face the sun for hours and drove the stage around a hill point out of view of travellers. They held up three or four teamsters en route to Hollister and later on the same day Vasquez alone robbed Thomas McMahon, later a Hollister leading merchant, of \$750 in gold. These successive outrages stirred up the country and a Santa Cruz constable following on Vasquez's trail overtook him and in the fight both were severely wounded. Vasquez rode sixty miles to his hiding place in Cantua and arrived almost dead from loss of blood.

Weary of small game, the project was conceived of robbing a railway pay car between Gilroy and San Jose. Too slow however in the work of tearing up the track, the pay car train came ten minutes ahead of time and they scattered. At Tres Pinos, while the brigands ransacked Andrew Snyder's store, Vasquez held "a bloody carnival outside" as watch. Among the slain Leander Davidson was shot in the heart with a bullet that pierced the door that he was closing and which the wife had opened to see what all the shooting outside meant. After the murderous raid in which Vasquez was such a conspicuous cold-blooded figure, seven horses were commandeered out of the stable and the gang hurried to its Cantua retreat.

Half a dozen sheriffs and their posses camped on the trail of Vasquez, and as a result of a plan for his capture he was surprised unarmed at the dinner table of a friend near Los Angeles. Leaping through a back window, he rushed for his horse but was struck by rifle ball after rifle ball, whereupon he threw up hands, faced his captors with blood streaming from wounds and surrendering said: "Boys, you have done well. I have been a damned fool!"

The capture, which was hailed with delight and joy the state over, was preceded by a series of bold robberies. His penny-a-liner biographer records that he was "betrayed for coin." May be so. Not until after he had partially recovered from his eight wounds was he transferred to San Jose's jail as Hollister afforded no secure guarding place. While the notorious bandit was in jail in San Jose, thousands visited him. He usually sat in a chair and with a smile gave all courteous reception, apparently taking delight in his position. His vanity was inordinate and whenever a young woman (half the visitors were of the weaker sex) would approach he appeared as pleased as a monkey

at the present of a tin trumpet. He evidently regarded himself as a hero and from the false sympathy received from a portion of the other sex it is no wonder that his head was slightly turned.

He was tried in January 1875 for Hotelman Davidson's murder, the decision on appeal being rendered about two weeks before the day for the execution. The day before, he asked to see the coffin and measured it with hands to satisfy himself that it would fit in length. Sheriff W. R. Rowland of Los Angeles received in June 1874 the state reward for the capture of "the most daring rascal since Joaquin Murieta's time."

## CHAPTER XXXI

WATER FOR IRRIGATION AND THE ADVENT OF THE RAILROAD TWO POWERFUL AGENCIES IN THE UPBUILDING OF CITY AND COUNTY. SYCAMORE AS A PROJECTED RIVAL TOWN TO THE NEW COUNTY SEAT. FAILURE OF A GIGANTIC IRRIGATION PROJECT. RAILROAD EXACTED TRIBUTE FROM FARMER AND TOWNS. LELAND STANFORD'S PROPHECIES. FRESNO GIVEN ALL ENCOURAGEMENT BY RAILROAD BUILDERS. SYCAMORE PASSES OUT OF RECOLLECTION. HISTORIC TRANSACTION GIVING RISE TO THE FAMILIAR HARRIS LAND TITLE. RAILROAD COMES IN FOR FRESNO TOWNSITE.

But for the assurance of bringing water for irrigation on the plains and to the townsite, Fresno might not have been encouraged when and where it was. The water and the railroad came practically together. This fact should not be overlooked in a consideration of the first days of Fresno City.

Previous to 1866, there had been no notable appropriation or diversion of water from the Kings River, the stream which furnishes the major portion of the irrigation water of the county. The railroad that headed this way was the Stockton and Visalia division of the Central Pacific Railway, branching off at Lathrop on the most direct and straight line through the valley counties.

Give ear to the doleful tales of early and later pioneers and one cannot imagine a more inhospitable spot on desert plain for the location of a community or townsite. A "growing village" was a description of Fresno as late as 1881. On this barren plain, every want of man "from a pin to a gang plow had to be provided," as has been said. Every supply to the commonest necessary of life had to be transported from Stockton by freight train. In its infant days, Fresno was a railroad fostered town. Along the line, new towns sprang up to transform in the course of time the general character of the country and establish new lines of industry. The process was a tediously slow one, but the transformation came about in time.

The practice of the railroad was in connection with these new towns to sell off at public auction a given number of choice lots as a settlement nucleus. In the case of Fresno, no buyers rushed forward for lots at this "desolate and forlorn looking station," and the company magnanimously permitted new comers to squat on the lots and improve them with the understanding that they would pay for them if they concluded eventually to locate permanently. It was anything to give the new town a start and a beginning. There were however influences as potent as the bringing of water to the plains and the advent of the railroad working for the location on the desert plain of the great interior valley. The railroad, it may be conceded, had not contemplated a town, possibly nothing more ambitious than a station, where Fresno stands.

The fact is the Central Pacific had no generous government land grants through the valley, and therefore it was a beggar for land for townsites. It probably did not seriously consider planting a rival so close to its own town

of Sycamore, afterward named Herndon for an humble Irish section-boss, on the south bank of the San Joaquin. Watson's Ferry, eight miles above Firebaugh on Fresno Slough, was the head of steamboat traffic on the San Joaquin in the days before irrigation, when the river was used for navigation. Small steamboats and light craft ascended as far as Sycamore, and there are rare old maps that mark the head of river navigation as at that point. Sycamore Station was a railroad creation and location of the year 1872, and it was deemed of sufficient importance to warrant a postoffice in September of that year with Charles A. Strivens as postmaster, the postoffice officially known as Palo Blanco. It was an important ferry crossing point for that section. Along in 1881 a new ferry scow was put on, sixty-five feet long by seventeen in width, described as "a better and more substantial affair than the old one."

The railroad laid out a town there, and it was thought that it would have a future with the completion of the big irrigation ditch out of the San Joaquin, abandoned in the end notwithstanding the fortune spent on it. It was at this point that the railroad bridged the river originally. Sycamore was for a time a divisional construction point, and a spur track was placed along the south bank to take out tons and tons of gravel for the ballasting of the road from Lathrop. It had been ballasted largely with sand and gravel brought from as far as Auburn in Placer County. The irrigation project referred to must not be confounded with the Herndon Ditch as known at this date, but was the Herndon Canal. Evidences of it may be seen in the ditch along Big Dry Creek and the river bluff on the south side, and the dam remnants in the river.

It was a conception of the Upper San Joaquin Irrigation Company, and report has it that nearly three million dollars were sunk to demonstrate its impracticability. This project undertaken in 1880-82 was the largest and most ambitious irrigation plan attempted up to then in the county to divert from the river about four miles below old Millerton by means of a rock dam across the channel. It was designed to water 250,000 acres lying west of the railroad. The dam was 800 feet long, calculated to raise the water in the channel six feet, canal to be twenty-five miles long and where crossing the railroad on the plains to be about twelve feet above the river bed. It proved a failure, because on account of the nature of the soil the ditch banks would not hold the water, and moreover the river dam was washed out several times by freshets so that the raise of water in the basin was never attained.

The Bank of California, which was heavily interested in the project for the marketing of its western plains lands in the territory now covered by Kerman, Barstow Colony and the agricultural neighborhood, completed the canal at a dead loss as the sequel proved. The canal was an engineering and construction failure. The original plan was to tap the stream at the rocky gorge below Millerton, where the Jenny Lind bridge bought by the county in February for \$9,000, spanned the river for a generation, carry it through the rocky bluff tunnel and thus make the level of the plains. The cost of tunnelling estimated at about one million was deemed too high, and this plan was rejected for the one that was attempted to be put through and to make the level by running the canal along the bluff. Herein lay the weak feature, for the north side of the canal scooped out of the bluff would not stand. The water seeped into the loose soil and breaches many followed, letting out all the water. Repairs were made until patience was exhausted, and at best, when completed, the water could not be carried down more than five or seven miles. The project could have been saved by cementing the canal, but this meant another great outlay and Portland cement in those days was a costly import. Perhaps the bank concluded that to sink more money into the venture was throwing good coin after the bad and the undertaking was given up.

Activities centered at Sycamore, where the railroad had four sections of

land, were sufficient to warrant the generally entertained belief that here it had resolved to build a town. Rival townsites were located by speculators, but nothing more tangible ever came of them save the platted maps recorded as reminders of the unrealized hopes of their projectors. So great were the expectations based on Sycamore that it is pathetic to look over in the county recorder's office the ponderous volume of 1,054 printed pages intended to record as many sales deeds by H. Deas as the agent and factotum of the high sounding Central California Land and Immigration Company. A book of printed deeds must needs be furnished to save the time and labor of copying work. It records twenty-two deeds to as many individuals of actual lot sales made in 1879.

With the prospect of a railroad after all the years of preparatory agitation, a few men had become the owners of liberal chunks of government scrip. They filed it on the best located plains tracts, also in the foothills and a speculation in Fresno lands opened. In this speculative field entered an association composed largely of wealthy Germans in San Francisco under the name of the San Joaquin Valley Land Association. It bought from William S. Chapman, whose ownership embraced 80,000 acres, as it had done also from others. A. Y. Easterby of Napa, later intimately associated with Moses J. Church, "the Father of Irrigation," as he has been called, in 1871 had contracted to cultivate 2,000 acres of the Easterby Rancho to wheat, Church to bring the water for irrigation from the Kings River. Every one awaited with anxiety the outcome of the Easterby wheat experiment.

The association was probably not the lever that moved the railroad magnates to favor the site of the future Fresno City, but its members were, and they were the medium through which an arrangement was made for a gift or a sale to the railroad of land including the townsite. The Fresno Canal and Irrigation Company had also become a verity and all things considered there is probably color of truth for the story that when the canal had been extended to the ranch, not more than three miles from the townsite, the railroad people consulted with the canal projectors and were given the assurance that the plains at and around the town would and could be brought under water for irrigation.

The railroad was not a philanthropic movement. Indeed it is history that it demanded and exacted tribute from farmer as well as town in rights of way or subsidies and meted out punishment when the demands were not accorded. Stockton, which because of its location and at the head of water transportation could afford to assume an independent attitude, was threatened with a day when the grass would grow in its streets, and Lathrop was founded in opposition. Goshen was placed on the map as a train change station, because Visalia did not comply with the demand made upon it, and Sumner (East Bakersfield) was made a divisional point to spite Bakersfield for the same reason. With Fresno, the railroad was friendly and gave it encouragement. Leland Stanford paid a visit in November, 1871, en route to Visalia and took a long distance view of conditions. It may have been on that occasion, according to the old story, that he uttered the confident prediction so many times quoted since that Fresno would be some day the best town on the railroad between Stockton and Los Angeles. If he ever made the prediction, it has been long verified.

Be that as it may, the visit had undoubted beneficial results. Easterby was earnestly progressing with his 2,000-acre wheat venture, the irrigation canal map had been recorded on June 9, 1871, and the Centerville ditch brought in in September. Stanford and accompanying officials were driven to the rancho to look over the situation, and there is another handed down story that as he stood on the later site of the station depot he indulged in another prophecy when he remarked to the Reception Committee: "Gentlemen, this town can never go bankrupt with a fund like that to draw on." He alluded to the waters of the two rivers and the melting snows of the



Sierras that fed them. He was prescient in beholding in his mind's eye Fresno City as the great shipping point for a rich agricultural district.

At the rancho the sprouting grain was beheld—a veritable oasis in the desert—and they regarded it as a revelation, being, as they asserted, the first green spot that they had set eyes upon since leaving Stockton. "Here," said Stanford, "we must locate the town." The San Joaquin Valley Land Association later did arrange for the sale on easy terms of the townsite, and in December, 1875, the Contract and Finance Company deeded as recorded to Charles Crocker 4,480 acres including the townsite of Fresno, excepting only the lots that had been before then sold and conveyed.

Incidentally may be recalled the fact that the division never was pushed to Visalia, oldest and most important town in the valley, as old as 1852. Visalia was not so accommodating or compliant as Fresno. It ignored the demand for a 160-acre townsite donation. The railroad switched off on its projected line that was to come southward via Pacheco Pass and the West Side of Fresno and made its terminus at Tres Pinos in San Benito County. A switch off on the valley division was made to Goshen on the Tulare alkali waste, which like the famous mythical Shelbyville in Fresno County was simply a point on the railroad map.

Visalia secured railroad connection with the main line at Goshen by private enterprise, but eventually the main line swallowed it up when the San Joaquin Valley Railroad came through. Instead of the terminal at Visalia as contemplated, the division road was run due west via Hanford to Huron, then "a desolate waste" as was Fresno, given over to sheep grazing on the wild grasses and in later years to "dry farming."

Visalia had its revenge though, for in the construction of its line from Goshen to Tipton the railroad laid steel rails imported from Germany and shipped around the Horn, in violation of its grants conditioning that only American steel be used in rail laying. The Visalians exploited this departure, and not to jeopardize its land grants the German rails were torn up and the home made article substituted.

The Fresno land transaction referred to was such an important one from the historical standpoint, though overlooked by reviewers, as to merit more than simple mention. The bigness of the deal, the acreage involved and the amount of money covered by the trust deed, combined to make it such, aside from the influence it had in the development of county and city. The transaction is covered by a deed of August 4, 1868, from William S. Chapman to Clinton Gurnee recorded September 1, 1868, to centralize sales, followed by a deed of trust from Gurnee to Chapman, Edmund Jansen and Frederick Roeding for themselves and other purchasers, the magnitude of the transfer being evidenced by the fact that to this instrument war tax stamps of the value of \$87.50 are attached. Chapman is described as having "entered the land described," and the consideration stated is \$83,700. The total acreage covered by the trust deed to facilitate sales was 79,921 and the conveyances as to acreage:

Chapman 31,421, Jansen, Roeding, Isaac Friedlander 5,000 each; Christian H. Voigt, Charles Baum, William Scholle and George H. Eggers 2,500 each; Edward Michelsen, Frederic Putzman, Henry Schmiedell, William Kroning, Rudolph, Hochkofler, Gottlieb Muecke, Francis Locan, Thomas Basse and Albert L. Wangenheim, 2,000 each; Henry Balzar, Frederick During and Charles Adler, 1,000 each.

Then there were individual deed transfers by Chapman. Later complications arose when landowners began to sell among themselves or to others and subdivided their original acreage. In October, 1871, Gurnee deeded back to Chapman with covenant to pay all assessments due the Fresno Canal and Irrigation Company, and Chapman made deed under date of February 28, 1873, to George Harris, bookkeeper for Francis Locan, for whom the Locan vineyard was named, and who was then a vineyardist in Napa

County. The new deeds for the land all around Fresno and beyond were made to the individuals by Harris and the "Harris title" is as familiar in every title abstract office in the county as the A B C.

As the result of this transaction, a great tract of long neglected land came into various uses, in its development and improvement new blood was injected into the life pulse of the county, even though few of the large buyers became actual settlers on this land bought for \$1.50 to \$2.50 an acre. Still the changes in ownership and the improvement of the favored spots served to bring to public notice as no agency had before the so-called arid lands surrounding Fresno.

The eastern boundary of the township in which the city is embraced was surveyed by Alexis W. von Schmidt, and the other township lines by J. D. Jenkins in 1853, and the section lines in 1854 by James G. McDonald. Von Schmidt was a pioneer land surveyor and civil engineer. He was for several terms president of the Society of California Pioneers and the family became in later years Fresno County land owners. His greatest civil engineering achievement was the blowing up in San Francisco harbor of Blossom Rock, which in the main channel of navigation was such a menace that the government decided upon its removal, a successful piece of work that was made as much of at the time as the much later blowing up of Hell Gate in East River channel, New York City.

## CHAPTER XXXII

IRRIGATION AND ITS GRADUAL DEVELOPMENT. M. J. CHURCH REMEMBERED AFTER HIS DEATH IN A BEQUEST. FIRST FARM DEMONSTRATIONS WITH WATER APPLIED. EASTERBY MAKES A SUCCESS OF WHEAT FARMING. CHURCH CHAMPIONS IRRIGATION AND DEVELOPS IT DESPITE THE MOST IMPLACABLE HOSTILITIES. HIS LIFE IS PLOTTED AGAINST. SYSTEMS OF THE COUNTY AND ITS WATER POSSIBILITIES. A MARVELOUS TRANSFORMATION COMES ABOUT IN THE FIRST DECADE. WATER IS NOWHERE CHEAPER OR MORE PLENTIFUL THAN IN THIS COUNTY.

"I give, devise, and bequeath to my executors in trust the sum of five hundred dollars (\$500); with which such moneys I direct such executors to erect over the grave of my friend, M. J. Church, a suitable, substantial, square granite monument, with the inscription thereupon, 'From F. G. Berry, a friend who appreciated his worth.' I make this bequest for the reason only that I consider that of all other men who have wielded an influence for Fresno County, which has been my home for so many years, my friend, M. J. Church, by the development of the present irrigation system deserves more than any other this recognition at my hands."

The quoted bequest is from the probated will of August 25, 1909, made by Fulton G. Berry, whom death summoned on April 9, 1910. The trust has been fulfilled. The monument is of Fresno granite from the mountain quarry above Academy. Church long preceded Berry to the grave. Both are interred here in Mountain View Cemetery.

The language of the bequest fairly states the claim for recognition due M. J. Church, popularly acclaimed to have been "the Father of Irrigation in Fresno County." It is not the purpose to detract in the slightest from the credit that is due him for his achievement! Truthful history must, however, record facts as they are. It is true that the life work of M. J. Church was rounded out in Fresno in all its amplitude; that the result was startling in effect and that mankind was the beneficiary. But this is not to say that it was he that conceived the thought that irrigation would convert the arid

region into fertile fields, though he undoubtedly appreciated the fact after the more than satisfactory demonstrations. Nor was he the first irrigator, though he was the first to make a successful application of the idea on a scale more ambitious than an experiment. In the notable first demonstrations, he had the financial and moral cooperation and incitement of Easterby as shown in a previous chapter.

Thereafter and in consequence, he became the foremost champion of irrigation, and through his efforts as the executive head and front of the movement he developed what is the present irrigation system. In the long and exasperating conflict, he was beset by obstacles that would have driven the ordinary mortal from the field disgusted and vanquished by the unappreciativeness of his fellow men. Having aroused the implacable animosity of the alarmed stockmen by reason of his leadership in the No-fence law agitation and application of the theory of irrigation in connection with grain farming, he literally carried his life in his hands in the work. Three plots against it were confessed to him in warning, and yet he persisted, and bore as a martyr with set and unbending purpose

" . . . the whips and scorns of time,  
The oppressor's wrong, the proud man's contumely,  
. . . the law's delay,  
The insolence of office and the spurns  
That patient merit of the unworthy takes."

The previous chapter has treated of the Easterby-Church-McBride grain growing experiment in the Millerton foothills in 1869-70. The next experiment was in 1871-72 with Easterby as the irrigation projector and Church as the active coadjutor and later developer of it. Two thousand acres of the rancho were sown to wheat. Easterby engaged for the venture Charles M. Lohse, an experienced farmer from Concord in Contra Costa County. Before his coming, Church and son had by September, 1871, flooded three sections with aid of two ditches, Church having been engaged at \$100 a month to superintend the getting of water. By February, 1872, the wheat was all in, in May the land was fenced, and in August and September 20,000 sacks of wheat were shipped as the crop.

### FIRST EFFORTS AT IRRIGATION

Irrigation had made a start even before this venture was conceived. In October, 1871, Easterby bought for \$1,800 the Sweem mill ditch at Centerville, newly started but about to be sold under an attachment for debt. It was then that Church was engaged to run the water to the ranch and used the bed of Fancher Creek as the part channel medium. J. B. Sweem had recorded notice in August, 1869, of his water diversion from the Kings just below the existing Centerville Canal.

In the summer of 1866 Anderson Akers and S. S. Hyde had a four-foot wide and two-foot deep ditch taking water from the river below William Hazelton's farm to theirs on the west side of the river, and they continued its use for two years when they sold the water right to the Centerville Canal and Irrigation Company. The latter was in existence under an incorporation of August 9, 1868, and by a twenty-four-foot widened and four-foot deepened ditch ran considerable water to the farms about Centerville. Church recorded intention in July, 1870, to appropriate 3,000 feet of water, but to convey it to the ranch the Centerville ditch had to be crossed. The owners objected and so Easterby was constrained to buy it in May, 1871, and thus the water was secured from the Kings.

To Lohse is due the credit of being the first large grain grower, not alone in the county but in the valley, and his success with wheat stimulated the entire region. The long anticipated railroad was in Fresno by April 19,

1872, and others followed Easterby's example notably Frank Easterby, Antonio Day, George Boggs, Robert Brownlee and presumably others. Easterby pioneered also with cotton and shipped two bales to Manchester. The high cost of labor for picking made the venture prohibitive. Rice, ramie and flax did well. Tobacco was grown and being made into cigars in San Francisco he was offered a dollar a pound for his Havana leaf. The success with wheat suggested a larger appropriation of water for enlarged activities, and Chambers' Slough was chosen as the most available and accessible channel.

Appropriation notice was nailed on a tree and a copy filed with the county clerk on May 16, 1872. Contract followed for a headgate excavation below the river level to avoid the necessity of a dam, and the channel cutting and clearing of it of boulders between gate and river was completed in the fall. In 1873 he further contracted with farmers at Kingsburg to excavate a mile cut below Chambers' headgate, the consideration being twenty-four cubic feet of water delivered at Lone Tree channel, the farmers digging their own two ditch branches towards Kingsburg. Conveyance was made in 1874, and the main canal was meanwhile enlarged and by 1876 extended through Easterby rancho and west through Central Colony to land in T. 15 S., R. 19 E.

Thus much for the first efforts at irrigation on any scale. The Fresno Canal and Irrigation Company, whose maingate was completed in 1872 and parent organization of the present system, was organized by M. J. Church with Easterby, F. Roeding and W. S. Chapman as associates. No one man has contributed a more important or integral chapter to the industrial history of the county than has M. J. Church, or as the bequest stated wielded a greater beneficial influence for the county than he. He cannot be robbed of this due.

It was in 1868 that he came to Fresno with a thirteen-year-old son from Napa and a band of 2,000 sheep in search of pasturage, after selling out his business as a wheelwright and farrier. He located here on government land, three miles northeast of Centerville, intending to make a home, and in preparation erected cabin and corral. At once the stockmen began to harry him. Hostile demonstration preceded denunciation as a trespasser with warning to move off. The moving spirit in this inhospitable reception was one "Yank" Hazelton. Upon a second demonstration with accompanying covert threats, he was given a definite time when to make his departure, and in his absence to accelerate his leave taking cabin and corral were torn down, the horses turned loose after having had the hobbles removed and the winter's supply of provisions and the wheat seed eaten up by a driven in band of hogs. One month later, he took up with Easterby in the history accelerating demonstration of the necessity of irrigation to produce the fullest crops.

The subject of irrigation now fully possessed him. He made survey and ascertained that by connecting the dry channel of Fancher Creek with the Kings about 1,000 feet of water could be conveyed on the plains sixteen miles to Easterby's located four sections. He secured appointment as a deputy land agent to locate settlers as well for neighbors as protectors against the cattlemen, recruiting among friends and acquaintances over 200 such settlers. Selling his sheep, he gave himself up wholly to his newly found task and prosecuted the work of channel digging with the contracted for labor aid of the new comers. All along the line of the canal and of Fancher Creek wheat crops were put in, this alternating canal and field work arousing only the more the hostility and ire of the stockmen, who drove in their herds at night to eat up the young wheat and so dishearten the settlers and force them to pack up and leave.

Easterby and Church were personally assaulted at Centerville by William Caldwell to bring on a conflict or show of arms as a pretext for

a shooting in self defense and thus end the irritating twin irrigation and settlement projects. The insults were borne with, but a money and water right compromise of the disputed right of way was arranged by Easterby. Work on the canal progressed with two feeders out of the river, joining about a mile and a half on the plains, the canal 100 feet wide and six deep to Fancher Creek. The demonstration of the value of the plains soil when irrigation was applied proved successful.

The No-fence law agitation was on now. The farmers were powerless as yet because outnumbered at the polls. They put in a second crop and trouble was experienced with the headgates of the feeders of the canal. A large opening into the river was made at another point, but of same size as the canal with a dam across the stream, and a strong headgate and supply ditches were opened from the main canal.

### CHURCH'S LIFE PLOTTED AGAINST

Consternation had seized the men of cattle and sheep. The railroad was taking practical shape and upon Church fell all the animosity for his activity in fostering irrigation and wheat farming, the herding legislation and the projected railroad. Three plots to take his life were divulged to him by two members of the conspiracy, neither knowing of the other's confession. Their story agreed that William Glenn of Centerville was to shoot him down in Jacob's store after spitting tobacco juice into his eye in provocation. Church having been forewarned evaded by a stratagem a meeting with Glenn. On another occasion sand was flung into his face, a blow on nose and in face drew blood and he was viciously kicked at to hasten his exit from the store, followed by Dutch-couraged armed ruffians but escaped to the headgate camp for the protection of the laboring men who took up arms to repel any assault.

Experiences such as these marked the progress of the development of irrigation, but it had no deterring effect on the man, nor on the settling of the country under the impulse of the No-fence law, the coming of the iron horse and the extension of the branch canals to the new farms. By the year 1876, M. J. Church had also for himself developed a valuable property and secured a competency. Riparian right claimants harassed him sorely with suits, asserting first right to the water for stock, and he defended more than 200 such actions. He was quoted as saying that "the cost of defending these numerous trumped up suits has by far exceeded the entire expense of constructing all the canals." During this long continued legal warfare, the work on the main and lateral canals and the distributing ditches did not cease. One thousand miles was their aggregate length, when in 1886 sale was made of a controlling interest in the canal property to Dr. E. B. Perrin with whom were associated the seller, Robert Perrin, T. De Witt Cuyler and W. H. Ingels. In the end, the property passed into the hands of British capital which is now in ownership.

Church, very naturally, became largely interested in land operations. In 1875 he placed on the market the Church Colony of a full section; in 1883 he took over the Bank of California tract of eleven sections, irrigated, subdivided and sold off in small farms; the Houghton tract, also of eleven sections, in which he had a third interest was also brought under irrigation; likewise Fresno Colony for which he received a half interest. Besides; he erected in 1878 and conducted for five years the Champion grist mill at N and Fresno Streets, an enterprise that in later years was enlarged and is now one in the chain of Sperry's flour mills. He it was that fostered the organization of the Adventists' Church, donating land and making deed of gift of the auditorium building. He also made donation of five acres for a public cemetery, making it possible for every church and lodge that chose to provide itself with a burial plot. Politically, he was one of the handful

that organized the first Republican County Committee, and he was the first delegate sent from this county to a state Republican convention.

As regards his irrigation work, it may be said that the system in practice here is substantially the same in detail as his pioneer plan and that his ideas have been followed in the other large similar undertakings of later date. Never but once did he have to pay for right of way, and that was through 160 acres when he first tapped the Kings. Even in that bit of sharp practice, he evaded in large part by condemnation proceedings.

The channel of the San Joaquin is at places from seventy-five to 200 feet below the level of the flanking rolling lands, hence making it more difficult to draw water from it for irrigation. The Kings rises as high in the Sierras, drains a great area in its passage to the plains, is not navigable and has no tributaries. Its drainage area is 1,855 square miles. Its general course is in a southwest direction with few abrupt turns. From foothills to Tulare Lake, sixty-two miles, it has as a perennial tributary Wahtoke Creek only. As with all Sierra headed streams, it has two annual high water periods. The first, usually in December and continuing through January, is caused by the winter rains. The other begins late in May after the rains, and continues through June and part of July, caused by the melting of the snow and is of longer duration than the winter rise. After this the stream falls to the low water stage. The time when water is in greatest demand is fortunately during the high water periods. The estimate has been made that the Kings pours into the valley from January to July sufficient water to irrigate more than a million acres.

The largest part of the irrigated land of the state lies in the southern portion of the Sacramento and the San Joaquin Valleys and in the northern section of California. In twenty-four of the fifty-eight counties of the state more than one-half of the farms are irrigated. Imperial leads with ninety-four and six-tenths percent. of farms irrigated, and Inyo comes next with ninety-three and two-tenths. In 1900 and 1910 Fresno reported the largest irrigated area, 283,737 and 402,318 respectively. Tulare irrigated 265,404 acres in 1910 and five other counties each exceeded 100,000. Existing enterprises in 1910 were preparing to supply water to irrigate 3,619,378 acres, or 955,274 more than were watered the year before. The acreage included in projects exceeded by 2,826,256 acres the 1909 irrigated acreage, or more than twice the acreage brought under water in the decade.

### IRRIGATION ENTERPRISES

California irrigation enterprises—federal and state—cover 2,664,104 acres—the public districts 173,793, the cooperative 770,020, the commercial 746,265 and the individual or partnership 961,136. In California, wells supply much more land with water than in any other state. Of the total 2,664,104 acres irrigated 350,723 were from wells—2,361 flowing wells irrigating 74,218 acres. The majority of these are in southern California and in the San Joaquin Valley. The 10,724 wells irrigated 276,505 acres in two groups of counties. The cost of irrigation enterprises, including only construction of works and acquisition of rights, is reported to have been:

Year.	Total.	Acre Average.
1900 .....	\$19,181,610	13.27
1910 .....	72,580,030	20.05

Of the irrigated orchard fruits, Fresno has 31.9 percent. of the irrigated crop acreage of the state, and of grapes 62.6. Of the total irrigated acreage of fruit trees and vines not bearing in 1909 (50,031), Fresno had 36.1 percent. The state had 88,197 farms in 1910 against 72,542 in 1900; irrigated 39,352 against 25,675; respective percentage increases 21.6 and 53.3.

The only irrigation district in the county operating under the Wright act of 1887 (amended in 1897) is the Alta of Reedley and operating in Fresno,



Tulare and Kings Counties. The district covers 130,000 acres extending from the east and south bank of the Kings to the Sierra foothills. It was organized in July, 1888, and the 1876 canal system was bought to supply the water. It did not have an early right on the Kings. Water is cut off annually in July, but is turned on again in October and November by agreement with the earlier appropriators. About 80,000 acres are irrigated, principally around Reedley and Dinuba. Of commercial systems there are three. The Fresno and Consolidated, are two, which though kept separate are operated by the same investors. They cover practically all the irrigated lands in the county. Their points of diversion are on the west bank of the Kings and close to where it enters upon the plains. The Consolidated includes the Fowler Switch, and Centerville and Kingsburg Canals, besides a majority of the Emigrant Canal, the latter diverting on the lower Kings, six miles west of Kingsburg, to irrigate Laguna de Tache rancho lands, and all British capitalized enterprises. The Consolidated has later priorities on the river with flow cut off for a time in August so that its rights are not as valuable as the Fresno's. For maintenance of canals, the Fresno makes an annual charge of sixty-two and one-half cents and the Consolidated of seventy-five cents per acre. No measurements are made to users, but each irrigator takes what he needs according to the water rights held. Considering its area, the district is the most highly developed in the state.

The San Joaquin and Kings River Canal and Irrigation Company diverts from the west bank of the San Joaquin, north of the town of Mendota. It is the oldest canal in the county, organized in February, 1871. The country tributary to it extends for seventy miles along the west bank of the stream in Fresno, Merced and Stanislaus Counties. Miller & Lux, who are the owners, have riparian rights on the river, and their own lands are largely included in the system. About 340,000 acres are irrigable from this system, though only about one-third is served, of which 40,000 are in private ownership, purchasing water from the company. No water rights are sold. The lands under this system include a large area of swamp and overflow.

Central California has 9,665,000 acres in irrigation zones fit for agriculture, 1,959,000 irrigated and 4,300,000 ultimately to be. The San Joaquin Valley has 6,530,000 acres of agricultural land, 1,046,000 of them plains and 1,728,975 irrigated. Fresno County had at the last census 6,245 farms (exceeded by only one other California county), 5,310 irrigated (no other county had so many), 402,318 acres irrigated, 560,326 susceptible of irrigation and 633,652 embraced in projects. Cost of enterprises up to July, 1910, was \$1,898,460; average acre cost of capable irrigation \$3.39. Main ditches numbered 254 of 831 miles; laterals 688 of 1,354 miles; three flowing and 855 pumped wells.

Water users in the Fresno district of the irrigation zone pay less than in any other district in the state—five dollars for water right location and in most cases sixty-two and one-half cents for water delivery per acre. In this district there are approximately 242,000 acres and 202,000 under water rights. The irrigation companies have 258 miles of canals and their property valuations including water rights are placed at \$4,805,382 on which an option of \$1,500,000 was offered on its valuation appraisement, in a tentative popular district project to take over the consolidated system on expiration of the franchise. The franchise of the principal company will expire by limitation in 1925 and looking to the future a great project is under way, known as the Pine Flat reservoir, the magnitude of which rivals the Roosevelt dam. It involves a \$9,000,000 reservoir located on the Kings River with the dam twenty-five miles from the city. The horseshoe wall 300 feet high, making an impounded body of water 600,000-acre feet in all, fourteen miles long and averaging one-half to two miles in width.

The project contemplates irrigating in Fresno, Kings and Tulare Counties 600,000 acres and developing power to irrigate 400,000 more by pumping,

besides reclaiming alkali land and making it all productive. This gigantic undertaking is one of the largest construction enterprises ever contemplated in the state. One report is that in the event of its construction the Sanger Lumber Company would move its mills to the head of the reservoir from Hume. It is also stated that the construction of the reservoir will result in time in the cementing of all district canals.

The Madera Irrigation District covering lands in that county and in Fresno also is another great surplus water impounding enterprise, involving construction of an immense dam on the San Joaquin. It has passed the organization stage. When its great lake in the gorge of the river is a fact, no more the village site of Millerton and its last relic in the old courthouse and no more the Fort Miller site with its old buildings will be on the surface of the earth. This region about which centers so much of Fresno's earliest history will be submerged hundreds of feet.

The transformation that irrigation wrought in Fresno County was truly marvelous, placing it in its leading position as an irrigation, horticultural and viticultural region. Nordhoff wrote his book, already referred to, after a first visit to California in 1872. He revised it nine years later upon a second visit and he draws the contrast. He records "such great and often startling effects" were produced during the interim by the introduced new cultures and methods that while all that he had foretold had been realized and more too, great tracts, which had the appearance of sterile desert in 1872, were literally "blossoming as the rose." He observed that "the extension of irrigation has not merely enabled farmers to plant and sow where nine years before sheep found only a scanty living, but in the mild climate of California trees and shrubs have grown so rapidly that to his amazement he beheld many places, which on his first visit were bare and apparently sterile plains, presenting then the appearance already of old settled farming tracts," besides "prosperous homes and farmsteads where nine and eight years before he drove or rode fifty or 100 miles without seeing a tree or house."

Such is the transformation brought about by water, as portrayed by one who beheld the "before and after." There is a material side shown in figures which was as remarkable as it was rapid in the development and settling up of the county on a permanent basis. A few figures of the first decade covering this fourth era in the county ushered in about 1880 will suffice:

#### Acres Assessed

1880 .....	1,631,972
1885 .....	1,803,331
1890 .....	2,108,668

#### Value of Property

1880 .....	\$ 6,028,960
1885 .....	14,430,487
1890 .....	35,600,640

#### Assessed Taxes

1880 .....	\$ 120,865.60
1885 .....	245,318.28
1890 .....	469,081.28

What is the measure of due of those, who boldly pioneered and patiently developed and worked out the experimental ideas with and growing out of irrigation, if the gratitude of a world is owing him "who makes two blades of grass grow where one grew before"?

## CHAPTER XXXIII

FRESNO IS THE CENTER OF THE SUN-DRIED RAISIN INDUSTRY. SPAIN AS THE LEADER FOR CENTURIES OUTDISTANCED IN 1892. TONNAGE AND ACREAGE HAVE MADE GREAT GAINS. VINEYARDS HAVE NOT LOST IN PRODUCTIVENESS. STABILIZATION OF PRICES. CALIFORNIA ACREAGE THE LARGEST IN THE WORLD. FIRST RAISIN EXHIBIT AT 1863 STATE FAIR. SEEDED RAISIN A FRESNO CREATION. NOTABLE FIRST VINEYARDS AND PACKERS.

The raisin industry of America is centered in Fresno County, though the raisin is produced in other parts of California. Exceptional advantages in climate and soil have made the raisin a specialty of this region. It has aided more to make the county known than any one other product. The county is known as "The Raisin Center": the city as "The Raisin City." Yet the industry represents only about one-tenth of the total income, so varied and many are the resources.

Fresno was once Spain's principal competitor. In 1892 the home crop first equaled Spain's. The difference has increased steadily, and today Fresno produces double the quantity of Spain, which held the lead for centuries. A normal crop ranges between 160 to 170 million pounds, often exceeded as with 182 millions in 1914 and about 256 millions the year after. Less than a dozen of the state's fifty-eight counties produce raisins. Fresno's raisin grape acreage of over 150,000 is by far the largest in the world. Kings and Tulare counties are the next largest producers, but their combined crops do not exceed one-fifth of an annual normal Fresno crop.

When one talks raisins, the subject is Fresno. The raisin acreage and tonnage have both made great gains in the last few years. The crop of 1917 was estimated at 137,500 tons. The tonnage was 132,000 against 125,000 for the year before. The prediction is that tonnage and acreage will reach 200,000 in a year or two. The acreage in 1917 was estimated at 165,000 but with unlisted holdings and yearlings and two-year-old vines the total is well above the figure.

Owing to improved methods of culture, average production of bearing vineyards has considerably risen, and yet due to the great acreage of young vines not in bearing the average for the whole has not raised. Fruit men estimate the total muscat crop of the state at 100,000, the Thompson seedless at 43,000, the Sultanas 8,500, Feherzagos, etc., at 6,000, all largely handled by the association. The largest increase has been in Thompson's and the prospects for the year 1918 are for an increase in that variety. Planting in 1917 was about 10,000 acres in the San Joaquin Valley and perhaps 8,000, largely seedless, in the north. The increase has not been large in the last three years. That of 1916 was probably of 15,000 acres. The biggest and most numerous plantings were of Thompson's.

The vineyards seem to have lost little or nothing in their productivity. The deterioration of the old ones, when given anything like proper care, is not nearly so rapid as the development of young vineyards, and as a consequence of this and of better culture methods and pruning, there has resulted, over large areas, a steady increase of crops, in remarkable contrast to the years before. In 1903 for the first time the crop reached 60,000 tons.

It fell off then and in 1907 reached 75,000 tons. The total productions for the decade have been estimated from careful figures kept by the California Fruit Grower to have been:

1907 .....	75,000 tons
1908 .....	65,000
1909 .....	70,000
1910 .....	62,500
1911 .....	65,000
1912 .....	95,000
1913 .....	65,000
1914 .....	98,000
1915 .....	125,000
1916 .....	132,000
1917 .....	157,500

Since the formation five years ago of the growers' association steady increase in crops and improvement in conditions of the grower have resulted in the raisin district of Fresno. The increase in tonnage has demanded new markets and these have been developed. With a normal season, it is likely the tonnage will become even larger in 1918 and the years to come. The California Associated Raisin Company has set the mark at a high percentage to retain control when the big crops are produced and to keep up the standard of production for the benefit of producer and consumer.

The prices of raisins have been stabilized and doubled over those that prevailed before the company was established. Even under the old contract which made compromises with and concessions to the packers and the brokers, the growers had practical control of the situation and the ruinous career of speculation with two-cent a pound raisins and mortgages as natural consequences was stopped and the industry has been placed on a financial basis. Instead of pulling up vines, vineyards have been made to produce and the immense crops brought in millions to the growers. The 1917 crop will by the time the last payment is made have brought \$15,000,000.

In 1872 Californians produced in limited quantity an article called "dried grapes." It was sold in mining camps and among the poor as a cheap substitute for raisins. They were usually mission grapes, but did not keep, nor bear transportation to long distances, were not cured soundly, and anyhow were not raisins. The product was of no commercial importance. Nordhoff predicted that unless for some reason not then apparent it receives a check, California would in ten years (1892) supply a large part of the raisins of commerce. At the time of his book revision, it was one of the most promising and important of the then comparatively recently introduced industries of the state.

The California State Board of Agriculture reported in 1912 that "one of the largest and most important branches of fruit growing is the cultivation of the raisin grape, the acreage in which is now by far the largest in the world." It credits the introduction of the raisin vine into California in 1851 to Agostin Haraszthy of San Diego from muscatel vines from seeds of Malaga raisins. In March, 1852, he imported the Alexandria muscatel from Malaga in Spain, and ten years later on a visit in September, 1861, selected cuttings of the Gordo Blanca, afterwards grown and propagated in his San Diego vineyard. Yet another importation of the Alexandria muscatel was that in 1855 by A. Delmas, planted near San Jose. G. G. Briggs of Davisville, Cal., was still another importer of muscatel grape vines from Spain.

Raisins were produced first on a considerable scale in the southern part of the state, but they found it more profitable there to ship as table grapes or set out vineyards to wine grapes. Riverside entered the field in 1873 when John W. North, the founder of the colony that bore his name, first planted the Alexandria muscat, though not until three years later did grape growing become general in that district. In 1873 also, R. G. Clark planted

the same variety in El Cajon Valley in San Diego County, but the vineyards there were not planted until 1884-86. MacPherson Brothers at one time the largest growers and packers in the state, planted raisin grapes in Orange County about 1875-76. San Bernardino and Los Angeles produced raisins in former years, but the Anaheim vine disease ravaged thousands of acres between 1884-89, growers lost heart and citrus fruit in large part replaced the vine. It was in 1876 that W. S. Chapman, whose name is so prominently identified with the farming era of Fresno, imported Spanish muscat vines for Central California Colony. They did not differ materially from those already growing in the county.

Positive proof is lacking as to who produced the first California raisins. According to the California State Agricultural Society, an exhibit was made by Dr. J. Strentzel at the 1863 state fair. Its report notes that there were two features "which rendered it remarkable—these were dried prunes and raisins." The first successful vineyards to perfect raisin culture in the state were those planted by G. G. Briggs at Davisville and by R. B. Blowers of Woodland, also in Yolo County, the first mainly of Alexandria muscatels, the other of Gordo Blanca. Both produced raisins as early as 1867, but not until 1873 were any placed on the market in quantity. Blowers was in 1882 one of the largest single producers in the state. His advice and methods were followed in large part by Fresno pioneer growers. About 1887 Fresno appears to have shipped a considerable quantity for the first time, and market reports noted that "Fresno raisins of excellent quality are now on the market, especially from the Butler and Forsyth vineyards."

The varieties of raisin grapes are few in number. The seedless Sultana grown extensively near Smyrna in Asia Minor was first brought to California by Haraszthy in 1861. Thompson's seedless was named for W. Thompson Sr. of Yuba City by the Sutter County Horticultural Society. He procured the cuttings in 1878 from Erlanger & Barry of Rochester, N. Y., who described them as "a grape from Constantinople, named Lady de Coverly." The names of the Hungarian Haraszthy and of his son, Arpad, are inseparably linked with the California grape and wine industries. The white Muscat of Alexandria and the Muscatel Gordo Blanca are the raisin grapes of California as they are of Spain. The Gordo Blanca is considered by many the most delicious California grown table grape.

Until the fall of 1881, the few that cultivated the raisin grape also packed their raisins. The process is not difficult and requires no complicated or costly devices. The sun is the best dryer and in this regard Fresno is liberally endowed. Artificial drying, which has in wet seasons been resorted to, is found to produce too often a raisin that is shrivelled and overcooked, dry and hard. When the California sun-dried raisin was first shipped in quantity to the eastern market is not recorded. Efforts along this line by the pioneers were individual ventures, but it is recorded that by November, 1875, New York had received 6,000 twenty-two-pound boxes. A considerable quantity was shipped about 1888. The growth of the industry was remarkable, though a slow process for the first years. In 1879 the crop first exceeded one million pounds. In 1885 it was over nine millions and next year it jumped to fourteen millions, until with steady increases it reached in 1912 the enormous total of 140 millions.

### SPANISH COMPETITION OUTSTRIPPED

Raisins were at first principally produced in the San Bernardino Valley, but the industry gradually spread northward. About 1887 California raisins began to be in demand in the eastern states, and by 1892 the United States Department of Agriculture reported that the western supply source was

reducing the foreign imports by twenty percent. As showing how California has outstripped her Spanish rival, the following figures tell a tale:

Year.	Spain.	California.
1904 .....	25,000	40,000
1906 .....	15,800	45,000
1909 .....	24,000	70,000
1912 .....	12,000	85,000
1913 .....	18,500	65,000
1914 .....	13,500	94,000
1915 .....	10,500	128,000

The Spanish crop is given in long and the Californian in short tons. Victoria and South Australia produce raisins and currants, but they are disposed of in home consumption.

The raisin industry is an asset the direct outgrowth of irrigation. Remarkable as its development has been, the record is exceeded by that of the seeded raisin industry and the marketing of that popular form of the sun-dried grape after mechanical elimination of the seeds. This business originated in Fresno County, and its twenty years' increase has been wonderful. The following returns are from the state Board of Agriculture's report on the output:

1896—700 tons, 1899—12,000, 1905—21,000, 1910—31,500, 1912—45,000, 1913—49,000, 1914—35,000, 1915—50,000.

The seeding machine was the basic creation of the late George E. Pettit as a poor and struggling inventor in New York, taken up and put to practical use by the late William Forsyth, one of the leading pioneer raisin growers, whom it enriched, while Pettit was too poor even at one time to prosecute the litigation to enforce his rights and claims as the inventor. Forsyth introduced to the public the seeded raisin. When first marketed, it was with difficulty that about twenty tons were disposed of. The seeded or "stoned" raisin has a reputation of its own. It has become the most important branch of the raisin industry. The waste from seeding and cap-stemming is from ten to twelve per cent. Formerly the seed was burned as fuel; now it is used as a by-product from which alcohol and various other products are chemically produced.

### GROWTH OF RAISIN INDUSTRY

The growth of the raisin industry was a slow one, because it was in a new experimental field, many difficulties in cultivation and in marketing had to be overcome and lessons learned with time in the hard school of experience. The early successes gave encouragement to persevere though, and once established there were not lacking those who claimed the credit for having fathered it. The credit for producing the first Fresno raisin may, however, be safely awarded to T. F. Eisen, a pioneer of 1873 in grape growing. His production was the result of chance rather than of deliberate design, according to popular tradition.

It was in the very hot year of 1877 and before the Muscats were picked that a considerable portion of the grapes dried on the vines and, to save them, were treated as raisins, stemmed, packed in boxes and sent to San Francisco for sale by fancy grocers, who exhibited them in the show windows as a Peruvian importation. Inquiries were made and revealed that they were a Fresno product of the Eisen vineyard. This advertisement was the foundation of Fresno's reputation for raisins. It served to attract others to enter the field. In 1876 W. S. Chapman imported his Spanish Muscatels for Central California Colony. That same year T. C. White planted the Raisina vineyard with rootings from Blower's Woodland vineyard. In 1877 and 1878 the Hedgerow was set to vines: in 1879 the A. B. Butler vineyard,



then one of the largest for raisins in the state, and the J. T. Goodman and William Forsyth vineyards followed about 1881-82. These were early curiosities in a way and continued as show places for interested visitors for years. They were the pioneer, large vineyards.

The Hedgerow was one of the noted earliest successes, located by the late Miss M. F. Austin on Elm Avenue, about three miles south of the city and comprising 100 acres—seventy-four in vines and nineteen in orchard. The Raisina was equally as notable. What made the Hedgerow specially notable was the fact that it was established and conducted by ladies. Miss Austin was a New England teacher, who came to California in 1864, was a teacher of note in private schools in San Francisco, but failing in health in 1878 came to Fresno to enter upon a new field of activity. The vineyard derived its name from its varied hedge enclosure. She was one of the first to appreciate the possibilities of raisin culture, and to her efforts and pioneer experiences the county owes much. Many an object lesson did she teach.

With her were associated the Misses Lucy H. Hatch, E. A. Cleveland and J. B. Short, all teachers, who pooling their savings bought the 100 acres in 1876 from Chapman in his Central Colony and expended much money in experimental plantings. Miss Austin came to the vineyard in 1878 to reside. Miss Hatch was her assistant, coming here after January, 1879. As trees failed in the first experiments, they took up viticulture. Their first raisin pack was in 1878 of thirty boxes under the Austin brand; in 1879 they put up 300 boxes and in 1886 7,500. Packing was then given up and owing to the failing health of Miss Austin they afterwards sold the raisins to packers in the sweat boxes and Miss Hatch became the active manager. The Hedgerow was a practical object lesson of what intelligent and persevering efforts can bring about.

The eighty-acre Raisina was planted for the lady that became Mrs. T. C. White, nee Fink, and for her sister. White enlarged the original muscatel planting and was one of the very first to pack raisins commercially, acquiring from Blowers of Yolo the practical knowledge of cultivation and processes. His experiences and knowledge aided much in giving the industry a start. The home market at first readily absorbed the local output, but when it became too large for the limited consumption a period of temporary stagnation followed that had to be overcome by opening an eastern market. This was another tribulation that attended the infant industry. But a prominent feature of the county, borrowed from the south, was introduced at this period in the colony system of settlement to add to the wealth, prosperity and upbuilding. These surrounded Fresno city on all sides and grew into each other with the entire country merged into one cordon of farming settlements of fifty, twenty and ten-acre parcels. Central Colony was the first laid out in 1874, embracing six sections of land southwest of town and sold in small tracts with twenty acres as the average. Taken as a type, it affords contrast between the wheat growing and horticultural eras. During the "dry farming" period, this land yielded an annual return of not to exceed \$35,000 and only one family had its home on the 3,840 acres. Settled as a colony, the cash return was from \$300,000 to \$400,000, 150 families had comfortable homes and most of them enjoyed competencies.

The Butler vineyard of over 600 acres was famous in its day, yielding not less than 110,000 twenty-pound boxes and considerably more in good years at a time when raisins averaged one dollar and seventy-five cents to two dollars and twenty-five cents a box. The Forsyth of 160 acres was a model property with a product of upward of 40,000 twenty-pound boxes and such a well established reputation for pack that output was engaged in advance at fancy terms. Despite all setbacks and obstacles, raisin growing extended in all directions around the city for miles until wherever water was procurable the big and small vineyard flourished. Shipments increased annually and to cite 1890 as a precedent establishing year the total shipment

was 21,691,618 pounds, or about 1,084,580 twenty-pound boxes for the industry fostered by tariff protection, one feature at least on which Democrats were agreed with Republicans. That shipment was distributed as follows as regards local output:

District.	Pounds.
Fresno .....	15,430,313
Malaga .....	3,459,240
Fowler .....	2,178,438
Selma .....	469,746
Madera .....	112,710
Borden .....	73,226
Kingsburg .....	67,945

The subject of the California raisin industry is a large one. Its various sidelights have been extensively treated. Almost every large vineyard has its particular history. Where there are so many only general features can be alluded to in a comprehensive history. A list of the large vineyards would mount into the hundreds. Passing reference can only be made to the more notable as the Hedgerow (Austin), Raisina (White), Butler, Minnewawa (Eshelman), Oothout, Forsyth, Gartenlaub, Kearney, Talequah (Baker), Paragon (Nevills), besides many others and all those conducted as corporate enterprises. Then there are the wine grape vineyards, notably the Eisen, Barton, Eggers, Tarpey, Malter, Mattei, Great Western, Las Palmas, the California Wine Association, a letter combination of whose title evolved the name of "Calwa" for the distillery, revenue warehousing and shipping point and the Swiss Italian Colony.

## CHAPTER XXXIV

RAISIN INDUSTRY IS THE FINANCIAL BAROMETER OF THE COMMUNITY'S PROSPERITY. TWENTY YEARS AGO, ITS OUTLOOK WAS NOT ENCOURAGING. MANY WERE THE EFFORTS AT COOPERATIVE CONTROL OF THE OUTPUT. ANOTHER CRISIS WAS FACED AT THE CLOSE OF THE YEAR 1917. SPECTACULAR CAMPAIGN IS STAGED FOR NEW CONTRACTS. PERCENTAGE OF CONTROL THE GREATEST EVER SECURED. FELICITATIONS OVER THE VICTORY. PROSPERITY UNDERWRITTEN FOR SIX YEARS.

On the subject of the raisin, the Fresno grower takes himself and the industry seriously. The industry is regarded as typical and dominant of the region and the financial barometer of the community's prosperity. The close of the year 1917 and the opening weeks of 1918 mark an epoch in that industry. It was a period more exciting and spectacular than any in its history with the efforts to sign up new contracts with the association, comparable in strenuousness and scope with the Liberty bond subscriptions and other "drives" of the war times.

It is not the purpose to follow the complicated history nor the efforts of the various cooperative raisin associations under the Kearney and succeeding regimes, nor of the industry's troublous times without association control endeavor covering the 1908-12 period. Nor is it the purpose to draw invidious comparisons, but as has been stated the defunct association "a good thing while it lasted" unfortunately "had within itself the seeds of its own dissolution," its end when it came was inevitable and looked for, "it lived its life in turmoil and it paid the price of politics for its intermittent business success." The existing association conducted under different business policies and methods has secured confidence and accomplished all that

the old did and strived for, and more too, and has been established in permanency as the saving and fostering organization of the raisin industry of Central California.

The California Associated in its larger and more successful field of operations is after all following up on other lines the plans and policies conceived by Kearney whose misfortune was in the application of them. He was possibly as the theorist ahead of the day and the times with his ideas on associated cooperation to place every stage of the industry in the control of the growers. The things accomplished by the California Associated have not been original in the conception but in the carrying out. At the very first of the Kearney movements there were two proposals made. One was a business stock company or an organization under a cooperative form of association in which every member had equal voice. It became evident that the latter form was unbusinesslike but it was also recognized that it was the only one acceptable then.

Experience next demonstrated that a twelve months was too brief a period of organization but evident was it also that this was the best that could be hoped for. The industry would have to become sufficient unto itself. Growers must do their own packing, their own advertising, their own selling, Kearney went so far as to demand that the growers do their own financing. These were things for the future. Lack of faith in each other was the great weakness in these early efforts of the growers to come and stay together.

The average price of raisins to the producer, fluctuating as manipulated by the speculating commercial packer, was at one time and for ten years or more seventy dollars a ton. With associated cooperation and control, marketing conditions were improved and cheapened, consumption increased and prices enhanced with the result of seventy-seven dollars and fifty cents per ton for Muscats, about eighty-five dollars for Sultanas, and about ninety-five for Thompson's Seedless. Under ordinary conditions there is a profit to the grower in selling at three cents a pound. Yet a time was when raisins found no market, growers fed them to the chickens, to the hogs, the horses and the cattle and vineyards were uprooted so discouraging was the outlook. As indicative of the spirit of the times and the apparent future hopelessness of the industry may be reproduced this interesting publication of twenty years ago:

"P. P. Brooks, living eight miles west of Fresno on Kearney Avenue is feeding raisins successfully. He said to a Republican reporter:

'Barley is worth thirty dollars a ton and raisins from eighteen dollars to thirty dollars. It is difficult to sell good raisins for over twenty dollars a ton. Some days ago I concluded to use raisins as horse feed instead of grain. As an experiment I bought an old horse and fed the animal twelve pounds of raisins a day. The nag was worn out and poor, but in a short time he began to fatten and grow sleek. The food seemed very nourishing and the horse became plump and full of life. I sold the animal back to the original owner for thirty dollars—three times what I paid for him. Twelve pounds of raisins a day is equal to twenty pounds of barley. At the present price of grain this would make a food value of raisins of about sixty dollars a ton, leaving a profit of forty-two dollars a ton over the actual selling price of eighteen dollars. Raisins also make good cattle and hog food, but I have not experimented much in that line. Horses seem to relish the raisins and keep in good condition while being worked. Several of my neighbors will follow my example and use raisins for stock feed. This is a good way to get rid of the surplus in the hands of the farmers.'

The future of the industry hung trembling in the balance. Various plans were considered to organize the growers for mutual protection and benefit. The pioneer combination after a long campaign of agitation was The California Raisin Growers' Association, the conception of the late M. Theo. Kearney, and founded in 1898.

From 1889 until 1893 growers were enabled to average five cents a pound, but with the financial panic of the year 1893 prices fell again, and in 1897 raisins were quoted as low as three-quarters of a cent per pound. They were even sold on commission at prices that often did not cover the shipping charges, and fortunate the shipper that did not find himself still in debt to the broker. Conditions were so unprofitable that many despaired, and it was estimated that in this county 20,000 acres of vines were uprooted. The lesson of the absolute necessity for organization had to be driven home by costly and bitter experience. For about six years the association was more or less of a success, though at no time had it ever a controlling percentage of the crop signed up, while as one result of its operations it "held up the umbrella" of benefit and protection for those who while not averse to accept benefits contributed nothing to bring them about but withheld their crops from the pool.

Crucial difficulties arose late in the 1903 season owing to a fall in prices. Personal animosities were stirred up, directed for a time specially against Mr. Kearney as the president of the combine. Besides the directorate fell into the hands of men, some of whom did not measure in capacity up to the task before them. The association being unable to sell, many growers received no returns and in August, 1904, with only thirty percent. of the estimated acreage signed up contracts were surrendered to growers and shortly after the association passed into the hands of W. R. Williams as receiver and long litigation followed in liquidation. The largest crop was the one of 1903, the association packing 97,001,854 pounds.

Such low prices resulted in 1904 that another effort at organization was made with M. F. Tarpey as the leader, elected as president, and the company incorporated on May 6, 1905. Returns made to signed up growers averaged three cents a pound amounting to \$1,205,546. Some 38,000 acres were signed up. Prejudice arose against cooperation. Growers did not support the company for various reasons and it dissolved on May 1, 1906. Years elapsed and a new and by far the strongest organization was established early in 1912 under the name of the California Associated Raisin Company with one million dollars capitalization, adopting the basic plan worked out by W. R. Nutting but elaborated upon in the light of experience.

This association is a cooperative institution "that stands for construction and not for manipulation," whose aim is to find as a sales agent a market for the grower by aiding the wholesaler to sell more raisins to the retailer and help the retailer to move raisins from his shelves to the ultimate consumer. The developed plan of cooperative effort is not alone for a better marketing but to standardize the product, secure appreciation of distributor and consumer, and thus plan for the future, when increased tonnage will mean low prices unless demand has kept a step in advance of production at all times.

In the closing statement to stockholders on the 1915 crop, Vice President and Manager James Madison congratulated them on having disposed at fairly remunerative prices of the largest crop of raisins that this state has ever produced. In fact, the prices obtained by the company are as high, in his judgment, as they ever should be, if it is the desire to maintain the proper relation between consumption and production, and this the directors have always borne in mind as a vital factor in the continued success, so that

raisin vineyards may be considered a safe and profitable investment. The financial statement as indicative of the volume of business done shows:

Gross receipts .....	\$11,853,930.89
Packing and shipping .....	3,456,452.46
Net sales .....	8,396,578.43
Cost of raisins .....	\$7,084,463.60
Receiving, etc. ....	224,226.50
	7,313,690.10
Amount due on final settlement.....	\$ 1,082,888.33

## TONS HANDLED

	Ton Rate on Final.	Tons.
Muscats .....	7.72	77,951
Thompson's .....	29.67	10,589
Sultanas .....	28.81	5,499
Malagas .....	10.00	623
Feherzagos .....	10.00	234
		94,896

The 1916 crop was approximately 126,000 tons or 2,000 greater than that of 1915, according to the state viticultural commission. Thompson's seedless gained 100 per cent. with a yield of 32,000 tons. The Muscat yield was 83,000 tons against 93,000 in 1915. Heavy rains caused the shortage. According to Association President Wylie M. Giffen, the loss is the more noticeable, because it came on the eve of what promised to be one of the best years in the history of the industry. With the possible exception of the 1915 crop, that of 1916 was the largest in history, and with the high prices prevailing it looked like a banner year for the raisin growers, and every one dreamed dreams of the things that would be done as soon as the crop was off.

The close of the year 1917, fourth of the Associated, marked it as the most successful cooperative producers' organization yet undertaken in the state. Yet it faced a crisis. Contracts with growers expired with limitation. New ones had to be entered into to continue the association. A three months' campaign "drive" followed, the greatest and most sensational and spectacular in the history of the industry and that history has been a spectacular one. The county was kept at the fever heat of excitement until success was announced through the press on the morning of February 1, 1918. The association was saved and given a life lease for six years.

That campaign was reminiscent of the earlier days of raisin cooperative association enterprises when the "drive" was an annual affair. Tuesday, January 29, was declared a business holiday for a last general effort to save the industry from destruction, and over 400 committeemen, including merchants, bankers, professional and non professional men, assumed charge of one great auto caravan "drive" to penetrate every nook and a corner of a territory of 250 square miles surrounding the city. Stores and offices were closed and the day was given over to a canvass for contracts for the California Associated Raisin Company.

Newspapers had been full for days and days with columns upon columns of appeals and reasons for coming to the association's rescue, nightly meetings had been held in the school districts, individuals were not lacking to induce signatures by means that were subject to criticism and acts of sabotage were committed to coerce others into signing. The victory was hailed as remarkable in the annals of cooperative farm marketing. One week before defeat stared the growers in the face after all the efforts made, loyal farmers,

merchants, financiers, professional and laboring men had by the thousands labored wherever raisins are grown, had gone to the unsigned and reminded them that the unprecedented prosperity is a result of cooperative marketing and to stay out and kill the association meant the ruin of the grower and of the business man.

The thousands that feared their contracts in escrow would be burned with a failure to sign up were relieved. The joy apparent in Fresno when the result was made known was shared wherever in the state raisins are grown in any quantity. Thousands who had worked voluntarily for success were repaid. President W. M. Giffen of the association notified the Fresno Clearing House Association that the crop contracts delivered with the notice with those previously delivered numbered 6,980, representing 131,530 acres in raisin vineyard. This acreage was well over the 125,000 minimum required by the agreement with the signers to make them effective and request was made that the escrow contracts be delivered as soon as practical.

Editorially one of the newspapers described the achievement in the following language:

"The result of the successful conclusion of the Associated Raisin Company campaign represents the biggest achievement of this state, possibly of the nation, and to look at it only from the material standpoint it underwrites the prosperity of the community for the next six years. It means sane marketing conditions, good prices and extended markets to take care of the yearly increasing acreage. When there is "money in raisins" it naturally means more planting, but the continuance of the national advertising will make the demand keep up with the supply."

In this felicitation over the economic advantages, the social and spiritual were not overlooked. In fact the latter were regarded as the greater victory in that 7,000 men and women of the raisin belt are one in an economic brotherhood. Only in the perspective of twenty years or more was the feat of the three months viewed in its real magnitude and significance in the culmination of a long apprentice period. The growers had learned a lesson and reduced to its fundamental basis it was a moral, perhaps a religious rather than an economic lesson, that the growers trust one another and faith has made them one.

Six days before the end there was still lacking a 15,000 acreage. The minimum considered necessary to be signed up if the company was to continue as a growers' concern was 125,000. The crop is between 150,000 and 160,000 tons but within a few years will be increased to between 200,000 and 225,000. For the next six years the average crop will in all probability be 200,000 tons. There was needed eighty or eighty-five per cent. of it signed up. A difficulty of the campaign was that twenty per cent. of the growers could not be approached by solicitors.

The acreage obtained was 131,350 and better than eighty-five per cent. of all the raisins grown in the state, the strongest control ever had. Under the new contract the starting point was the lowest, as nothing was lost then by transfer of places and every contract added to the percentage, whereas under the old the starting point was the highest and continually there was lost more through the place transfers than gained through the solicitors. While every effort was centered on the 125,000 acreage objective, this was not all that was accomplished. There are in the state scattered from Marysville to San Diego 10,000 growers and of this number 8,500 approximately signed the contract and there is not one that has a more favorable contract than another. Contracts were lost because of "arbitrary methods" pursued but the fact remains that no favor was shown in the taking of them. Not an option was stricken out, not a contract was taken that did not run with the land and not a promise was made to an individual that is contrary to the general policy applying to all.



A fine public spirit was manifested in the campaign and without exception every community, newspaper, civic organization, ladies' club, growers' committee and thousands of individual workers from every calling of life did their part. As it was said: "Even the packers in their frantic attempts to prevent success furnished the spice which is invaluable in a campaign of this kind." The percentage summary according to grapes is as follows:

Muscats .....	88%
Thompson's .....	88
Sultanas .....	87
Malagas .....	90
Feherzagos .....	85
Average of All.....	88%

The Yuba and Marysville districts have about eighty-five per cent., a remarkable showing for an outside district. The experience has been in all campaigns that it is more difficult to secure the required percentage in the districts farther away from the center. Exceedingly gratifying was the showing of the township final percentages with not one in the thickly settled vineyard district not running better than eighty per cent. The township in which Selma and Kingsburg are located tied with that in which Rolinda is located and the township east of Reedley, all having ninety-eight percentage; Biola is second with ninety-seven; Dinuba third with ninety-six; Fowler fourth with ninety-five and every other township in the thickly settled district better than ninety per cent. with the exception of the six tributary to Fresno and they averaging eighty-six. There are townships in outlying districts that have only forty or fifty per cent. but in many of these there are only two or three vineyards and in all the acreage is so small that it only affects the whole slightly.

The new contract guarantees to stockholders eight per cent. earning on money actually invested for the next six years and by a simple clause the stock is automatically increased from \$1,040,000 to \$2,500,000 or \$3,000,000 in the next three or four years in such a way that some stock goes into the hands of every grower without his feeling the burden. This increased stock will provide adequate packing facilities to handle the crop without the congestion and delay that has prevailed and at the same time make the growers who own it the eight per cent. earning.

The new directors of the association for one year are: Wylie M. Giffen, Hector Burness, A. G. Wishon, H. H. Welsh, Hans Graff, F. H. Wilson and M. V. Buckner of Hanford. They chose as officers: President, W. M. Giffen; Vice Presidents, Hector Burness and F. H. Wilson; Assistant to the President, F. A. Seymour; Secretary, C. A. Murdoch; Assistant, F. M. Cleary; Cashier, A. L. Babcock. Appropriation has been made of \$375,000 to be spent in sales and advertising during the fiscal year commencing June 1, 1918. This is \$19,000 more than appropriated last year but will give more publicity. A feature of the advertising will be the almost exclusive use of page advertising in colors in leading magazines. There will be an increase in trade press advertising with particular reference to the candy, confectionery and baking trades.

## CHAPTER XXXV

CALIFORNIA AN AGRICULTURAL WONDER, AND FRESNO A PROMINENT FACTOR. MANY RESOURCES OF BOTH ARE YET UNDEVELOPED. GREAT PROPORTIONS ATTAINED BY THE WINE INDUSTRY. FRESNO LEADS IN SWEET WINE AND BRANDY. ORCHARDS A DEVELOPMENT FEATURE OF THE COUNTY. CONDITIONS IDEAL FOR SUN CURING OF THEIR PRODUCTS. CITRUS GROWING BELT OF THE VALLEY. LOCAL NURSERY STOCK OF A YEAR SUFFICIENT TO SUPPLY THE ENTIRE STATE. THE FARMER HAS YET TO LEARN THE IMPORTANT LESSON OF THE VALUE OF THE BY-PRODUCT OF THE FARM.

California may well claim to be an agricultural wonder. Its farming presents more interesting features and affords greater opportunities than does any other state what with its wide range of products, soil, climatic and weather peculiarities. That "everything will grow in California" has been accepted as a fact. There is basis for it at least in that no farming ever tried has proven a failure from the productive point. Yet no part of the state has been developed to capacity, either as to output or selection of product that will prove of greatest and lasting profit. Its limit of production equals almost the range of semi-tropical and temperate lands. Fresno has been one agent to establish that reputation for the state, yet it is itself far short of having developed its cultivable area in the more valuable crops. Foremost in the line of fruit production, Fresno is the home of the grape, whether for the raisin, for wine, or for table use.

The great grain fields such as made Fresno notable in former days have been converted into small acreages for intensive farming, yet California is still a cereal grower. The opening of eastern and foreign markets for green deciduous fruits and canned and sun-cured products has left as a primary problem only the selection of the fruit varieties that are most successfully grown and best marketed. The caprification of the fig in Fresno may some day crowd out Smyrna as the world's supply. This is no iridescent dream, for Fresno snatched the raisin scepter from Spain as Santa Clara practically drove the French prune from the American market and is crowding the foreign mart, while the northern and central portions of the state furnish eighty-five per cent. and more of the canned and dried fruits of the American and export trade.

The opportunities are here for important development. A quarter of a century has demonstrated enough to justify expectation far beyond the present stage of development. The increased alfalfa area has animated live stock interests and stimulated dairying. Breeding of horses and mules should be a greater development factor. No reason why live stock raising should not continue a large and profitable industry. Nor the sheep business for mutton and wool. In 1876 it was a leading industry with nearly 7,000,000 head and an annual wool product of 56,500,000 pounds, bringing to the state over ten million dollars. Hog raising as a branch of farming has big possibilities. The present product is insufficient for home needs. Rice, beet sugar to rival the tropical cane, beans, peas, cotton and tobacco are inviting fields. The area in fruit is ever expanding and the outlook is hopeful for figs, dates and the olive.

Failure of a fig crop in Fresno or in California has never been known. Fig buyers are so certain of an annual crop that it has become the custom in the county to make one to five year contracts with growers for the crops

on their avenue border trees and for entire orchards and purchaser paying in advance for the expected crops.

There were fourteen beet sugar factories in operation in the state in 1917 using 1,318,400 short tons of beets from which 200,100 tons of sugar were made. This was the output from 154,700 acres planted for the season. The beets averaged fifteen and eighteen one-hundredths per cent. of sugar, the highest reported from any sugar-beet growing state. The average price to the farmer was seven dollars and fifty-two cents per ton.

In citrus fruit, California is crowding ahead. The Central California citrus belt is being enlarged. The raisin has beaten every record with its acreage. California is a wine producer of over 30,000,000 gallons annually, competing with the old world countries. Almost all the sweet wine and brandy made in America is Californian, with Fresno leading, even though the output has greatly decreased owing to the heavy tax on brandy for fortifying. Owing to this tax, the production fell off enormously during the 1915 season, sweet wine about one-fifth, the lowest since 1893, and brandy one-third, the smallest since 1899—3,882,933 and 2,613,286 gallons respectively.

The farmer of California has yet to learn the lesson of the value of the farm by-product as in butter, eggs, poultry, honey and the like. The day of immense cultivation with the small things overlooked has passed: replaced by that of intense cultivation with the small things closely looked after. Private enterprise largely reclaimed a portion of California's irrigable lands. Great natural resources in land and water remain undeveloped and await concerted action in a task of magnitude. With irrigated agriculture as the dominant industry of the state, Samuel Fortier, an expert writer on the subject, declares that "the same intelligence, energy and perseverance which wrested 2,500,000 acres from sands and low producing grain fields can reclaim other millions of acres."

As a report of the California Development Board observed: "With abundant oil for fuel for manufacturing power and motive power on the one side and with over 9,000,000 horse power in water power yet to develop, and a widening of markets both at home and in the Orient, California can face her industrial future with confidence." Well it is also to remember that because of the high economic value of the climate, it has been said that "there is no time in California when all nature is at rest or plant life is sleeping. In the field, orchard, garden, factory and in the mines, on the stock farm and in the dairy every day is one of productive labor."

### WINE INDUSTRY ENORMOUS

California's wine industry has attained great proportions in extensive vineyards of 170,000 acres as well as in enormous capital investments. Sweet wine production more than doubled in the ten years before 1912, the output as well as that of brandy much greater than all the states combined, 9,502,391 gallons port and 7,904,955 sherry, a total of 22,491,772 for seven varieties of sweet wines against 605,004 for the four varieties of all the other states. A little more than a century ago, Madeira was the favorite wine and Jamaica rum, the spirit. Whisky and brandy were unknown. Brandy was not statistically named apart from spirits until 1842. California's 1915 sweet wine product, in which brandy enters largely in the fortification, was 16,868,374 gallons against 300,324 for five other states, and of fruit brandy 7,906,380 against 615,571 as against all other states.

The introduction of European vines into California dates back to 1771 by the Catholic missions from Spain via Mexico. The first vineyard was the one at Mission San Gabriel near Los Angeles, extended thereafter from mission to mission from San Diego to Sonoma in five to thirty acre vineyards. One variety of grape was grown, the Mission, which is still grown. With the confiscation of the missions in 1845, the vineyards fell into neglect. In 1850 two southern counties produced 50,055 gallons, ten years later the state

production was 246,518. In 1856 there were 1,540,134 vines in the state, two years later 3,954,548. At this later period the wine industry was promoted and greatly encouraged. In 1861 A. Haraszthy as a member of the newly created state commission on viticulture visited the European wine districts and bought 100,000 vines of 1,400 varieties which were propagated in Sonoma. Cuttings were distributed among growers and from that time wine manufacture has had a continuous growth interrupted only by depreciation during particular years. In 1870 farms produced over 1,814,000 gallons and Los Angeles, Sonoma and Santa Clara were leading producers. Besides, wineries capitalized at \$658,420 produced wine of the value of \$602,553.

A great acreage increase between 1870 and 1875 caused a wine overproduction followed by ruinous depreciation in prices. Many vineyards were uprooted and in ten years the number of wineries was reduced to forty-five. The largest vineyardists continued to improve properties and by 1879 because of the growing demand for California wines consumption overtook production and prices advanced. Since 1880 the progress has been continuous. In 1890 the vintage had increased to 14,626,000 gallons, Fresno with 1,200,000 gallons being the fifth largest producer. In 1900 the production was 8,483,000 of sweet and 15,000,000 gallons of dry wines, a total of 23,483,000. The \$160,300 product value of the eleven wineries of 1850 increased to \$1,738,863 for 128 in 1890, \$3,937,871 for 187 in 1900 and \$8,936,846 for 181 in 1910.

This state has some of the largest and best cultivated vineyards in the world. The Italian Vineyard Company has 3,200 acres in San Bernardino of all the best varieties: in this county is the Wahtoke of 3,631 acres with twenty of the leading varieties, near Sanger and Reedley; and in Tehama County the Stanford Vina of 1,500, mostly Zinfandel and Burger. The vines of the Vina have been uprooted to make way for orchard trees and crops, a step made necessary because while the vineyard was remunerative it had been fouled with Johnson grass which could not be eradicated with the vines in place. The Wahtoke as the largest Fresno winery has an annual capacity of 2,000,000 gallons, The Italian-Swiss Colony has a 750,000 gallon winery at Selma and another of 1,000,000 capacity near Kingsburg. M. F. Tarpey's La Paloma, a model institution with an output of 1,500,000 gallons, was absorbed, as so many others have been, by the California Wine Association.

Other large wineries in the county are the Great Western of 2,500 acres east of Sanger, the Eisen, Eggers, Barton capitalized in England, the Fresno, Margarita, Calwa, Scandinavian, St. George, Las Palmas, Mattei's and the Kearney. With few exceptions, these are such large ventures that they have become corporate enterprises.

California grows the principal wine grapes of France, Italy, Spain, Portugal and Germany, and the produced beverage type varieties are unequalled. Indeed, California raw wine is shipped to the old country, aged and processed and after a time reimported and drunk as a foreign product under continental labels and none but the expert can tell the difference. It is also the fact that California winemakers have been awarded high prizes for their products in competition at European expositions. In this state the surplus table and shipping grapes are used for wine making, but the desirable qualities in a shipping grape differ from those of a good wine grape and the product is inferior. They are more suited for brandy making, which is their principal use. Surplus raisin grapes are also used for brandy, and the quality is better, though the bulk of dry and sweet wines and of brandy is from a special wine grape unsuited for other purpose.

The wine producing areas of the state are the dry and sweet wine districts. The dry are principally in the hills and valleys of the Coast Range counties from Mendocino to San Diego. The interior valleys from Shasta to Kern comprise the other. The classification may not be logical, yet is fairly accurate as to the practice and the products, because in fact sweet and dry wines can be made in nearly, if not all, the grape growing districts. The

Zinfandel is California's typical redwine grape, and from it the bulk of all dry and sweet red wines is made. Considerably more than half of the California brandy output is used for fortifying the sweet wines. The 1915 brandy output was 7,906,380 gallons, 4,425,747 used in fortifying, and the dry wine 21,571,000 gallons which is short of the normal 25,000,000. The Fresno district, which is not a dry wine district, produced 250,000 gallons, Sonoma and Napa being the leaders. Winemakers are meeting with success in the making of sparkling wines, with naturally fermented champagne increased from 580,000 bottles in 1911 to 1,100,000 in 1914 but with a falling off to 732,000 in 1915.

The following figures show Fresno's lead as a sweet wine and brandy producer in gallons in the state's production:

	Sweet Wine	Brandy
1907—State	15,600,000	3,900,000
Fresno	6,000,000	1,250,000
1908—State	10,500,000	4,200,000
Fresno	6,800,000	1,000,000
1909—State	14,300,000	3,600,000
Fresno	7,500,000	1,200,000
1910—State	18,000,000	4,700,000
Fresno	6,000,000	750,000

In twenty years the sweet wine product has increased from 1,083,000 gallons in 1891 to 23,467,000 in 1912, the heaviest in history. Port and sherry are leading wines, sherry generally leading as in 1903 and 1912 with upwards of eight million gallons. Yet again for 1910-12 the port output was upwards of nine millions. Import of foreign wines has remained steady for some years, annually some ten millions. Grape juice making as a beverage is on the whole decreasing. The quantity made in California was never more than 60,000 gallons. It is claimed that there is no profit in the making. An estimate of the selling price of 8,814 cars of table grapes shipped east in 1915 was \$8,814,000 and of 1,000 cars expressed and consumed in the state \$700,000, total for the crop of \$9,514,000. This was an unusual year because of the shortage by reason of late frosts in the Concord belts from Michigan to New York.

The California Wine Association representing one-half of the industry in the state faces a critical situation. Its directorate has recommended to manufacturers to sell their stocks and prepare for the beginning of the end on account of the national prohibition movement. Its report in 1918 summarized the agitation for prohibition, and after pointing out that "prohibition leaders would not tolerate any suggestion that compensation should be made for the destruction of property, or provision made for the support of the thousands who would thereby be deprived of their means of living," said:

"Under these circumstances, the directors have reached the conclusion that the further pursuit of a business with a future so uncertain is not wise; that any plans for its continued development are not warranted. Already a considerable progress has been made in this direction. Lands and buildings for which there was no further use in wine making have been sold whenever a price anywhere near satisfactory under present circumstances could be obtained, but always at a great sacrifice upon their original cost."

The retrenchment policy is made manifest in a showing that in 1916 the association inventoried its wines and supplies at \$6,729,394.27. December 31, 1917, the value was placed at \$5,201,484.94, more than \$1,500,000 less. Referring to repeated campaigns in California the published statement said: "No legitimate business could long be conducted successfully in the face of such never-ending opposition, with an unavailing supply of money."

The statement adds that the wine industry represents investments aggregating more than \$100,000,000 and brings into the state annually more than \$20,000,000. Federal and state taxes on wines in California amounted to \$3,421,884.85 in 1917 as against \$1,791,555.63 in 1916.

Little was attempted in the fruit line in the early days outside of the missions. After their secularization in 1834, Fremont says on his visit in 1846 that vineyards and olive orchards were decayed and falling into neglect. First plantings in the north by the Americans were generally near the mines, but little care was bestowed upon them, and fruit growing was not the science that it is today. California, Missouri and New York were reported four years ago as the three largest orchard tree states, California leading with over 30,895,000, and New York in fruit product value.

Deciduous fruit shipments of an approximate value of \$34,500,000 were sent to eastern markets from California for the season of 1917 in November. A total of 22,954 carloads of apricots, cherries, pears, peaches, plums, grapes and miscellaneous fruits went forward and it was estimated the total would be 23,000 cars before the close of the season. Shipments the season before totalled 17,389 carloads. A total of 12,349½ carloads of grapes was shipped. This was within a few hundred carloads of the shipment of all varieties of deciduous fruits in 1913, when the total for the season was 13,332 carloads. So much in illustration of the immensity of California's fruit business. The peach is California's second ranking orchard fruit, including the nectarine in the classification as a botanical variety. The state exceeds all others in dried and canned peaches, though Georgia leads in fresh peach shipments.

Fresno County produced in 1917 more than one-half of the state's \$5,000,000 crop of dried peaches. While it was generally recognized that it was the banner county of the state it was for the California Peach Growers Inc. to discover the position of the county by checking up the acreage. The figures show that Fresno is well over the fifty per cent. mark and that Fresno, Tulare, Kings and Merced counties have nearly seventy-five per cent. of the dried peach orchards of California. Within a radius of seventy-five miles from Fresno grow seventy-five per cent. of the peaches. About four and one-half of the six millions received from peaches in 1917 came to the Fresno district.

The state has a monopoly in apricot growing, and leads in the canned and dried export. Apricots fell off eight millions from forty millions, but it is an uncertain fruit, bearing largely every other three years. The 1914-15 season shows a heavy increase in lemon shipments and a falling off in oranges. Dried figs increased from four to fourteen million pounds. Raisins made a larger increase than any other fruit with imports greatly reduced. California leads for the prune and plums. The first large prune orchard was established in 1870 at San Jose. The production of the pear has declined with the blight, but is recovering. The Bartlett as the chief product grew nowhere more luscious than in Fresno. The French prune industry has become a large one and the olive is an old mission fruit that has come to the front in late years. Experimentation goes on with the date with encouraging results. California and Florida lead as the sub-tropical producers.

### DISTINCTIVE FEATURE IS THE ORCHARD

The orchard may be said to be one of the highest development features of Fresno County. The conditions that distinguish it as the raisin center make it ideal for sun drying of fruit as a big revenue producing item. The peach as the leading fruit totals four and one quarter million trees, an acreage of 42,500 speaking off hand. The apricot ranks second with an acreage of over 7,000. No other county probably has as many peach trees. Selma is the peach growing district of the county. The average profit on peaches is high, but the field has its good and bad marketing years, and to standardize the output the peach growers have taken a leaf out of the experience book of the raisin men and established a protective association patterned on the same lines. Peaches have gone as high as \$220 a ton but that was during an exceptional year when the general supply was poor.

February 1918 the California Peach Growers Inc. of Fresno made a \$40 a ton payment on delivered peaches of the 1917 crop. This was a second pay-



ment of \$1,150,000, or two cents additional on Stocks one and two, bringing the total to date seven cents per pound or \$140 a ton. There was yet a final payment to be made. On the 1916 crop Stocks one and two averaged about \$120 a ton and the second payment on 1917 crop with final yet to be made is \$20 above the previous total. The 1917 crop was practically cleaned out. The 1916 crop handled by the growers totalled 25,000 tons, while the 1917 totalled 30,000. On the association's first year's business a \$60,000 first dividend of seven per cent was paid to stockholders, besides an average of six per cent. per pound on peaches. The 1917 crop netted eight cents.

The olive is a most profitable tree, a slow grower to be sure but long lived, and it is a specialty of Fresno and gaining so in favor that nurserymen cannot meet the demand for trees. The field opened for the Calimyrna fig may be judged from the circumstance that in 1911 the United States produced 600,000 pounds of Smyrna figs against an importation of 26,000,000 pounds, paying moreover a duty of two and one-half cents on every pound.

The northern California orange crop matures from four to six weeks earlier than in the southern part of the state, notwithstanding a location from 300 to 500 miles farther north, an advantage due to topography in being enclosed by mountain ranges causing higher night temperatures during the summer and hastening maturing. The citrus industry is relatively new in the San Joaquin Valley, but the acreage in Fresno, Tulare and Kern was increased in 1915 by 3,000 acres, bringing the total to considerably over 12,000. In Northern and Central California, Tulare leads with 801,150 trees, Butte 247,412, Fresno 85,781, Kern 80,900 and Sacramento 46,256. The first Fresno Citrus Fair of Fresno, November, 1896, purely a local affair, was a revelation. The production four years later was 92,640 boxes. A high prize was taken in 1912 at the National Orange Show in San Bernardino. The development of a rich and promising citrus belt has been one feature of the county's recent growth. This belt runs along the eastern lower foothills and thousands of acres await development.

The state's orange industry represents an investment of about 150 millions. Florida lost its lead after the "great freeze" of 1894-95, the shipment falling from six millions to 75,000 boxes. California's citrus production for 1913-14 was a record breaker of 48,338 cars as against 18,331 for the previous season as reduced by a killing frost to the lowest production in twelve years. The lemon is less hardy than the orange and though grown for half a century it is only during the last twenty years that it has assumed importance, comprising ten to fifteen per cent. of the citrus crop. The year 1915 was a disastrous one in marketing at a loss of about thirty cents per box to the grower, due to the great crop and the heavy supply of fruit in storage, much of it in bad condition.

Instructive as showing the direct effect of irrigation on dairying are the following figures from the State Dairy Bureau giving the Fresno butter product in pounds during notable earlier years: 1905—1,619,746; 1907—2,786,817; 1909—3,721,262. Humboldt with its copious rainfall making irrigation unnecessary is the banner county for butter output. The increase in dairying is principally in counties where irrigation is practiced. The butter supply, by the way, is far short of the home demand. The state's dairy output is one valued at over twenty-seven millions. It is probably not generally appreciated that Fresno is preeminently a tree nursery district. There are more than half a hundred nurseries. The Fancher Creek Nurseries of George C. Roeding are world famous and his clientage co-extensive. One recent year there were raised in this county one million and a half deciduous and one-half million citrus trees and three million grape vines. The statement has been made that citrus trees are raised here in quantity sufficient to supply stock for all California. The district around old Centerville on the Kings River and near Sanger is a great nursery field in the hands of Japanese.

To generalize in conclusion: Fresno holds high rank in raisin drying, sweet wine and brandy making and in the shipping of table grapes, the chief viticultural divisions. It is an important factor in the green, dried and canned fruit lines. The grape alone brings into the county annually over nine millions, half of this credited to the raisin. It has ten and three-quarter millions wine grape vines, and thirty-seven millions raisin and table grape vines. Then there are to be considered the secondary profits from the vineyard as the second crop of muscats sold to the distilleries, the fertilizer from the stemmed grape pomace, besides use as a silage for sheep and cattle feed, oil extracted from the seeds, also tannin. The raisin is a leading specialty representing about one-tenth of the county's income, while Raisin Day on April 30th as an annual celebration has for four years attracted more than state wide notice for its spectacles. Fresno produces more raisins than all the rest of the state and twice as much as Spain. The seeded raisin is singular to Fresno. The output runs as high as 33,000 tons annually.

The associated raisin company in February, 1918, authorized on the seedless variety a second payment of \$50 per ton, added to the \$70 upon delivery bringing the total to \$120 a ton. On the 1916 crop it paid \$131 upon final payment.

In the 7,000 acres devoted to table grapes, the Malaga and Emperor are the chief varieties. The Thompson Seedless is extensively shipped, valuable raisin grape though it is. The perfection of a method of shipping in saw dust has given the fresh grape industry an impetus and permits competition for the eastern holiday trade. The region about Clovis is a more important and greater producer of the Malaga grape than is the original district in Spain. Fresno is a great producer of alfalfa, acreage over 50,000, yielding eight tons as an average to the acre. In dairying the county ranks fourth in the state, yet not until 1902 did it pass the million pound mark for butter and this was more than doubled three years later. The great bulk of the honey output of over twelve million pounds comes from the San Joaquin Valley and the counties south, the bees extracting the floral nectar from the alfalfa and sage in the one and the orange blossoms in the other district.

## CHAPTER XXXVI

FARM PRODUCT VALUES PLACE CALIFORNIA IN THE TENTH RANK AMONG THE STATES. RAISIN PRODUCTION OUTRANKS ALL INCREASES IN FRESNO COUNTY. THE OUTPUT IS THE LARGEST IN THE WORLD. IT HAS THE CREDIT FOR MORE THAN ONE-HALF OF THE STATE'S DRIED PEACH CROP. FOR HAY AND FORAGE IT IS THIRD. RICE GROWING IS MAKING GREAT STRIDES. SACRAMENTO VALLEY RAISES NINETY-FIVE PER CENT. OF THE COTTON IN THE STATE.

Sun-kissed California is a state where things are done on a big scale.

Farm products of the United States totaled in 1917 the unprecedented value of \$19,443,849,381. This is an increase of more than \$6,000,000,000 over 1916 and almost \$9,000,000,000 more than in 1915. The estimate of the U. S. Department of Agriculture is made up as follows:

Farm Crops .....	\$13,610,462,782
Animals and Products.....	5,833,386,599

Crops represent seventy per cent. of the farm products value. California's farm products are given a value of \$432,285,000. Its rank is tenth among the states.

Interesting facts as to the 1917 dairy production are contained in the state dairy bureau report. The butter production showed a marked decrease. In 1916 it was 70,030,174 pounds, as against 68,373,021 in 1917. Notable however that while the yield was almost 2,000,000 pounds less, its value was over \$6,000,000 more, being \$19,181,264 for 1916 and for 1917, \$25,345,879. The total 1917 cheese output was 9,236,663 pounds as against 11,745,124 in 1916. Santa Clara leads all counties with 1,567,305 pounds, Monterey second with 1,336,727, a reversal of places for these counties as Monterey led in 1916. The value of the cheese output was \$1,827,012. The increase is over 7,000,000 pounds in condensed, evaporated and powdered milk and in casein over 200 per cent.

Dairying has become such a notable industry in the central portion of the state with its alfalfa fields and climate, the latter permitting dairy stock to be out in pasture all the year, as to warrant the formation of the San Joaquin Valley Milk Producers' Association to control it. The Danish Creamery as a notably successful business institution of Fresno of twenty-two years of standing and one that has been awarded a succession of first prizes in state butter competitions, reported an increase in business for 1917 of thirty-nine per cent. The gross business was \$858,560.86, an increase principally due to the high price of the article. The butter made also showed a substantial increase over the previous year—total made 2,073,185 pounds. For January 1918 by way of illustration, it may be cited that the price of butter fat was fixed at sixty cents a pound, the amount paid for butter fat was \$71,034.67 and for the corresponding period the year before \$56,156.24.

Outranking all others is Fresno's 1917 increase in raisin production. There was produced in 1916 more than three times as much raisins as all California and in 1917 alone almost as many pounds as the 1916 grand total. Less than half a dozen of the fifty-eight counties of the state produce raisins in commercial quantity. Since 1913 the raisin crop has steadily increased. The crop in 1912 was 170,000,000 pounds but fell off in 1913 to 130,000,000. In 1916 it was up to the enormous total of 264,000,000 pounds which crop was exceeded the year after by 36,000,000 pounds.

Exports have made satisfactory increase from 14,000,000 in 1914, to 24,000,000 in 1915 and 75,000,000 pounds in 1916. That crop would have been the largest on record but that rains damaged Muscats and the loss was estimated at twenty-five per cent. with drying not completed until December. Thompson's and Sultanas being earlier escaped.

The state 1917 raisin crop was estimated at 150,000 tons, if not in excess, and of this production Fresno vineyards furnished seventy-five per cent. or 112,500 tons. The revenue from this large output averaged \$100 a ton, giving the Fresno County raisin crop a money value of \$11,250,000. The county's raisin crop for 1917 figured 225,000,000 pounds. Preeminence as a raisin producer is shown in the following tabulation on the basis of the 1916 totals:

County	Pounds
Fresno .....	207,000,000
Tulare .....	22,900,000
Kings .....	17,820,000
Sutter .....	8,320,000
Madera .....	3,320,000
Kern .....	1,560,000
San Bernardino .....	1,340,000
San Diego .....	1,200,000
Merced .....	480,000
Stanislaus .....	60,000

The 1917 state raisin crop was at the least 300,000,000 as against the 264,000,000 of 1916 and measured by these figures Fresno's crop would be the greatest in the world:

	Tons
Fresno County.....	112,500
Greek Currants.....	100,000
California (outside of Fresno).....	37,500
Turkish Sultanans.....	30,000
Spain .....	5,500

Fresno's peach production in 1916 was 18,000 tons with estimates of 20,000 to 22,000 representing the 1917 crop. Figuring on the minimum, the value would be \$3,200,000 or more than fifty per cent. of the state's dried peach crop. The green peach production amounted to about 800 cars, chiefly from Selma, "The Home of the Peach," and from Fowler and Reedley. Green peaches averaged the grower \$30 a ton, thirteen tons to the car, total value of the crop \$312,000.

Of table grape varieties largest shipments were Malagas, 2,000 cars representing Fresno's 1917 export. In addition probably 300 cars of Thompson's seedless and 400 of Emperors represented the total from the county for the season and the value:

Malagas .....	\$1,040,000
Emperors .....	312,000
Thompson's .....	195,000

The 1916 green grape tonnage was valued at \$174,300; in 1917 almost doubled. The wine grape production for 1917 was near the three million dollar mark.

Rice culture made a long step in advance as one of the possible industries of the state with \$1,000,000 worth of the grain practically on the way to the mills from the 1917 harvest. In five years it has grown from a \$75,000 per annum experimental industry. Over ninety-five per cent. of the rice raised in California comes from the Sacramento Valley and while only 84,000 acres were harvested in 1917 the applications for water to canal companies and other sources up to February, 1918, indicated increase in acreage in excess of the water supplying capacities.

The larger growers contracted with mills at Lake Charles, La., and Beaumont, Texas, for over one-third of the 1917 crop. Returns from the mills show net average of about three dollars and seventy-five cents per 100 pounds to the grower, in some cases as high as four dollars and five cents. The cost of rice production in 1917 was abnormal. A conservative estimate is that it cost the planter in excess of two dollars and twenty-five cents per sack of 100 pounds to place the crop in warehouse. The acreage in this county fell off from 1,120 in 1915 to 280 in 1916 but regained in 1917 to bring the total to an estimated 500 acres.

According to federal statistics there were 117,000 acres planted to cotton in California for the 1917 season, more than double the 52,000 acreage of 1916 while that of 1915 was only 39,000. For the 1917 season the yield per acre showed a decided decrease. The average was 275 pounds per acre, 400 for 1916 and 380 for 1915. While this yield is notably less than that of past years, it is yet the highest acre yield of any state. Louisiana ranks second with 218 pounds. Average price for 1917 was twenty-eight cents a pound, twenty for 1916, and 11.2 for 1915. The farm value of the California cotton crop was: 1917—\$9,380,000; 1916—\$4,362,000 and 1915—\$1,599,000. Average acre value of crop: 1917—seventy-seven dollars as the highest reported by any state; 1916—eighty; 1915—forty-two dollars and fifty-six cents.

California's corn crop was doubled in 1917 and the bean and oats crops trebled during this year when war's demands called for increase in staple

farm products. Green fruit production during 1917 gives the county's orange crop at 300 cars or 114,000 boxes valued at one dollar and twenty-five cents a box at \$142,000. The oranges are chiefly from the pioneer Centerville district, the nearby Sanger and the later developed Wahtoke district. The acreage in bearing is only 400 or 500, though in the Wahtoke district 2,000 acres have been planted.

The plum production will not exceed 100 cars valued at \$52,000. There are 72,788 olive trees in bearing in the county and it is fifth in the state for olive production. The county's acreage under irrigation in crop is 259,607, under irrigation not in crop 76,311 and 10,075 summer fallowed.

In hay and forage the county ranks third with a \$2,000,000 1917 product. The Turkish tobacco output of Fresno and Tulare with the only available figures those of the joint production is of about 200,000 pounds. The bee colonies in the county exceed 10,000. The production is in round figures 700,000 pounds of honey and upwards of 8,500 in wax. In ordinary years the county ships 20,000 cases of honey annually which at 1917's prices would represent \$240,000. The 1917 harvest was only one-fourth of the normal, valued at \$60,000.

According to the Forest Service report the state's lumber cut in 1917 leads all records. It places the cut at 1,424,000,000 feet board measure exceeding the 1916 cut by about 4,000,000, the 1917 figures representing fifteen mills less than reporting the year before, but indicating greater activity on the part of individual mills in meeting demands of the war. Mills to the number of 169 reported for 1917 a cut of 1,417,068,400 feet, with 1,317,-245,000 as the output of the forty-eight larger mills. In the cut are represented the following:

Redwood .....	487,458,000
Western Pine .....	478,458,000
Douglass Fir .....	156,083,000
Sugar Pine .....	127,951,000
White Fir .....	120,661,000
Cedar .....	21,310,000
Spruce .....	20,659,000

In Fresno County lumber interests were not active. The Shaver mills were not in operation and the mill at Hume cut about 20,000,000 feet. It had shut down two weeks when on the morning of November 3, 1917, it was visited by fire causing a loss of half a million.

Estimates of other products increasing the aggregate wealth of the county and not including lumber and oil are these for the year 1917:

Manufacturing .....	\$3,200,000
Canned Fruit .....	3,120,000
Dairy Products .....	2,850,000
Minerals .....	2,225,000
Nursery Stock .....	860,000
Poultry and Eggs .....	510,000
Melons .....	290,000
Wool and Mohair .....	160,000

The fruit item above recalls that twenty-five years ago when the first small cannery had been in operation here two years the San Francisco cannery held obstinately to the theory that deciduous fruits grown on the irrigated soil of Fresno were unfit for canning.

## CHAPTER XXXVII

ROMANTIC SIDE OF HORTICULTURE. THE STORY OF THE MINUTE FIG WASP IN THE INTRODUCTION OF A COMING INDUSTRY. EARLY EXPERIMENTATION IN CAPRIFICATION. FRESNO FURNISHES HALF OF THE FIG CROP. COMMERCIALIZATION OF THE BLACK MISSION. GRAPE INDUSTRY OF VALLEY TO BE REVOLUTIONIZED. MAGNITUDE OF THE DRIED FRUIT OUTPUT. THE RABBIT DRIVE AS A SPORT OF THE VALLEY. CALIFORNIA THE LAND FOR SCIENTIFIC FARMING.

Horticulture in California has its romantic side. No phase of it is more striking than that of the introduction of the fig wasp with the result of an industry yet in its infancy that in time may equal the grape, the peach, or the raisin outputs.

As interesting is the history of the searches for and discoveries in foreign lands and the importation and home propagation of beneficial insects that wage relentless warfare on the harmful tree and vine pests.

The state horticultural commissioner has discovered a new field for the California ladybird beetle that has played such an important part in nature's economy. It is to be sent for colonization to the melon patches in Southern California to make war there on the destructive vine bugs. A wonderful and entrancingly interesting work is being prosecuted by the state horticultural board and the Department of Agriculture in the line of natural economics with these numerous and varied beneficial insects. The future of important fruit and vine crops has been saved by the introduction, propagation and naturalization in California of these insects. "Bugology," as it has been popularly termed, has become an important scientific branch of horticulture.

The fig wasp is hardly larger than the gnat, but to propagate it in Fresno for the commercial production of the dried Smyrna fig has cost thousands of dollars, years of discouraging effort and journeys to the Orient for sojourns in the districts where it makes its home. Consular service, the resources of the Department of Agriculture and the enterprise and money of private experimenters overcame difficulties with the result of an industry that yields half a million dollars annually to California orchardists and which with time may attain great proportions.

The fig has long been cultivated in this state, but Turkey, Algeria and other countries on the Mediterranean held the dried fig trade as a monopoly. The home product was so inferior despite fruitfulness of trees that competition was out of the question. California varieties were the Mission figs introduced by the Franciscan padres more than a century ago, and the later European imported White Adriatic. Dried, the home article commanded from seven and one-half to ten cents a pound in the market when no Smyrna figs were on hand. It was theorized that the fault lay in the California cultivated variety. Introduction of the Smyrna followed with a shipment in 1879 by G. P. Rexford of the San Francisco Bulletin. The consul at Smyrna assisting, thousands of cuttings were imported and distributed among nurserymen and growers. They rooted readily, but the fruit never grew large and fell from the trees as the experience of years. The only explanation was that there had been an imposition with a worthless variety to defeat introduction of the true Smyrna fig in America.

Some dug up their trees: a few let theirs stand as ornamentals and warnings against embracing a fad too readily. Most of the Black Missions



were planted along ditches as borders or wind breaks. F. Roeding and his son, George C., of Fresno, scientific nurserymen, were among the earliest interested and in 1886 sent W. C. West to Smyrna to investigate. He learned things that would not have been believed but for confirmation by Dr. Gustav Eisen of the California Academy of Sciences in discovered ancient writings of the practice of Orientals in picking the wild or Capri figs at a certain time of the year and hanging them in the branches of the cultivated trees. And what Dr. Eisen discovered in ancient tomes, concerning the minute insect that issued from the wild fig and entered the cultivated to fertilize the latter with pollen and thus cause them to mature, West learned by observation in the Maeander River Valley, the world's principal supply source of the Smyrna fig.

California figs contained "mule flowers," as they were called. Fruit progressed to maturation without agency of wasp, seeds were hollow fruit inferior in flavor and deficient in sweetness. The Smyrna containing only female blossoms, will not mature unless fertilized by pollen from the Capri fig, and this is the life work of the blastophaga grossorum, the little wasp that breeds in the Capri fig. The process of transferring this pollen has given rise to the term "caprification," and to enable the wasp to perform this function the practice of the Orientals has been for ages to hang the Capri figs among the branches of the Smyrna trees yielding the fig of commerce. The Capri fig is in fig producing lands an article of commerce for the very insects that it contains. Strange indeed that California fruit men were so slow in discovering the reason for their failures with Smyrna trees. But it was the fact nevertheless. The bug story provoked ridicule. The Roedings constituted themselves the champions of the blastophaga and made plantings of the two cuttings sent on by West. In 1890 they bore and artificial pollenization was attempted. The fertilized fruit matured, but the figs were still inferior to the imported. The experimentation of several years was successful in part only, and the conclusion was that the wasp must be naturalized, or the effort in California to grow Smyrna figs abandoned.

Capri figs were imported in June, 1892, and hung in trees covered with cloth to prevent escape of the insects. Other shipments followed but all to no satisfactory purpose. The Secretary of Agriculture was induced in 1897 to take up the subject with the result of more recorded failures. Finally out of a lot sent in 1899, each fig wrapped in tinfoil and all in cotton in a wooden case, the insects emerged and fertilized orchard growing fruit during the summer. They bred, passing through several generations. The hibernation period was outlived and next summer the Capris were transferred to the Smyrnas. A crop of fifteen tons was harvested, tested chemically and found to contain one and four-tenths percent. more sugar than the imported. The problem of producing commercially valuable California dried figs was solved. In overcoming the difficulties, the Department of Agriculture has the credit of importing the insects and Mr. Roeding of naturalizing them in the long and wearisome experimental processes, bearing the financial loss of the failures and the ridicule in assuming that such an insignificant insect should play such an important part in nature's economy. In May, 1901, Mr. Roeding went to Smyrna to familiarize himself with details of caprification, curing and packing. The nature of his mission preceded him and he found the people averse to teach a threatened competitor. The benefit of his information and experiences he has given in a book, "The Smyrna Fig at Home and Abroad."

And thus by accident it was that in June, 1899, the discovery was made after persistent effort and discouraging trials that the little gnat or wasp had consented to be listed among the prize emigrants. The wasp was alive and propagating in some of the Capri figs sent in March and April of 1898 and 1899. The fig growers of Asia Minor, who had practised caprification

for over a thousand years, had been found to be amazingly ignorant. They knew that figs cannot be obtained without the agency of the little insect but in what manner it benefits the figs or how it propagates was a sealed book to them.

California is practically a lone producer of the fig in commercial quantities, with Fresno as the leading grower of what has been described as "perhaps the grandest fruit tree of California." The White Adriatic was largely planted from 1884 to 1897. Markarian introducing and planting it as a vineyard border tree, and ten years later packing the fruit. In 1897 as stated, the Smyrna was introduced by George C. Roeding and he originated an important fruit industry with his improved caprifig "Calimyrna." The fig industry generally faces such a hopeful outlook that as a result of an institute held in Fresno in January, 1917, the growers of the state and especially of the San Joaquin Valley took steps to organize for the marketing of crops on a better business basis. As a result of the preliminary pool, when only ten to twenty percent. of the fig area had been signed, two-cent selling prices of a few years ago advanced from five to ten cents according to variety.

Problems confronting the fig men are not the same that face raisin and peach growers, though many belong to both organizations. They have long considered their border trees as a side issue without realizing their true market value until of late. The fig man is having much the same experience as the raisin and peach grower has had dealing individually with the packer. Congratulating himself that he is securing a top price, not until after sale or contract signature does he learn in comparing notes with neighbors that he has not been favored but often that he has been discriminated against.

On account of the European war, Asia Minor fig importations have been cut off for two years, this import being about 18,000 tons annually. About 1,500 tons for each of the two years have come to America from Portugal and Spain, a tonnage that usually goes to Denmark, Norway and Sweden. This diverted supply is what is known as a manufacturing or baker's fig and does not compete with the California fig as the true Smyrna does. This state produces from 6,000 to 8,000 tons of figs yearly. The product is annually increasing by reason of new plantings, so that with normal imports there should be over 25,000 tons of figs on the market, with a hold over crop in most years.

While the imports are cut off, California growers are producing nearly all the dried figs consumed in the United States, and over fifty percent. of this crop is raised in Fresno County. It will be several years probably after the war ceases before the tonnage of import will equal that before the war. Report is that many fig trees in the foreign centers have been ruined or cut back for fuel. This would set back their crops for some years, and as the last two years' crops have been consumed there is no danger of a large accumulation of foreign figs to crowd the American markets after the war.

And while on the subject of this war there is the interesting circumstance that in March, 1918, the University of California rejected all bids for the fig crop of the Kearney Farm in Fresno, although they ranged near \$23,000 for a crop that theretofore had sold on the trees for \$3,000 to \$5,500. It was probably the first time in history that a producer had refused a price because it was deemed too high. The university men declared they would not take advantage of offers that were out of proportion to the value of the fruit or at least were greatly inflated. There are some 2,100 trees on the estate practically all on the borders. Some are poor producers, others among the best in the county. Most of them are the white Adriatics. Some fig crops in the county were bought up at thirteen and thirteen and one-half cents a pound; some even higher.

## REVOLUTIONIZING THE GRAPE INDUSTRY

Pomologist George C. Husmann in charge of viticultural investigations for the United States Department of Agriculture, has made announcement of successful experiments in currant and table grape varieties that may revolutionize the grape industry of the valley. The currant varieties have been tested on resistant stock and results have been secured to make it certain that the grape will thrive here. Many vines at the experimental plot yielded sixty to eighty pounds to the vine and some have gone higher. Over 50,000,000 pounds of currants from this small grape are imported yearly, and the Department of Agriculture believes this industry can be switched to the San Joaquin Valley. The fruit is said to be a delicious eating grape, as well as a currant grape, and capable of being shipped to long distances.

Experiments with the Black Minukka, a large berried, big clustered seedless grape of the Thompson Seedless family, demonstrated it to be a good shipping grape. It is said to surpass in flavor nearly all other varieties. A grape that may supplant the Emperor is the Hunisa. It ripens at about the same time, packs well and is in keeping and shipping qualities the equal of any, while better flavored than most. Experiments with this variety have shown that it will grow in this valley, and should bring greater returns than the Emperor, which it has almost supplanted in other districts. The belief is that those varieties combining flavor and quality with shipping capability will sell best in the eastern markets. Many in the East are disappointed in Tokays because they lack flavor.

According to the State Agricultural Society, the California dried fruit industry made noteworthy gains during the year 1915, and the following figures indicate the magnitude it has attained. The value of all imported fruit in 1913, including dates, Greek currants and bananas was \$32,100,392; in 1914 \$32,235,011 and in 1915 \$23,046,778. The largest falling off was in figs from 20,506,000 pounds to 8,327,000, while olives dropped from 5,743,000 gallons to 3,713,000, indicative that the state crops are becoming large enough to supply the country's demands without going abroad. Exports of domestic dried fruits increased from \$28,868,000 to \$36,924,000, indicating what strides the horticultural interests are making. Raisin importations which a few years ago were 40,000,000 pounds have been reduced to 1,604,000, the lowest on record. Records steadfastly show that imports of raisins have decreased while exports increased.

Notable changes are in dried apricots from 16,541,000 pounds in 1914 to 25,747,000 in 1915, the bulk going to England. Exports of oranges decreased from 1,839,000 boxes to 1,588,000, nearly all of which for the two years went to Canada. Dried peaches increased from 7,387,000 pounds to 18,720,000. Exports of California prunes increased from 35,228,000 to 50,775,000 pounds, 15,677,000 going to England, 10,941,000 to Canada and 18,572,000 to other European countries. Exports of raisins make a remarkable showing in an advance from 16,594,000 pounds for the calendar year of 1913 to 21,688,000 in 1914 and 58,497,000 during the twelve months of 1915, demonstrating the results achieved by the California Associated Raisin Company.

## THE RABBIT DRIVE AS A SPORT

The early colony settlers bore up with experiences to try the patience of the bravest, as in the times of "dry farming," when a band of roaming cattle would in a few hours over night devastate an entire grainfield. With budding vines, rootings, sprouting tree cuttings, germinating alfalfa or grain seed, grasshoppers have swooped down like a cloud and devoured every vestige of green above ground. The jack-rabbit, with which the coun-

try was infested, was the most formidable competitor. Bunny was a prolific breeder, and to reduce the species to save entire crops from destruction the rabbit drive was a valley conception. Rabbit proof wire fencing, tubular tree protectors and poison were no protection. The drive was made the occasion of a popular outpouring and a community recreation, cruel as was the sport as some classified the drive.

Described in brief the drive required a large wire-screen fenced-in corral, seven feet high, varying in diameter, the entrance narrow and chute like, provided with gate and the corral approached by lateral wings spreading half a mile and more in length screened three feet high. Men, women, children in carriages, vehicles of every description, on horse, afoot, were started often by the quickstep of a band in a line abreast and with whoop-up and as much noise as possible moved over the land to be covered, driving the rabbits in the brush and everything else in front of them in the direction of the corral. The aim was to continually move forward and to keep the rabbits before and prevent retreat to the rear of the onmoving line. Excitement ran high as the rabbits were driven between the wings to certain destruction, rushing and crowding into the corral, frightened almost to death by the roar of shouts and yells.

Once driven in in solid living mass, the gate was closed and the indiscriminate slaughter began in the corral to the accompanying shouts and noise of the excited populace and the terrified almost human cries of Bunny. Hundreds committed suicide by rushing against the wire fence and knocking themselves senseless. Corral fence was lined outside with onlooking busy spectators to knock on the head any rabbit attempting to force an escape under the wire. The bloody work within the corral was swiftly accomplished in time. Sometimes the effort was made to count the slaughter. As often it was not. Often the corral and the entrance would be covered several feet deep with carcasses of dead rabbits. The slaughter was frequently immense. These two-hour drives were attended by hundreds and even by thousands, exciting as much popular interest at first as the old time rodeo.

Coyotes, badgers, skunks and other animals were not infrequently caught in the drive to death. Carcasses were taken away to hogs and chickens, but the greater part was left on the field to be later buried. These drives had their effect for a time in districts in depopulating the Bunny tribe. The destruction of the rabbit as well as that of the ground squirrel was at all times encouraged. The interests of the farmer demanded it in self preservation. The encouragement took the form at various periods in five-dollar bounty for a coyote scalp, five cents on rabbit and ground squirrel and two cents on gopher, appropriations by the county for wire fencing for communal district drives, extermination by poison and campaign taken up and conducted on systematic lines by federal authority as a measure against the spread of bubonic plague and communicable diseases "for the destruction of agricultural pests serving no known purpose in nature's economic plan."

With the passing of the years, the rabbit drive as a sport unique in the San Joaquin Valley was neglected and became almost unknown to the younger generation. It was with the increase of the rabbits revived on a comparatively small scale as community affairs during the 1917-18 season with the introduction of the farm adviser bureau. A fish packing company from Monterey was in the field with offer to buy up the carcasses for canning in an expected meat food scarcity by reason of the war. These revived drives, however, lacked the popular, picturesque and spectacular features of those of the early days of farming on the plains when they were gala occasions attended by the thousands as on the lines of the rodeos of the cattle days.

Romance? The greatest chapter in the story of the state and of the county is that which tells of the farm and the marvelous transformation from the mining camp to the farm—the small farm with the certain and lasting wealth greater than all that was wrung from mine and placer. Nordhoff of whom allusion has been made before was enamored of California even in the infant days of farming and was amazed with what he beheld in the big interior valleys, likening the San Joaquin to “a region as rich as the Nile.” Contrasting what he saw in 1871 and what he beheld ten years later in this valley, he remarked:

“The remarkable change that came about is due to the small farmers, for it was they who year after year discovered what the soil and climate produced best, perfecting raisin culture, proving the value of the apricot and prune, the olive, the fig, the orange and lemon, etc., introducing practically the profitable dried fruit business and bringing alfalfa, the boon of the small farmer, to its greatest development perfection. This was accomplished by the small farmers when they were comparatively few as to numbers. They sought at first the plain, because it was the most available place, instead of the sheltered foothill lands which the grain men had appropriated. Experience has demonstrated that the settlement of small farmers in colonies is the ideal condition rather than the scattered individual farms for many and obvious reasons.”

And his final word to all who might turn their faces toward California was that it is no country for idlers or “clerks,” but “a paradise for men who will work with their hands, and the better if they will also put brains into their work.”

## CHAPTER XXXVIII

POSSIBILITIES OF COTTON CULTURE IN THE VALLEY. WARNING IS GIVEN AGAINST A REPETITION OF THE MISTAKES AFTER THE CIVIL WAR. THE EGYPTIAN VARIETY IS RECOMMENDED. FIG PRODUCTION WILL PLAY AN IMPORTANT ROLE. FOUR VARIETIES ARE OF DEMONSTRATED WORTH. CURRANT GRAPE IS ANOTHER COMMERCIAL FACTOR OF THE RAISIN BELT IN COMPETITION WITH THE OLD WORLD.

Three new agricultural possibilities are receiving attention in Fresno County—cotton, fig and currant grape growing, besides the experiments with rice and Turkish tobacco. A revival of interest in the possibilities of cotton culture resulted in the Sacramento and San Joaquin Valleys from favorable reports of experimental plantings. The idea that cotton could become an important crop in California has been persistent with the rapid development of the production in recent years in the Imperial and Colorado Valleys.

The warning is given by the Department of Agriculture that the mistakes of the ante bellum efforts of the 60's be not repeated. In the period of high prices following the Civil War, short staple cotton was grown in commercial quantities in this valley, and importations of Southern negroes were even made to promote its culture. The efforts were abandoned as soon as normal conditions were restored in the southern states. European war conditions and high prices are making even short staple cotton a profitable Californian crop, but there is little prospect of maintaining a short staple industry after normal conditions are again restored.

The danger of the direct competition with the south is to be avoided. Instead of the short staple upland type of cotton of the southern belt, it is of distinct advantage to the southwestern farmers to plant Egyptian cotton.

It is adapted to the conditions of the irrigated valleys of Arizona and California. With cotton as with every other crop, a failure to take account of differences in varieties may lead to costly failures. The Egyptian differs from the upland variety as a taller and more slender plant with narrower leaf-lobes and smaller bolls. This last feature has led southerners to believe that the yield must be small, whereas the Egyptian often yields very well, a 500-pound bale or more per acre having been obtained on many farms in the Salt River Valley of Arizona.

Thirty thousand acres of the Egyptian grown in the valley in 1917 gave a return to the farmers estimated at \$5,000,000. Estimates from it and other valleys indicate that nearly 100,000 acres would be planted in 1918 in Arizona. The Arizona varieties have been grown not only in the Yuma, Palo Verde and Imperial Valleys of Southern California, but have been found well adapted to the southern part of the San Joaquin Valley around Bakersfield and Fresno, and in 1917 grew and ripened satisfactorily at several points in the two great interior valleys. The season may have been unusually favorable for cotton ripening in the Sacramento Valley.

The scarcity of extra-staple cotton may be appreciated from the fact that seventy to eighty cents a pound was paid for superior grades of the Arizona grown Egyptian for which twenty-five cents was considered a good price.

There were other considerations in this connection, but if the needs of American manufacturers for cotton of the Egyptian type are to be met by a home production the call would be for the planting of several hundred thousands of acres. Experts' figures are that California's central valleys can produce more cotton to the acre than any other region in the world. The California yield is 400 pounds per acre with 315 as the next highest in Virginia for thirteen cotton growing states, and with Texas 157 pounds.

State university experiments at the Kearney Estate are that California is able because of the climate and the soil conditions and when one kind of cotton is grown to produce the finest grade outside of Egypt. An influence working detrimentally in all areas is the diversity of varieties produced. Cotton cross-pollinates readily and when varieties are grown in the same community crossing is brought about by wind and insects, causing deterioration in quantity and quality of yield of each. This has been demonstrated by conditions in the Imperial Valley, where many varieties are grown so close together that at this time no superior variety possesses superior quality or yield.

Agitation of the subject in Fresno has resulted in the formation here of the California Egyptian Cotton Growers' Association after an unequivocal declaration in favor of using every effort to confine planting in the central part of the state to the Egyptian long staple variety and to urge the potential cotton growers of two valleys to do their own ginning on a cooperative plan. Quite generally through the San Joaquin the counties passed at the association's instance ordinance similar to the one enacted on Washington's Birthday, 1918, in Fresno as the first prohibiting the planting of any save Egyptian cotton. Several cotton planting enterprises have been incorporated. One of them known as the Fresno Liberty Cotton Company will cultivate 1,000 acres of Miller & Lux land near Oxalis on the west side of the county on both sides of the railroad.

One of the very first results of the passage of the Fresno ordinance limiting character of the planting was an action at law in the federal court by an Imperial Valley grower attacking the ordinance after a shipment of short staple cotton staple seed had been seized at Firebaugh for condemnation.



## FIG CULTIVATION BOOMING

As the result of a fig institute held in January, 1918, and taking a lesson out of the book of experience of the raisin, peach and other fruit growers, the California Fig Growers' Association has been formed in Fresno with Henry Markarian, a pioneer fig grower as the first president of this latest of cooperative organizations.

Its objects will be to act as a cooperative marketing agency and as such set at each season a standard minimum price for the different varieties of figs to all growers, to plant a Capri fig orchard in a thermal belt of the San Joaquin as suggested by Mr. Markarian to be maintained by the association for early caprification and as a dependable supply source at minimum cost and eventually to make a better or standard uniform pack of figs, following on the lines that the raisin and peach men are pursuing in their marketing of their products. A first step in February was to advance for 1918 the prices about forty dollars a ton for all varieties on future sales. A fig exhibit will be made and the suggestion has been favorably received to promote a California Fig Day similar to the Fresno Raisin Day for the mutual benefit of growers and consumers.

It is not many years ago that merchants in California and in the East as well were of the decided opinion that this state would never produce a fig equal to the imported. The prejudice has been overcome. Figs have been grown in California for over 100 years. The padres brought them in the variety that has been named the Mission Black. In later years the California White Adriatic was introduced and fifteen years ago the Calimyrna fig—the name a contraction of California-Smyrna—from Europe through the efforts of George C. Roeding. From a very small beginning, with the figs in many cases allowed to go to waste, trees neglected and principally used for shade, the industry began to be a factor seventeen years ago when small and indifferent packs were shipped.

During the year 1917 the estimate of W. F. Toomey, mayor of Fresno and one of the chief fig shippers in the county, is that between 6,500 and 7,000 tons of the three varieties were shipped from this county. The major part of these was White Adriatic. The frost the year before had greatly reduced the crop. That the industry will be an important one is not only evidenced by the fact of thousands of trees being planted but that packing firms are going into the manufacture of byproducts as fig coffee, fig pulp or paste used in the making of cake and fig cereal. The 1916 figures present a fair basis for a comparison between the production of the county and the state, the production in other sections not showing a great increase while Fresno's output has increased from 1,500 to 3,000 tons:

Variety.	State.	Fresno.
White Adriatic .....	5,000 tons	3,800 tons
Smyrna .....	600	400
Black Mission .....	300	100

California produces some 16,000,000 pounds of figs, mostly Adriatics. Before the European war, there was an importation of 20,000,000 pounds annually mainly of the Smyrna variety. During the next ten years there will be gradually produced from California fig orchards planted and being planted an additional 20,000,000 pounds. The optimistic look to see in the next twenty years a production in California and largely in the vicinity of Fresno of 100,000,000 pounds and each year better figs and better packed, for it is argued if the 100,000,000 Americans are going to eat American figs there must be American methods of growing and of packing and in this connection the word American means Californian in so far as the fig is concerned.

Of the figs grown in Fresno, "The Garden of the Sun"—as it has been denominated in the latest slogan officially adopted by the county chamber of commerce—there are four varieties that have demonstrated their particular value and merit. The Black Mission is the oldest and most frequently found under cultivation. It is a heavy producer, particularly desirable for bakers' use and a good short distance shipper when green. Next comes the Adriatic, also a heavy producer, of fine appearance and suited to many uses. The Smyrna is the recognized fig for drying and unsurpassed for packing qualities. The Kadota is a luscious and golden-yellow-hued fruit whose strongest recommendation is as a green shipper to most distant continental markets in refrigerator cars as are grapes and other fruit, arriving in eastern markets in such fine condition that for two seasons it has commanded prices ranging from fifteen to fifty cents a pound, meaning from \$300 to \$1,000 a ton. It is a favorite for cooking purposes and the fact that no caprification is required to produce a crop is an important point. When caprified, it is of size equal to the Smyrna, takes on an added appearance for shipping and is materially improved. The smaller variety of the fig which is about thirty percent. of the crop is in demand by canners and for glacé fruit and it lends itself to the other uses that the fruit is put to.

The J. C. Forkner Fig Gardens are one of the wonders in the process of the development of the fig in Fresno County—a great fig orchard of 5,000 acres not to be held by a corporation but subdivided for homes and in preparation for them an adjunct nursery that has 200,000 cuttings growing and flourishing. The buyer of the land is permitted to plant whichever variety he chooses. By far the greater majority of the figs planted and to be planted are the Calimyrna, with 500 acres in the spring of 1919 to the Kadota. The territory under development is a 10,000-acre tract near the San Joaquin River, north of the city. It is land that has been slighted and neglected because it is of the so-called "hog wallow" conformation and lacking as long claimed depth of soil because the hard pan is so close to the surface, necessitating the use of dynamite in penetrating that hard pan to the soil underneath.

An imaginative writer has declared that it required 6,000 years to bring about a full realization of the fig gardens of Smyrna and at most there are 20,000 acres monopolizing a world's trade. Here on the outskirts of Fresno City beginning has been made on a great orchard of 5,000 acres, one-fourth the size and promising of a greater production than that of the old world. Below the protecting hard pan surface was revealed a stratum of from five to fifteen feet of soil and analysis has proven it to be ideal for the fig. The way to this subsoil has to be dynamited and the land of hog wallow knolls levelled during the first year. During the first year in this planting work \$12,000 worth of dynamite was used. For the second \$3,000 worth is being used monthly. In this plan to plant 5,000 acres, 1,500 have been put in; for 1918 ground is in preparation for 2,000 and for 1919 1,500 with all the preparatory work and the growing of the serving nursery.

A beginning was made with 10,000 acres of land. Four thousand of these were sold before conceiving the plan of the 5,000-acre fig garden. The original idea was to handle the tract as millions of other acres in the state have been previously subdivided and sold. The fig garden came as a later inspiration. No nursery would of its own initiative plant 200,000 or even 100,000 fig cuttings because forsooth no nursery in the history of the state had ever sold 200,000 or 100,000 in a year. No nursery could undertake this risk. This suggested the adjunct nursery in a frostless, foothill section, every fig cutting from the 160 acres of Henry Markarian, the pioneer fig grower, was bought and 500,000 planted and today the day is awaited when 200,000 fig trees will be planted. It is the most marvelous fig nursery stock the world has seen. The time is coming when the 5,000 acres will be fig

producers and continue to be after many a man, woman and child in the community will long have been forgotten with the passing of the years for the fig like the olive is of long life. It will be the day when California through Fresno will be controlling the world's production and market of the fig.

### CURRENT AND SHIPPING GRAPES

Another predicted industry is that of the currant grape and a great one if taken up on commercial lines by the vineyardists of the San Joaquin Valley. George C. Husman, pomologist in charge of viticultural investigation for the United States Department of Agriculture, states as the result of trials and tests at the government's experimental station at Fresno Vineyards Company's property with more than 500 varieties of grapes that it is no longer an experiment but that the growing of currants as a commercial factor should be vigorously pursued by the growers of the state and notably in the raisin belt and established as a variety of California's world controlling raisin industry. From Greece, the Zante currant so-called of commerce has been yearly imported in quantity of 45,000,000 pounds but now as the result of the war the currant country has become devastated or neglected and it is the opportunity for the vineyardists to plant currant grape vines.

There is the important fact that the currant grape may be harvested, cured and stored for consumption before the harvest of the raisin crop commences. This solves the labor problem as vineyardists may give employment for months before the Thompson's, Muscats and other varieties are placed on the trays for sun curing. Testing out the annual incision of the currant vine to promote the successful setting of the fruit of this variety, experiments have led up to the quadrupling of the crop on particular vines. The currant vine will bear within three years and in production will surpass the Muscat and equal the Thompson and the Sultana.

Attention has also been paid to the development of a real choice productive variety of table, shipping and storage grapes. Investigation shows decidedly that the higher quality of grapes of better shipping, storage and selling qualities than those grown for that purpose has been developed and there is no hesitancy in the declaration that among these varieties are such as the Ohanez which stands in a class by itself so far as late storage and keeping qualities are concerned. This is the variety that for so many years has been so extensively cultivated and imported from the Malaga districts of Spain, at least 1,600,000 barrels of these grapes packed in cork dust coming into this country.

The California Wine Association has given the Agricultural Department a fifty-year lease, with annual renewal, on the experimental property so that experiments may be undertaken by the government without fear of molestation before the work is complete.

## CHAPTER XXXIX

M. THEO. KEARNEY, THE MAN OF MYSTERY IN PRIVATE LIFE, THE AUTOCRAT IN PUBLIC. HE LIVED IN SOLITARY GRANDEUR IN A CHATEAU WITHOUT COMPANION OR FRIEND. AS A PERSONAGE HE WAS POPULARLY MISUNDERSTOOD. YET NO OTHER RICH MAN OF THE COUNTY HAS MADE A GREATER PUBLIC BENEFACTION. DIED UNATTENDED ON THE HIGH SEAS. CHAMPIONED THE FORMATION OF THE FIRST RAISIN GROWERS' ASSOCIATION. SAND LOT KEARNEY SET UP CLAIM OF HEIRSHIP ON A FIRST COUSIN RELATIONSHIP.

Germane to the story of the raisin industry, an important chapter would deal with the life and public career of M. Theo. Kearney, so notable in the business activities of the county. He was a remarkable character and personage. In private life, he was the man of unfathomable mystery. In public life, he was the autocrat, overbearing, uncompromising—a very “bull in a china shop.” He died without clearing the mystery of his life that was the subject of so much discussion and conjecture.

After his death, not even the oldest or most trusted employe could with certainty affirm what his age was, nor what his nativity. No man so prominently in a public career for a time was so widely known and so little known also. To suggest that he was an Irishman was to give affront. He maintained on the rare occasions when it is recalled that he ever let slip any information concerning his antecedents, that he was Liverpool born and came with parents to Boston at an early age. In style, comportment and grooming, he posed as an Englishman, and by many was taken as one. He lived the life of a crabbed bachelor, without close friend or bosom confidant, in solitary grandeur in the erected wing of an ambitious chateau designed after an historical French feudal castle. He died suddenly from heart trouble on May 26, 1906, at sea in his stateroom on the steamship Caronia, Europe bound, attended as in life by no friend or sympathizer. The remains were cremated upon arrival at Queenstown and in time were received at the Kearney estate, where the metallic box container is the subject of no one's care, solicitude or reverence but is shifted from here to there as a thing which for the space it covers is neither useful nor ornamental.

Kearney was either a man of fair lineage, who had a past great disappointment or woe in life to turn him cynical, or he was a parvenu, who having met with financial success in new surroundings would have it thought that he was patrician, wherefore silence as to his past was the safest course to pursue in blocking inquiry, the while living up to the pretension. The fact is that nothing certain is known as to his antecedents, or early life. His age, birth, and ancestry were never the subject of communion even with the oldest business associate. His acquaintances—friends he did not court—never went beyond the cold business relationship. Effort has been made to weave a romance into his life's history in that his souring upon the world was in consequence of a disappointment in love. Nobody knows. No woman ever passed the portals under the tiled roof of his chateau. He was brusquely coarse in withholding invitation to enter when, chaperoned by male, one visited the well kept flower gardens and spacious grounds of Kearney Park, also known as the Fruit Vale Estate. So deep rooted was this antipathy against the sex that never a female servant was countenanced about Chateau Fresno.

There is one remembered exception of a female guest at the Chateau. It was the occasion of a theatrical engagement in Fresno of Lily Langtry, "The Jersey Lily," with whose name that of an heir apparent to the British throne was once on gossip's tongue. She was Kearney's guest at the Chateau at lunch. It may have been the time she became, in Federal court in San Francisco, an American citizeness to take up land near Calistoga. Kearney's equipages in the days of horse-drawn or horseless vehicles were always the very latest. He himself drove his four-in-hand to town for her and returned her to her special car, and the town talked about it for days after.

Kearney was ever the well groomed man of fashion. He was a lover of the beautiful, of the esthetic. He had the means to indulge himself. The Chateau Fresno Estate and everything about it is proof of his love for the beautiful, if proof were needed. He loved horses and he was an expert handler of them. This was his only known leaning in the line of sports. His equipages were the English drag, high-trap and the four-in-hand tally-ho, but he was always the solitary driver or rider in the absence of attendant. He was never credited with knowledge of music yet had a collection of libretti of the best known operas. His esthetic spirit was reflected in the wall paper designs of the chateau and in the pictures that hung from the walls, some of these replica of works of art, and in the furniture and furnishings. Lovely woman was the theme of most of the pictures. However lowly his own origin, his surroundings evinced a taste that the most critical could not but approve.

Many a story has been told of his admiration for and attentions to the fair sex. His collection of pictures of actresses was a large and interesting one. Some were autographed, The Jersey Lily's was a prized one. Pictures may have been personally presented. More than likely they were store purchases of stage beauties and celebrities of the day. Thousands of others possessed these same photographic creations of Bradley & Rulofson, of Taber, of Marceau. Coming to Fresno, Kearney had business association credentials that had he the means then to indulge in the luxury could have given him entree into the society of the nouveau riches. At the least they brought him in touch with the jeunesse doree in the mining stock broker and the real estate class. A home in San Francisco he never had. After fortune smiled on him, he was a frequent visitor to the city and the guest at the most prominent hostelry there or at Calistoga Springs or at Del Monte on vacations.

He may have had renewed social yearnings in his later days. It was not at all impossible to have made the acquaintanceship of stage celebrities. The possession is readily explainable of the photographs in his day of such stage divinities as Lily Langtry, of Adelaide Neilson most beautiful of Juliets (picture was, in fact, taken after her death out of her book), of Alice Dunning Lingard, stunning English beauty, who, with her sister, Dickie, popularized "The Two Orphans," French melodrama in San Francisco; of Fanny Davenport and Ada Rehan as Daly's comedy leading ladies, of Clara Morris, emotional actress, of Alice Oates, comic opera singer; of Ida Scott Siddons, loveliest of dramatic readers, but lacking the genius of her theatrical ancestress, Sarah Siddons, greatest English actress of her day and times; of Bella Bate-man, Ellie Wilton and Belle Chapman of the old California Theater Stock Company; of Kate Castleton, the bewitching, of the "For Goodness' Sake, Don't Say I Told You" song of the little Quakeress; of Helene Modjeska (Countess Bozenta), Polish and English speaking tragedienne, and of a host of others, whose pictures might have been found on the dresser of the man of fashion.

European travel, no doubt, polished off some of Kearney's western rough edges and at Bad Nauheim and on the transatlantic voyages undoubtedly he met personages of rank, station and gentle breeding to account for his numbered and labeled photographic collection. He was himself included in some of the pictured groupings. He had one photograph of the German royal family with the ex-kaiser as the central figure. This is not to inti-

mate that he hob-nobbed with royalty, even though the ex-kaiser was very liberal with his autographed photos.

He lived a life of solitary grandeur, sitting majestically alone at table, wearing out his heart in this strange sequestered existence, without friend or companion, and playing the grand role of cynic and misanthrope, surrounded by the luxuries that wealth commanded, and amassing a valuable estate with not a relative in the world to bequeath it to upon death. There was a tragic solemnity in his singular life. It was given a farcical turn when after his death, Dennis Kearney, he of the San Francisco sandlot agitation days, came forward to claim heirship on a pretended first cousin relationship with no more apparent basis for the assertion than his own self-serving statements. Right here, be it noted that M. Theo. Kearney pronounced his name "Karney," and took offense and petulantly corrected whosoever ignorantly addressed him as "Kurney." Dennis Kearney, who passed away at Alameda in April the year after, and before death assigned formally to a married daughter his inheritance claims, asserted under oath that the real name of his kinsman was Michael Timothy Kearney. This heirship claim was effectually disposed of at an early stage on a petition for a partial distribution of the estate. The decision was sustained on the appeal taken by the daughter after her father's death, so that the disposition of the Fruit Vale Estate was as contemplated by the testator.

Cold and impartial history must record that no man in Fresno County was more generally and cordially disliked—hated is perhaps too strong a term—than was M. Theo. Kearney, as he signed his name. This he was cognizant of. It may have been one reason for his reclusive existence. Maybe, it was a reason for offering himself sacrificially on the commercial altar as a martyr in the cause of the raisin men. Mayhap, it was a moving cause for his bequest to the people of the state in amelioration of the past, and yet how otherwise could he have disposed of it, in view of his disinheritation of any legal heir, if living? Nobody knows. At any rate, there was no change in the attitude and bearing of the man during life, so that it is a question whether he was actuated in either act by placating motives. At home in Fresno, he was not known socially, never was seen at a social function, or even at a place of public amusement. It is doubtful whether he had the entree to one private home. His acquaintances were limited by choice apparently to business connections. He was a frequent business visitor to San Francisco and known at the principal hotel, but his life there was as sequestered as at the chateau.

And yet after his death and after his will was made public, men had one considerate, charitable word for him. That will condoned sins of omission and commission of the past. In the history of Fresno, of all the rich men that have died, none has made such a princely public gift as did M. Theo. Kearney, the man from whom it was the least expected. In that will, he bequeathed everything to the Regents of the University of California with the direction that the Fruit Vale Estate be created a station to be called the "Kearney Experimental Station" as an adjunct of the College of Agriculture in accordance with views embodied by him in a document in the possession of his attorney. The estate has been distributed in accordance with the will to the regents, and with their entering into possession in trust for the state one large asset item was stricken from the county assessment roll.

When the regents were considering establishing an agricultural branch college in the north central part of the state and were asking for site donations, Kearney offered 180 acres of his estate gratis to secure the location for Fresno as the typical irrigation district. The offer was declined and the branch was located at Davisville in Sacramento County. Great was the local chagrin. In time the state came in not for a part of the estate as a gift,



but for all of it as a bequest. It has not been executed in the establishment of the branch college and consequently there has been newspaper and public ill-considered and unjust criticism, with the insinuation that the regents have diverted the income from the Fresno property to equip, improve and maintain the other establishment. The truth is that in round numbers the estate has a valuation of about one million, was indebted for a quarter of a million and has a yearly income of about \$50,000. The regents have made many improvements, notably expending over \$25,000 in a tile drainage system for the reclamation scientifically of an alkalized section of land, and cleared the estate of debt, besides continuing all its activities.

The cold truth is that after cost of maintenance the estate does not provide an endowment fund sufficient to establish the college with buildings, faculty, laboratories, apparatus and all the necessities for an institution such as the landed gift warrants and contemplates, while at the same time making use of that land with a management and retinue of laborers to continue the revenue. The condition of the accepted trust that the branch be called the "Kearney Experiment Station" would probably preclude other philanthropically minded making an endowment to help perpetuate the name and memory of a man with whom the later donor was in no wise associated, or to aid with gift an enterprise that may not appeal to him as strongly as it did the originator. The least, however, that the regents could have done in these years would have been to give the box of ashes prominent entombment on the grounds with a monument in memory of the man in recognition of his gift to promote the science of agriculture.

In the later years of his life, it was the annual summer practice of Mr. Kearney to journey to Europe to take treatment of the medical waters at Bad Nauheim in Germany. He left on his last journey on May 9, 1906, and the news of his death at sea was received on the 29th, three days after the fact. He was a sufferer from cardiac trouble and subject to attacks of heart failure. He was in San Francisco during the fire and earthquake in April but escaped from the scene of destruction in his automobile. Outwardly calm and imperturbable, which was his characteristic bearing, the general excitement undoubtedly aggravated his ailment. He was aged about sixty, claimed to have been born in Liverpool a fact not disclosed by a searching examination of the parish birth records, was probably of Irish parentage, and asserted American citizenship by virtue of his father's naturalization of which there was no proof. In politics he took so little interest that it is doubtful whether he ever registered to vote.

According to affidavits filed in a threatened contest of the will dated at Chateau Fresno Park November 1, 1905, the family came to Boston to live and there presumably he attended the common schools. The story is that the father was a victim of drink, that the family was at times in semi destitution, an older brother died, and the mother's death followed from a broken heart, in short that early in life he was left in the world without kith or kin. The wretched death of his father and the sorrows of his home life so impressed him that fearful of falling into the habit by inheritance he signed the pledge as an abstainer from liquor.

M. Theo. Kearney may be said to have been a good theoretical and speculative business man, but he lacked the qualifications to make a successful executive. He was a forceful and terse writer, showing that he had a good elementary education but nothing more. In all his writings and published appeals, addresses and raisin association arguments and discussions is an utter lack of historical, literary or scientific allusion or quotation save the most commonplace and familiar. A man of affairs supervising large undertakings, he was no bookkeeper. Until his appearance in San Francisco in the early 70's as a clerk with W. S. Chapman, whose name recalls the earliest large Fresno land speculative operation, there is a long unfilled

gap in Kearney's life from the days in Boston. Evident that his business connections in San Francisco gave him some standing in the community in a secondary capacity, there is proof of his effort "to break into society," and of not infrequent vacation visits to the fashionable watering and summer resorts of the day. His coming to Fresno was in 1873 or 1874 and his arrival on a rainy night has been recalled as that of a dapper young fellow in a long duster and carrying a hand satchel, unknown, unacquainted but backed by self assurance and good credentials. He was profitably associated with Chapman in the sale of a tract on the San Joaquin, and through this connection was appointed about 1877 agent of the Bank of California in the sale of a 2,500-acre subdivision of the Easterby rancho.

Some years elapsed before he came through some speculative arrangement into possession of 3,000 acres of what became the Fruit Vale Estate, ten miles west of Fresno townsite, put it under irrigation and in time sold about one-half of the acreage to settlers under cast-iron contracts to improve and plant the land, conditionally upon forfeiture of everything in case of delinquency in installment payments, with twelve percent. compound interest on deferred payments. The highly improved and beautified estate domain embracing 5,182 acres is approached from the city at the western terminus of Fresno Street by Kearney Boulevard, an eleven-mile-long winding triple driveway, lined and shaded with palms, alternate white and red flowering oleanders, pampas grass clumps and eucalyptus trees. It is a show driveway over which every visitor is taken to view Kearney Park on sight-seeing tours. This boulevard Mr. Kearney in his life-time donated to the county as a public thoroughfare for which gift the populace gave him scant thanks or credit. The boulevard is advertized as one of the attractions of Fresno and has been compared with pride to the Alameda, San Jose's famous driveway.

The estate comprises 250 acres in a central park surrounding the chateau, fifty acres in oranges, twenty-five in olives, 850 in Muscat grapes, 4,000 in alfalfa, and also a dairy farm. At the main entrance of the park stands a castellated lodge. The Chateau Fresno project was never completed because of his precarious health, though plans with that end in view were under consideration at the time of his death. With his solitary life, the necessity for enlarging the structure, or even the reason for its original conception, are not apparent. It was perhaps only a rich man's folly or whim.

During the panic of 1893 many of the land buyers defaulted in their payments. Kearney enforced the forfeiture clause, increased his holdings by seizing possession of the lands and improvements of the purchasing tenantry, held on to every cent of money payments made, foreclosed mortgages, enriched himself and turned the unfortunates out of home and living, bankrupt, whether man of family or single, widow or maid. He was consistent in making no distinctions. The feeling of bitterness against him was intense and general, and he was execrated and ostracised. He enforced forfeitures through the courts and was sustained. Shylock like, he demanded what was his, even though to the pound of flesh, and the courts awarded it, for was it not so nominated in the bond? Yet such same Shylock contracts are enforced today in all lines of business and excite no longer even ripple or murmur of comment. They were yet new in his time, but heartless was the manner of their enforcement to fatten on the misfortune of others. In cited cases the victim was inveigled by fair promises to mortgage to make improvements, hence the execration. The Kearney Vineyard Company was incorporated about 1900 and effort was made to float the shares in Europe, but no sales were made.

Kearney's public career begins with the organization of the first California Raisin Growers' Association. He was prominent as an advocate in the long agitation and campaign resulting in its formation. The growers

hailed him as the Moses to lead them to the promised land of a stable market and good prices. In the formation of the association, his pooling plan was given preference over T. C. White's capitalization scheme on a basis of a minimum two and one-half cents per pound. Fifty percent. of the acreage signed up in the pool, and on June 4th the association was organized with M. Theo. Kearney (President), T. C. White, Louis Einstein, W. S. Porter, Robert Boot, L. S. Chittenden and A. L. Sayre as directors. In the beginning it had general support and hopeful stability was given an industry which without organization had carried the grower to the ragged edge of financial despair. So notable was the early financial success that it was the boast that growers paid off mortgages as never before in years, and general were the prosperity, good feeling and better times brought on through co-operation.

In time differences developed as to policies, intolerance of opposition and clashes in opinions created factions of Kearneyites and Anti-Kearneyites, and this warfare continued through the life of the association pool, fostered by the commercial packers in opposition to it, and led ultimately to its undoing. In this unfortunate state of affairs, Kearney displayed often the characteristics that so marked him in his business relations and associations with his fellow men. He petulantly resigned to enforce his contentions without, however, ceasing to serve, and at another time refused or declined to serve, the while remaining in office, though no longer persona grata. The public, fickle as a drab, shouted for him at one time, cried him down at another. One year it hooted him out of the assembly hall dishonored and repudiated at the close of his term; the very next year it acclaimed him joyfully and almost unanimously reelected him to the directorate. It was declared that he must truly have been of Irish blood for to fight was his nature, and he was never more urbane than when embroiled.

His character was such, however, as to brook no opposition, scorning the best meant advice and refusing pacific compromise measures, once he had set his mind on a purpose and plan. He had in the time of success a large following that regarded him as the one man in the raisin business that was in experience and temperament most peculiarly fitted to cope with the presented details of the situation. He was haughty, imperious and arbitrary. He exhibited a frigid friendship for him that could aid or whose services he was in need of: he had no consideration but contempt for him that opposed him and took no pains to conceal the fact. He was skilful as a politician but by methods the reverse of the usual artifices of the politician. He antagonized instead of placating many helpful agencies in the unsigned growers, in the commercial packers and in the banking interests, so that a continual warfare was maintained, the factional strife became bitter and personal, and the end was the desertion and disruption of the association. It will not be denied that Kearney was the first leading grower and citizen to awaken the raisin grower to the need of associated cooperation and to present a practical working plan that more judiciously operated would have been successful but for his intolerance of the opinions of others, an exaggerated estimate of his own importance and a rasping domination in attempting to bring to bear upon business associates the same arrogance that marked his relations with hired dependents on the estate.

Said it has been that Kearney died of a broken heart over the monumental failure of his raisin association. What was his own opinion of that failure and his ill-requited efforts? Fortunately he left the answer to the question in a written memorandum that after his death was found among his effects. This incomprehensible cynic had penned the following words:

When the time comes to write my epitaph, the following might well be copied:

**WARNING.**

Here lies the body of M. Theo Kearney, a visionary who thought he could teach the average farmer, and, particularly, the raisin grower, some of the rudiments of sound business management. For eight years he worked strenuously at his task, and at the end of that time, he was no farther ahead than at the beginning. The effort killed him.

**M. THEO. KEARNEY.**

The same spirit tinged his will. It was drawn by one of the most skilful lawyers, and the one he most trusted in the delicate legal questions connected with the raisin association. For one who had ever maintained that he had no kin in the world, he was scrupulously careful that no part of his estate should by any manner of means revert to any legal heir, if one survived. The bequest to the state was in entirety, but he made also a saving disposition of it as a trust, in the event that it be held that the first contravened the code section against bequeathing more than two-thirds to charitable or eleemosynary institutions. The court ruling was that the state university was not an institution coming under this category. To the woman who could prove to be a legal wife he left fifty dollars and to any legal heir a dollar each, and then there was the additional specific clause directing that it was his desire that no portion of his estate go to legal heirs, if any there were living.

Dennis Kearney claimed to have known him as a cousin in San Francisco since 1869, when he (Dennis) was a steamship dock foreman. He told a story that the relationship had been acknowledged in mutual confidences and he gave it an amusing variant in reciting that their recognition and acquaintance grew out of a proposed duel that M. Theo. Kearney and Captain Floyd, steamship dock superintendent, were to have had over a girl that both were courting. Dennis Kearney said that he was approached to arrange the details for the duel on the deck of the old steamship John L. Stephens, but that it "ended in smoke" by reason of his friendly intervention in behalf of his cousin. This narrative was so laughingly improbable that no one ever took it seriously in any part. No detail of it was corroborated in the most remote degree by any offer of proof.

Recalling the haughty bearing of M. Theo. Kearney, carried to the degree of superciliousness, it would have been wormwood and gall and an unbearable humiliation to have been saddled with the equality of first cousinship with the beetle-browed, furtive-eyed and foul mouthed agitator of the sand lot days in San Francisco in the late 70's, and in the 80's.

## CHAPTER XL

THE LITIGIOUS SIDE OF THE RAISIN BUSINESS. DELIVERY REJECTIONS ON A FALLING MARKET. PETTIT'S LONG FIGHT AS THE IMPOVERISHED SEEDER MACHINE INVENTOR. EARLY EFFORTS TO WORK UP A TRADE IN THE HAND TURNED OUT PRODUCT. HIS ASSIGNED PATENT IS HELD UP AS THE PIONEER AGAINST INFRINGEMENT, THOUGH ANTICIPATED THEORETICALLY. FORSYTH PRE-SEEDING PROCESS IS REJECTED AS LACKING NOVELTY. LIQUIDATION OF FIRST ASSOCIATION LAGS IN THE COURTS FOR SIX YEARS.

Quadrennial presidential contests or periodical "wet and dry elections" are apparently subjects of relatively minor moment in drawing out local newspaper discussion and in exciting popular interest and comment in Fresno County at least, compared to the recurrent campaigns of education for the formation of a raisin growers' association when there has been none, or to prolong the chartered life of an incorporated one by the signing up of a controlling percentage at time of expiring old contracts. The success or failure in marketing a year's crop of the leading specialty is regarded as a barometric gauge of the prosperity or lack of it in the community, and every one has come to believe that he is personally affected in pocket in consequence.

The raisin is, to be sure, a big subject in Fresno, and being so it has been a fruitful source of litigation. Its history would be incomplete without allusion to that phase, now practically closed and determined as to disputed questions as were the many problems that grew out of the introduction of irrigation. The oil period is also marked by litigation that is being threshed out to a finality in the federal courts. Land titles were never a prolific source of litigation as in other counties as the result of conflicting and loosely awarded Spanish grants. There was only one notable grant in the county, that of the Laguna de Tache, and its title was fully determined before the time of selling to settlers.

Before the days of an organized raisin industry, and during the intervals when it was in chaotic state, differences between grower and packer, who purchased and marketed his product, were frequent. The disputes were most conspicuous as to number during periods of a falling market. Contracts were repudiated, deliveries declined, and product rejected, wherefore litigation followed mostly on the part of the grower to enforce contract. An easy method was afforded for repudiation and rejection under the contract itself in that the product was not merchantable because not properly cured, the grapes had been **picked too green or too ripe**, or had been in the rain, had not been properly **cared for afterward** and had mildewed or had become sanded. Rejections on a falling market were so common that the grower had no guarantee under his contract, and no wonder the relations between the parties were strained.

Trials of this class of cases involved mainly expert testimony on both sides as to the condition of the product, and preponderance of reliable, disinterested witnesses. The general history of this litigation shows the grower as favored in the results, for if need be on a falling market few would have been the crop deliveries that would have passed the expert and exacting fault finder. In a later phase when the packer in turn had "combined," the attack was directed against the contracts but herein again the trend of de-

cisions favored the grower and in an appealed test case the supreme court laid down the law and this litigious field became barren. As in accident cases against corporations, the general demand was for a trial by jury in these raisin and dried fruit cases.

The seeded raisin machine patent was the subject of long, complicated, exasperating and costly litigation with two important results—to uphold the Pettit patent against various infringements and to rule in favor of the independents and against the United States Consolidated Seeded Raisin Company, popularly called the “High Five,” in control of the Pettit patent, that the pre-seeding process of the dried berry is not patentable because lacking novelty. The story of the case of George Pettit Jr. against William Forsyth (both dead) instituted in August, 1900, is the old one of many a notable creation in that the inventor enjoyed few if any of the results from the child of his brain, while others who secured by fair or other means control of the mechanism reaped the benefit and enriched themselves.

### SEEDER INVENTOR PETTIT IN COURT

The Pettit-Forsyth case buffeted along in the courts for ten years on the sea of litigation before the supreme court granted a rehearing in July, 1910, on the decision of the appellate tribunal upholding the judgment in favor of Pettit, but it was also the step that ended the litigation with payment of the judgment in April, 1911, of \$9,111 on the verdict of jury in October, 1907 for \$15,200 from which \$7,581.76 was afterward remitted on the theory that the stock shares lost to Pettit were not of par value at the time. Case hung fire so long before coming to trial because as Pettit represented in affidavit he was too poor to prosecute it, procure the evidence or engage an attorney to take it up, and that when he found himself in December, 1898, “frozen out” of his interest he was “high and dry” financially and at the age of fifty-three compelled to earn a living as a day laboring mechanic.

It was in 1894-95 that Pettit, John D. Spromer and Walter G. Hough experimented with the first raisin seeding machine. Associated as the Pioneer Seeded Raisin Mills with one hand operated machine they made efforts to place its product on the market through large grocers in New York and Brooklyn, in which last named city they were operating. It was according to all accounts a discouraging experience for the man whom the courts have declared to be the originator of the raisin seeder as a physical creation theoretically, mechanically and commercially, and who but for the ending of the litigation when it did in California was drifting helplessly on the current of poverty towards the Fresno poorhouse. Having completed their first seeder so that it would operate, they took their product to New York wholesale grocers, notably Austin & Nichols and Francis H. Leggett, to handle it for sale. Their appeal was in vain. It was not believed that the raisins were seeded mechanically, the seeded raisin was unheard of, the thing was a pretense and a fraud and they met with absolutely no encouragement.

Retail grocers and bakers in New York and Brooklyn were tried with no better success, for who had ever heard of a machine seeded raisin? The offers to leave the new product on trial and make no charge were even declined, but when forced on and sold, which was not frequent, a small order would be the result. An artificial demand was created, notably through the largest retail house in Brooklyn, Lockett & Son on Fulton Street. The women friends of the seeders were sent for two or three days to the store to inquire for the Pioneer brand of seeded raisins, and thus attention was drawn to the article. The result was an order for a case, and Lockett & Son became ultimately one of the big customers of the pioneers. The retailers and bakers of New York were importuned and Pettit's son made the round of the baker-



ies on Third Avenue from one end to the Harlem bridge talking up the new article. The bakers were the first to take it up and give commercial encouragement, and in one year was worked up quite a little trade in twenty-five pound boxes. The raisin was used in cake making and the seeded proved a great saving in time and labor for the girls who stoned by hand.

Efforts such as these continued during the fall of 1894 and the spring of 1895 and until about August of that year when such a promising trade among the retailers and bakers was worked up that Austin & Nichols took notice, wrote apologizing for their first scant courtesy and undertook to handle the product on a larger scale. Pettit asserted that with this first seeded machine the product was of better quality than the later because the operators were part of the working mechanism. It was driven by hand power, and if fed a little too fast or not sufficiently the effect was apparent and the operation gauged accordingly. It took two men to operate the first machine, Spromer and Pettit alternating in turning the operating crank, not having the means to install power and apply it. According to the evidence, the first machine seeded raisins were thus put out in June, 1894, and the Fruit Cleaning Company of Brooklyn, the first competitor, put out its product in 1895, but as also claimed it did not compare, the Brooklynites not seeding as well and undertaking to process the raisins with flour after seeding to prevent them sticking together but producing a pasty stuff that would not sell as readily.

It was in December, 1895, before a pound of raisins had been seeded in Fresno, that Pettit and Spromer became acquainted with Forsyth in New York. As the result three contracts were entered into, the Forsyth Seeded Raisin Company was subsequently incorporated in Fresno and of the original stock 167 shares were issued to Pettit, reduced in time by change in capitalization and by reason of other causes to 152 in April, 1899. They were then sold for nonpayment of an assessment of six dollars per share and Pettit was at the end of his resources, bereft of whatever corporate interest he ever had, and with a change of management left without employment from which he had been unceremoniously dismissed under the new regime under A. Gartenlaub. Claiming that he had been literally "frozen out" of his interest, Pettit sued for the par value of the 152 shares at \$100 each and non-assessable according to one of the three contracts entered into.

These stipulated that for money advanced and to be advanced Pettit and Spromer were to devote three years to build and improve seeding machines for which application for a patent was later made. Hough dropped out of the combination early and Spromer later, Pettit coming out in the summer of 1896 to Fresno to install machines and superintend their operation. He and Spromer were to receive one-third of the 1,000 shares of the incorporation, the shares to be non-assessable and Forsyth by one of the contracts agreeing to protect Pettit in this regard. The third agreement was for Pettit's employment at \$1,200 a year. It is needless to follow up all the ramifications of the case, because it is sufficient that the verdict of the jury was in favor of Pettit after a presentation of all his claims and the judgment as reduced was in the end paid after all patience and the delays of the law had been exhausted.

Forsyth claimed that the business was not remunerative at the outset, that he expended from \$8,000 to \$10,000 in experimenting with pre-seeding processes, that Pettit's undoing was due to his own lack of business foresight, that he hypothecated his shares and thus lost them and that in his pioneering raisin seeding he (Forsyth) financially embarrassed himself and that he met with heavy losses as when packing house and machines were consumed in a great fire that swept almost every raisin and fruit packing house on Raisin Row on the line of the railroad reservation.

Forsyth died in May 1910 and his estate was valued at much less than he was rated popularly in his life time. He had been conspicuous in the raisin and business world as the pioneer commercial seeder, as the owner of a vineyard which with age however had retrograded and having in large part been uprooted was replanted to citrus fruit, and as the owner one time of the Forsyth building, the first constructed in the city of the modernized large office structures, originally tenanted as apartment rooms. Pettit survived him and in his closing years did not suffer so acutely the pressing pinch of poverty. With his experiences of the past, he embraced Socialistic principles and at one time was actually a candidate of that faction for a municipal office. The judgment money that came to him in the end—and he readily accepted the reduced award on the theory that half a loaf is better than none—was after settlement with his lawyers improvidently invested in lots and in the erection of a house far in excess of his temporal needs and requirements. The story was circulated and generally accepted that in consideration of his aid and evidence in support of the patent litigation in the infringement cases, A. Gartenlaub financed Pettit in the suit against Forsyth and thus made it possible to continue the long fight. In the patent cases, the testimony of Pettit was of the first importance and he gave it in several depositions.

So ended this chapter in the story of the raisin industry litigation.

#### PRE-SEEDING PROCESS NOT PATENTABLE

From Forsyth the Pettit patent passed into the ownership of the U. S. Consolidated Seeded Raisin Company. The industry had become a great and valuable one. Ownership of patent gave a virtual monopoly. Many were the infringements on the basic idea of the operating mechanism to evade payment of royalty on every pound of raisins seeded. Litigation was fruitful as between corporate interests in the federal courts with the Consolidated as the complainant controlled by Gartenlaub, the leading spirit in the combination and the owner of a governing interest. In Gartenlaub centered for a time the commercial manipulation of the raisin industry. It was in June 1910 that U. S. Circuit Judge Wellborn rendered decision in the suit against the Selma Fruit Company, tried nearly three years before, toppling in a heap half of the claims for the exclusive right to seed raisins. His ruling was that the process of preparing raisins for seeding under the patent secured by Forsyth some 15 years before is not patentable because it lacked novelty, having been used in the treatment of other fruits long before it was applied to the raisin.

The decision was regarded as a victory by the independent packers, a dozen or more, who were not under control of the High Five combine and resisted paying tribute to it in royalties. With the advance of the seeding industry, the Consolidated, popularly known as the Seeded Trust, had gained control of the Pettit seeding patent, but various other seeders had been invented claiming not to be infringements. Rather than meet the issues on a test of every alleged infringement, another tack was tried and a first test was on the processing patent—the Forsyth process as it was known—said process being employed on whatever seeding machine used. If the Consolidated could maintain the validity of the process patent, it could effectually control seeding of raisins and maintain its monopoly. This process was an alternating heating and chilling of the raisins to separate the meat from the seeds so as to effect the mechanical elimination of the latter without the bruising or tearing of the berry skin. For years in the original Forsyth plant, this process was guarded from curious eyes, and only trusted employees were permitted to gain knowledge of the secret.

#### PETTIT SEEDER PATENT UPHELD

Four months after the process decision or in October 1910, the U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals in a case of the Consolidated against the Kings

County Raisin and Fruit Company made its ruling on the merits of the controversy upholding the Pettit patent and decided that being a pioneer invention the letters patent are entitled to a liberal construction. In this case it was contended that there was theoretically in existence a preceding seeding process known as the Crosby patent, but the court held that even so it did not detract from the Pettit patent. The decision was a big victory for the trust as emancipation from it would be only in the invention of a non-infringing fruit seeding machine as covered by Letters Patent No. 619,693 issued February 14, 1899, for the Pettit creation. The Crosby patent was No. 56,721 for an improved raisin seeder and issued July 31, 1866. The differences in the two devices are described in the decision which then recited:

"The Crosby invention undoubtedly anticipated and described the whole theory of the Pettit patent, but it does not appear ever to have been put to use and there is no evidence that any machine was ever constructed under it. It is one thing to invent the theory of a machine. It is quite another thing to invent a successfully operating machine. A third of a century passed between the date of that patent and the date of the Pettit patent, and in that time the evidence is conclusive that raisin seeding was done by hand and that seeding by machinery was an unknown art. The Pettit machine was the first to go into very extensive and successful use. . . . It would seem that it (the Crosby) was one of those unsuccessful and abandoned machines which are held to have no place in the art to which they relate."

It is needless to enter into other considered particulars, so sweeping was the decision on this one point.

### FIRST RAISIN ASSOCIATION LIQUIDATION

Not often is it that a considerable percentage of a particular industrial population of a county is haled into court as in September 1905 when the suit was brought by the California Raisin Growers' Association against Andrew L. Abbott and 2,800 other defendants for an accounting of the proceeds from the sales of the 1903 raisin crop in liquidation of the affairs of the combine. The suit was in the courts until September 1911 when the last 600 overpaid appellants abandoned further fight and final judgments were entered up to close the case. Never has there been a case in the Fresno courts with so many individuals involved as defendants. Not all the judgments were realized upon on execution, but speaking generally as the result of the long litigation and receivership about sixty per cent. was realized on the face value of the claims by the 1903 season raisin contract signers.

The suit was not alone for an accounting for the individual but also for a distribution of the assets and a refund of excess payments made to particular signers and for payment to those underpaid. Judge G. E. Church of the Superior court tried the case and ordered judgment in April 1908 on the accounting taken by Walter S. Johnson as referee. Some had received no returns or only partial returns on the 1903 crop sales and others had to refund excess advance on the three cents selling price before the market broke that year to accelerate the association's lingering death. The gross deliveries by signed growers were for that year 95,014,195 pounds; net 92,435,066, the sales amounting to \$3,926,220.22, though the total money judgments involved exceeded that sum. The association directors at the dissolution of the pool were: Robert Boot, A. L. Sayre, A. V. Taylor, D. D. Allison and T. C. White.

The appeal from Church's decision was passed upon in August 1911. The main controversy on the appeal was whether or not the association was a trust and monopoly in restraint of trade, the contracts made with it void therefore, and that having made unlawful payments in advances for deliveries it could not maintain suit to recover them as it had originated the contract. The association contended that at suit bringing for the dissolution it was no longer in active operation and the action was to determine property rights in a fund on hand, independent of how acquired, and that in the acquiring

of it as mutually agreed upon no wrong was committed against the general public or in restraint of trade. The decision was to find nothing in the record or in the evidence that the association was engaged in a conspiracy in restraint of trade to arbitrarily fix prices or to exclude raisins from packing houses not signed up to it.

The appellants who numbered some 600 who had received excess advances, abandoned further proceedings after the decision of August 1911, sustaining the lower court and delivered by Justice Melvin, concurred in by Justices Henshaw and Lorigan. The point on which the decision turned was the special defense that the association was conceived as a monopoly in restraint of trade and therefore that its contracts were not enforceable. But in this regard the decision was that the most that can be claimed with reference to the guilty knowledge of the raisin growers that the association was trying to form a monopoly was a published statement, which was admitted, that it was determined to secure eighty-five per cent. of the year's production. "But granting that those who delivered raisins knew of this design," said the decision, "that fact alone would not prevent them from recovering the full value of their merchandise, or from participating in the distribution."

In the existing share owned capitalized association, the pitfalls of the past have been avoided, and success has followed the broader and better organized plan of a cooperative enterprise to create a demand and market for the raisin, to undertake the packing of the product in leased, purchased or erected establishments, and to act for the grower as a general sales agent to the best advantage and profit.

## CHAPTER XLI

FEW OF THE RICH HAVE OUT OF THEIR BOUNTY GIVEN TO THE PEOPLE. FREDERICK ROEDING, M. THEO. KEARNEY AND WILLIAM J. DICKEY HAVE MADE THE MOST NOTABLE BENEFICENCES. THE SECOND NAMED OF THESE WILLED TO THE STATE A PRINCELY ESTATE FOR AN AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION. DR. LEWIS LEACH IS REMEMBERED AS A PROMINENT AND NOTE-WORTHY PERSONAGE IN THE HISTORY OF THE COUNTY AS WELL AS OF THE CITY. FRANK H. BALL MADE LARGE BEQUESTS TO PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS.

The history of the county and of the City of Fresno is a subject so vast in scope and covers such a stretch of time that it is hopeless in a work of the present character to elaborate on all entitled to notice, either because of picturesque or successful careers, or achievements and positions in public or private life.

There were not lacking those that rounded successful careers; there were others that flashed like meteors, made lurid showing and pretense and ended in sputter; and too many were there that never arose above the commonplace, even with all the opportunities that surrounded them in a new country. None deserved more at the hands of Fortune than the earliest pioneers; none were more shabbily rewarded in the end. The experience is not singular to Fresno.

Looking back, it has been often commented upon how few of the rich have out of their plenty made public bequest or gift for educational, artistic, benevolent or religious purpose. The earliest recorded exception is Dr. Lewis Leach to erect in unfrequented and almost forgotten spot a costly monument to mark the grave of his picturesque business associate. But he did this in life. Later in 1910, Fulton G. Berry made in his will bequest for a monument to recall "The Father of Irrigation."

The man in the county who made the greatest public benefaction was one of whom it must be said he was in life also the one the least esteemed by that public and whose unheralded coming has been recalled as of a young man stepping off a belated train at night, dressed in flapping linen duster, grip in hand and rich in nothing save self-assurance. It was in 1906 that M. Theo. Kearney, leaving no kin or kith, gave his princely estate to the State of California through the University of California for an agricultural experimental farm. That university has not even acknowledged the munificent gift or honored him by giving the metallic box containing his ashes a place of sepulture marked by memorial stone or tablet. He was a strange character, misunderstood in life, his memory unhonored after death save through his magnificent gift.

Before this, Frederick Roeding, pioneer landowner who died at the age of eighty-six years in San Francisco in July, 1910, had in his life time made two gift tenders to the city of land making up the present acreage of Roeding Park, one of the most attractive municipal recreation spots in the state. This park reclaimed from a sandy waste is today the pride and boast of Fresno City and was donated to it with no other condition attached than that the city expend in improvement a stated sum annually for a given number of years.

Yet when the original offer was made of the greater acreage, it was regarded as a gift horse and its mouth looked into, while a sapient board of city trustees declined it for the specious reason that the donor was actuated in his offer by a desire to enhance the value of his surrounding holdings one mile outside of the city corporate limits. Several years elapsed before the first offer was renewed and accepted, and people marvel today at the short-sightedness that ever prompted its declination.

George C. Roeding, famous horticulturist, is at this writing (March, 1918) one of the commissioners of the city parks. He is a son of the donor. To mark his entry as a member of the commission and to expedite a more rapid planting of the parks of the city, he made tender to the city that for every dollar it spends for the plant beautifying of the parks controlled by it he would for the year donate in plants an amount equal to the city purchases. The offer was accepted and at the same meeting that the agreement was made the commission gave out plant orders on bids for \$700.

#### William J. Dickey

Noteworthy bequests were contained in the will of W. J. Dickey who died in July 1912 and devised \$25,000 for public purposes. His estate was an ample one and yet not comparable with many that preceded and followed it. The sum of \$10,000 was willed to the City of Fresno to be used by it in the purchase of apparatus for the children's playgrounds and "of such a character and kind as will be most beneficial and enjoyable for the children using such grounds." The bequest came at a time when the city playground department was a new municipal experiment in Fresno and the city embarrassed for means to equip grounds after having expended the bulk of the voted \$75,000 bond issue in acquiring sites. The pioneer Dickey playground on Blackstone avenue stands a monument to the generosity of the man who made his all in Fresno.

Another \$10,000 was directed to be by his executors given for such charity or benevolence as to them after consultation with his wife might seem best, it being understood that it be used "in and about the city." The income from this legacy supports a university scholarship for a deserving student. Lastly \$5,000 was bequeathed to the Fresno County Humane Society, an institution that once was a potential power for good but whose field of activities has been supplanted by later benevolent organizations.

Its pioneer work was notable in moulding public sentiment, especially in the more humane treatment of dumb animals, and it brought to the fore as its

agent, William Harvey, who on account of his activities became a local character of note and because of his English birth, manners and pompous demeanor was popularly known as "Lord Harvey." He is a man who has never been given full credit for a great humanitarian work accomplished in times and under conditions when a rough public sentiment was not always in accord with his reform movement.

The Dickey bequests were the more appreciated because coming at so opportune a time and because absolutely unlooked for. He was an Ohioan born. Fifty-nine years of age at time of death, a most approachable man, genial and unassuming and one whom prosperity had unchanged from the days of Fresno's beginnings, when he came as a dry goods clerk, was so employed by Kutner, Goldstein & Co, and later as the desk clerk at the Morrow House, the caravansary of the day. He dabbled on the side in wool, and also wrote insurance, and was a leader in *jeunesse dorée* circles in the wretched little village seat of a cow county.

Samuel L. Hogue recalls as if it were only an incident of yesterday how as a federal census enumerator on June 30, 1880, he and Dickey collaborated, figured and figured in the hope of crediting the village with a population of 1,000 but after recalling every known resident and counting babes born and in expectancy, and this was not such a stupendous task, they could not inflate the total to exceed 930 and Dickey in his beautiful Pinafore "big, bold hand" entered the result on a page of the Morrow House register as an unofficial record.

Dickey was a public spirited man, allied with the First National Bank as a stockholder, also as a shareholder in the People's Savings Bank, interested in the first water supplying company, a promoter of the Fresno Street Improvement Company and its enterprise of the day in the brick structure at Fresno and I Streets, and in later years prominent in the Mountain View Cemetery Improvement Association, organized as a popular movement of the citizens in response to an agitation to rescue the city's burial ground from the neglected condition that it had fallen into.

At the height of his financial prosperity he made a lucky strike when at the crest of the excitement oil was discovered on a parcel of land at Coalinga which he had bought for a trifle at a tax delinquent sale, yielding him an eighth of a million after compromising with the original owners for \$25,000 a threatened title litigation on account of doubtful procedure leading up to the delinquency sale by the state.

#### Dr. Lewis Leach

This publication would fail of an essential purpose as a historical record were it to ignore mention of a few chosen personages, all but one now dead, that were foremost in the development of county or city and whose names were household words. Nestor of them was indisputably Dr. Lewis Leach. When he died March 18, 1897, there passed away one of the first permanent settlers, who later was a foremost citizen and one of the very few who linked the Fresno of the days of the Indian and the miner with the Fresno of the days when it was exciting public attention as an agricultural wonder, and Fresno the hamlet of the desert and waterless plain with Fresno the growing city centering in encircling vineyards and orchards. His early career was as varied and picturesque as that of his first business associate in California, Major Savage, whose exploits never have been given the credit they deserve because so barren are the early records.

Born in 1823, Dr. Leach had at death outlived the Psalmist's allotted term of life. He died in the harness. He might have retired with a competency 20 years before, yet until the middle of the week before his passing away his office in the Farmers' Bank Building was open to his patients. Whatever his youthful ambitions of a life career, he was the child of circumstances and the fact is that when he went west from Binghamton, N. Y., and located in the



primitive St. Louis in 1840 at the age of seventeen he had two accomplishments. He was a good fiddler and had a natural gift for drawing. He so excited the admiration of the dean of the medical college of the State University at Jefferson City, by a humorous cartoon of him being chased around a tree stump by an enraged steer that he was invited to take up a course of medical lectures. Young Leach accepted, graduated at the 1847-48 term and for two years practiced medicine in St. Louis.

To reach California was his ambition as it was of so many others. The opportunity came with a party bound for Salt Lake City with a stock of merchandise for barter. There he organized a party to continue the journey and eleven men joining him, "Westward Ho!" was the watchword on start in October 1850. Fifty miles west from Salt Lake was met a party of thirteen families that had lost its way. The two companies joined forces and the young doctor was offered the leadership of them. He accepted on condition that his word should be the law. The Southern route was chosen. They were among the first to follow it and therefore travel was attended by more than the usual care and precaution. At the Mojave River the parties divided. The families headed for Los Angeles, the Leach section crossed the desert to Tejon Pass over the mountains toward the Kern River.

Here it met a party of refugees from the Indian massacre at Woodville, near the present site of Visalia. They had escaped with their lives and were in distress. Relief was afforded in a division of food supplies, even then not overabundant. Evident that danger was to be apprehended ahead. The armament consisted only of a rifle and a shotgun and seven pistols. Every unarmed man was provided with dummy wooden gun and such a formidable armed showing was the result that although the party was surrounded by Indians on the march it was not attacked nor molested.

A sight was presented at Woodville at the scene of the massacre. Many were the reminders of the savage brutality of the Indians. A ghastly one was the sixteen unburied corpses, some of them mutilated as was the not infrequent practice to discourage the advance of the whites. Sepulture was given the dead. A destroyed bridge was another reminder of the raid. A halt was made with night camp on the field of the massacre and next morning crossing of the stream with wagon bed raft. Hardships followed, constant vigilance against surprise by the hovering Indians, and food allowances reduced on account of the division with the refugees. Reaching the San Joaquin, they had been twenty-five days without flour, for coffee they had been boiling roasted acorns, of rice they had little left, of salt pork only a limited quantity and of fresh meat only the flesh of a wild bullock shot by one of the party. The animal had head down charged him after wounding. The horns entangling in the underbrush the beast was tumbled over and in the fall broke neck.

At Gravelly Ford on the south bank of the San Joaquin they came upon the mining camp and store of Cassady & Lane, sold to them their draught live stock, taking flour at a dollar a pound in large part in trade and treated themselves to the luxury of tobacco. A bread feast was the first piece of domestic extravagance at the next meal after the long abstinence. It was a baking of water and flour dough, cooked in skillet by a St. Louis boy named Herman Masters, marked out and cut according to diagram so that each might have a section. Eight miles above Gravelly Ford and two above the later Fort Miller site, Cassady & Lane were engaged in river mining for gold at Cassady's Bar and all save Dr. Leach accepted employment as miners.

Leach was not favorably impressed with the aspect and conditions of the new country—and well might it be asked who could have been in those earliest days of the white man's presence? He resolved to return east with the first passing train party. The tale has long been current and was corroborated by Dr. Leach himself that he had horse saddled and all preparations made for that departure when Lane—"Major" as he is always referred to—pre-vailed on him to tarry as there was a young man in camp who needed surgi-

cal attention to save his life. He was one of the Woodville refugees that rode to Millerton to spread the alarm, was wounded in the arm, had been under the care of two Arkansans, who instead of tying up the arteries had resorted to compression with the result of blood poisoning in the arrow wounds.

Out of humane consideration, Dr. Leach delayed departure. It was the turning point in his career. He never did leave California. He lived and died in Fresno. The arm of the wounded man was amputated and he recovered. Having no surgical instruments as the contents of his case had been lost or stolen on the plains journey, the operation was performed with common wood saw and jack knife, set and sharpened for the occasion, and without anesthetic the sufferer was a conscious looker on of the surgeon's work.

On the second night of the Leach party's arrival Indians had made a descent on the camp at the ford and stolen the very cattle that the emigrants had traded off. Other raids followed with near by killings including that of Cassidy as incidents that led up to the Indian War and the calling out of the volunteer three companies of seventy-five each that constituted the Mariposa Battalion under Maj. James D. Savage. Leach joined as a private, participating in the several preliminary brushes, but in two weeks was appointed battalion surgeon. The two assistants were dispensed with and the medical department was placed in his charge. Commissary headquarters were located on the Fresno River, fifty to sixty miles due north, and here with driven stakes, poles cut and laid on crotches, with sides and roof of willow matting and roof of green brush the hospital department was improvised. The war operations lasted about four months and peace was restored.

Major Savage resumed business in partnership with Captain Vinsenhale. A strong bond of friendship grew up between the doctor and the major and thus it was that in April 1852 Leach was taken into the partnership of three that continued until the sensational murder of Savage. Vinsenhale and Leach continued their association, taking into partnership Samuel A. Bishop, later of San Jose. The Indian reservations were established after the peace. The store supplied them, the business flourished and expanded and a branch was located at Fort Miller. Vinsenhale was the inactive member of the trio, Bishop had charge of the farm on the Fresno, and Leach without mercantile training managed the store. The custom in vogue on the frontier was followed of marking up goods 100 per cent. on the cost, taking gold dust or equivalent in value from those that could pay and seldom bothering those that had credit and paid when they could. The business was profitable. Bishop went into business with Indian Agent Beall at Fort Tejon and the Vinsenhale-Leach partnership dissolved, Leach taking the store and the other the ranch. Not a scratch of pen was made in all these transactions. The words of men in those days were as binding as written contracts or bond. The Fort Miller store was closed in 1859 but the one on the Fresno was continued until the winter of 1860-61.

Meanwhile at the latter location he also conducted a hospital with patients coming from as far as Visalia, and as many as fifteen to twenty under treatment at a time. On a visit to Millerton to a patient in December, 1860, he was waterbound on account of a winter flood and detained for six weeks. He decided not to return to the Fresno but to close out and disposed of the stock in the store at private sale. At Millerton and as the only established surgeon and physician in the county for a time, he was in charge of the county hospital and the medical authority for years. He saw the beginning and the end of Millerton. He lived the life of the busy country doctor, treated the sick and the wounded, eased the last moments of the dying, ministered at the births of hundreds who even to this day boast of the fact, as the family physician was welcome in every home, and had friends coextensive in number with the population of the county among the whites as well as the aborigines.

His location in Fresno City as the new county seat was not until October 4, 1874, and he was the last official to leave old Millerton in Russell Flem-

ing's stages with the hospital patients and the women left behind until new homes could be provided in the hamlet on the plains.

The hospital in the city was established in rented quarters and four days after coming the cornerstone of the new courthouse was laid with Masonic ceremonial. For deposit in the cornerstone receptacle the only Bible that was available was Dr. Leach's. In the new county seat, Dr. Leach was as prominent medically as he had been at Millerton and he became a conspicuous figure in its civic and commercial life.

Was a new public enterprise contemplated, Dr. Leach was consulted and became its sponsor. He fathered the first water works with the pumping plant so long located on Fresno Street at the corner of the alley between I and J, was president of it until 1890 and sold it for \$140,000. He was president of the first bank in Fresno, a private enterprise in one of the early brick houses on the north side of Mariposa midway between H and I and of which Otto Froelich was the cashier. He was an organizer of the Bank of Fresno and its president until it went out of business on account of the provisions of the new constitution of 1879 regarding stockholders' liabilities for indebtedness; an organizer and president of the Farmers' Bank; fathered the gas company; was identified with the first electric light company and the first street car company with the fair grounds as its terminus and was one of the promoters of the fair association with its races and agricultural exhibitions.

Professionally as a representative of the old medical school and in civil life, Dr. Leach was a prominent figure. It was during his long service as county health officer that the first county hospital was erected under his direction on the block bounded by Mariposa, Tulare, P and Q, then considered so far out of town that many years would elapse before the growth of the city would crowd it out and yet in his life and while still in charge the removal was made with the location on Ventura avenue opposite the county fair grounds where today stands one of the best equipped and modernized establishments of its kind in California.

Forty-two years a bachelor, the marriage of Dr. Leach in 1872 to Mrs. Mathilda Converse, former wife of C. P. Converse, was an event as fortuitous as was his decision to remain in Fresno when he had resolved to return east. He was a boarder with Mrs. Converse. She had decided to give up catering to boarders and not knowing where to find a home table he proposed marriage and was accepted. The Leach residence in Fresno City was for years on K street (officially designated Van Ness Avenue) on the location now occupied by the Sequoia Hotel. There was a rise here in the level of the flat plain of four to five feet gradually rising from the courthouse reservation and because the early, well to do city residents erected their better homes here the locality was popularly known as "Nob Hill."

By reason of his long local associations, his confidential relations with so many of the earliest families as their medical adviser, his active and useful public career though never tempted by political aspirations, he was regarded at death with greater love, respect and veneration than any other individual in the county before. His funeral is said to have been the largest that had been accorded any one before. It is recorded that "upwards of 100 vehicles" were in the cortege. Fulton G. Berry was in charge and the pall bearers were: A. Kutner, Louis Einstein, William Helm, Alexander Goldstein, William Somers and Leopold Gundelfinger, of whom today the last three named are living. The funeral was a popular demonstration; twenty-four aged inmates of the almshouse hospital when he was in charge attended and so did Ah Kit, the Chinese blacksmith and horseshoer of Millerton days, as one of the sincere mourners.

Dr. Leach was accounted in his life time one of the substantial men of the city but after his death his estate was found to be much involved. Friends saved out of it sufficient for a competency for the widow.

**Frank H. Ball Made Large Bequests.**

Genuine was the surprise furnished by the filing for probate of the will of Frank H. Ball, who died March 4, 1919, because of the \$45,000 legacies for benevolences and semi-public institutions. The surprise was great because the benevolences were unlooked for. The Ball will provided for the largest money bequests in any testamentary document offered for probate in the county. The total of these is exceeded only by the princely endowment under the trust will of M. Theo. Kearney. The two estates are not comparable in aggregate value.

The money bequests under the will are \$75,500, namely \$13,500 to three relatives in the East, \$10,000 to a life long friend, Frank M. Romain, \$7,000 to five employes and one of these, the faithful Chinese servant who had been in his service for twenty-six years and was rewarded with \$2,500, and the following public bequests:

Y. W. C. A. ....	\$10,000
Y. M. C. A. ....	10,000
City Playgrounds .....	10,000
Firemen's Baseball Relief Fund.....	5,000
Fresno Relief Society .....	5,000
Citizens' Relief Committee .....	5,000
<hr/>	<hr/>
Total .....	\$45,000

The Ball estate consists of two valuable pieces of landed property. One of these is the city block at J and Kern Streets which whatever its value was deeded in his life time independent of testamentary disposition to the widow whom he had married in December, 1915. The other is the 113-acre vineyard and orchard just outside the city limits at California and East Avenues set out as one of the earliest and largest in the county. Because of its proximity to the city and in a locality that has been set aside for industrial enterprises, it is of greater value for commercial purposes than for grape culture. Payment of the legacies is contingent upon a sale of the vineyard property. The testator himself placed a valuation of \$1,200 an acre a few years ago when the Santa Fe was in the field looking for ground for enlarged switching facilities.

Frank H. Ball was a native of Grand Rapids, Mich., and came to California thirty-five years ago. He was fifty-four years of age when he died. His death was unlooked for as he was ill from heart disease only twenty-four hours. After a residence of about two years in San Francisco and having come with some means, he moved to Fresno about the time of the Centennial year and opened one of the first drug stores at Mariposa and J Streets, site of the city's first sky scraper. This property he disposed of in part consideration for acreage land southeast of the city and entered upon the career of a vineyardist and orchardist. The Ball city residence on the site of the business block was one of the notables in the city for its spaciousness and surrounding shading umbrella trees. It was removed in later years to clear the site for the Novelty Theater, the first in the city devoted exclusively to vaudeville.

Frank H. Ball was not a man that ever took part in public affairs, wherefore, all the more surprise when his will was made public. Prosperity favored him and he lived a retired life at the country home as a capitalist. He was thrice married. Threatened legal complications prompted him to place his belongings in trust with a life long friend, who managed his affairs and it was in appreciation of his services that the \$10,000 bequest was made.

It was said of him that he was one of the earliest, if not the first, to build a drier and resort to artificial heat in the curing of fruit and raisin grapes in the county.

The popularity and success of the playgrounds department inspired the late Louis Einstein to direct that after his death his estate make gift to the public of location and an equipped playground. His wishes have been complied with by the family in the "Einstein Memorial Playground." Mrs. Julia A. Fink-Smith was the first woman who made a gift to the public. It was a block of city land, lacking two lots afterward bought by the city, on which the playground named for her has been located.

Supplementing the five years' antecedent gift to the city of her sister, the late Mrs. Julia A. Fink-Smith, Mrs. Augusta P. Fink-White, wife of Truman C. White, the pioneer, presented to the City Playgrounds Commission, through her attorney, at a meeting held June 5, 1919, a deed for City Block 363, excepting two lots not owned by her, for a site for another municipal playground for children. The block is separated from the sister's donated block (362) only by the width of a street. The condition of the gift was that the blocks be made one continuous playground, with closing of alley and street, and that they be improved for the purposes of the gift, be fenced in, and that on the east side there be placed above the gateway a sign, "Fink-Smith Annex." The special request was made that a municipal swimming pool be constructed on Block 363 as soon as the finances of the city warranted.

The Southern Pacific made practical gift of Commercial Park facing its passenger depot under a 99 year lease at the nominal dollar a year rental; and the Santa Fe the triangular Hobart Park named for its district agent at the time of the gift. And this completes the list of public benefactions, not overlooking the Carnegie City Library Building conditionally upon acquired site and guaranteed yearly appropriation for its upkeep by the city administration in its tax levy.

## CHAPTER XLII

SIX WORDS ON HIS MONUMENT TERSELY EPITOMIZE THE BUSY LIFE'S WORK OF DR. CHESTER ROWELL IN THIS COMMUNITY. HIS INFLUENCE IN THE UPBUILDING OF IT WAS AS THE FAMILY PHYSICIAN, THE FOUNDER OF A NEWSPAPER, THE ORGANIZER AND LEADER OF A PARTY, THE PUBLIC OFFICIAL AND THE CITIZEN. UNIQUE LOCAL CHARACTER WAS FULTON G. BERRY. TO THE LAST HE LOVED HIS JEST. HIS FUNERAL WAS A REMARKABLE SPECTACLE. HE FILLS A PLACE IN THE HISTORICAL LITERATURE OF THE COUNTY.

ERECTED 1914

To Dr. Chester Rowell

GOOD PHYSICIAN—GOOD

FRIEND—GOOD CITIZEN

1844—1912

So reads the inscription on the monument in the county courthouse park erected at a cost of \$10,000 subscribed by admiring and appreciative friends to the memory of a man who was held in universal public esteem as no other man in the county save possibly Dr. Leach before. Dr. Rowell's coming to Fresno dated from 1874. The living today in the modern Fresno City cannot realize the influence that the lives and services of these two men had in the building up of the community.

The impress left by the later comer was possibly the greater from the sentimental view because he was the founder of a great newspaper, the father of the Republican party in the county, wielded political power in the state's

councils and personally rejoiced in the coming of the day when as the results of years of effort the county could no longer be safely counted upon as one of the uncompromisingly Democratic banner counties of the state. The Republican newspaper established in 1878 experienced every vicissitude but he was always there to come to its rescue with purse. His interest in it was that of a parental affection for it; he rejoiced in its virtues and accomplishments; he sorrowed over its failures and shortcomings.

Politically he was an uncompromising partisan of the old school. He believed implicitly in partisanship politics and pinned his undeviating faith on the Republican party above any other. Not that he did not respect the honesty and faith of those opposed to him politically, but in his own mind he entertained not the shadow of a doubt that they were misguided. As with Dr. Leach, he was known and beloved as the self-sacrificing country physician in a rough, pioneer country, ignoring no call for his services whatever the hour in a community of great and wide distances and of few practitioners. The question of money reward was until the last, for he also died in the harness, the least consideration. It was more often refused in charity than demanded as his due.

New Hampshire born in 1844, the years before maturity were spent in Illinois whither the family emigrated to Stout's Grove, near Bloomington, in 1849. The father died a year later, the eight pioneering farming sons were known as "Widow Rowell's Boys" and as models for others to pattern after. Five of them answered their country's call at the outbreak of the war. The youngest of them, a boy of fifteen, was taken ill and was compelled to return home. The others remained in the service as soldiers for forty months in the Department of the Tennessee, and though wounded none was ever off duty during his term of service. Chester Rowell was of an age that forbade enlistment, but he served in the company of an elder brother, though never carried on the muster roll.

After the war, he attended for a time Lombard College at Galesburg, then moved to Chicago for a business college course, also studying medicine. The latter was continued more systematically in San Francisco after arrival in 1866 and crossing the plains. He was associated with an elder cousin, Dr. Isaac Rowell, and graduated in 1870 from the medical department of the University of the Pacific, later Cooper's Medical College and now affiliated with Stanford University. Dr. Levi Lane, a celebrated surgeon, as was Dr. H. H. Toland, the medical college named for whom became the medical department of the state university, was the dean and for years after graduation it was Dr. Rowell's practice annually to attend in San Francisco the Lane course of lectures. A year was spent in teaching school in Oregon, but returning to San Francisco he took up the practice of medicine until removal to Fresno to undergo all the hardships and trials of the pioneer practitioner in an unsettled and new country, took up early an active part in the politics of the day and two years after coming launched the weekly little newspaper publication that is today one of the leading newspapers of the state.

Proof of his early high standing in the community is evidenced by the fact of election to the state senate as a Republican in 1879 at a time when the county was yet strong for Democracy and nomination by that party was in those days equivalent to an election, sitting in the last legislature under the constitution of 1849. He was the first Republican ever elected to office in the county. As senator he served until 1883, and was reelected in 1898 and in 1902. His independent course and stand against the railroad's domination in the political affairs of the state gained him its enmity and its influence defeated him for the railroad commissionership in 1882 and again in 1886. In 1890 he aspired for the nomination for congress from the sixth district, recalled by a memorable contest with W. W. Bowers of San Diego, and Lindsay of Los Angeles as his opponents in the convention. Sixty ballots were cast without choice whereupon after an adjournment to Ventura, the



opposing forces combined and the hard fought nomination went to Bowers. Dr. Rowell was also a central figure in the 1900 legislative session in the deadlock over the U. S. Senatorial nomination of Dan Burns as the avowed railroad candidate but without votes enough to elect. Dr. Rowell as the discoverer of the man, as he was jocosely referred to later, voted continuously for Thomas R. Bard and the latter finally gained strength enough that although the session closed without choice he was nominated at the called extra session the year after, but failed of reelection in 1905.

Dr. Rowell was appointed a regent of the state university in 1891 and continued in that honorary position until his death. He was a member of the state board of health in 1884, and in 1900 a delegate to the Republican national convention of which he was one of the committee that framed the party platform for the McKinley second campaign. His last national political participation was in 1912 as delegate to the Taft nominating convention at Chicago. In 1909 against the urgent advice of most intimate friends and advisers yet in response also to a strong public demand in a local political agitation over the saloon closing question he was prevailed upon to stand for the office of mayor of Fresno City, was elected by a flattering vote and served three years of his term. Dr. Rowell married in 1874 the widow of his medical associate of younger days. She died in 1884. He was a pillar of the Unitarian Church of Fresno and himself as a labor of love financed the erection of its unique place of worship; and was associated as president and a director with the People's Savings Bank.

As mayor he served harassed by perplexing difficulties, anxiety over which acknowledgedly shortened his busy and active life. He felt keenly the public and private criticisms for his exercise of independent and best judgment of mind in not surrendering to fanatical clamor on the saloon problem yet as a progressive step affixing his signature to a reform ordinance that limited the number of drinking establishments, closed them on Sundays and on holidays and after midnight daily and brought them under a closer police regulation. He took to heart the denied responsive cooperation of the public in a subscription for the erection of a municipal convention hall building on one of the acquired playground sites. The result was financial and legal complications over his effort to build it with public funds on personal authority and individual financial obligation.

Uncompromising political partisan that he was and committed to the second-term cause of President Taft, a heart-breaking and bitter disappointment was the advocacy of Theodore Roosevelt, the defeat of Mr. Taft with the division of the Republican party helped out by the newspaper that he was the founder of, of which he had the financial control yet not of its editorial policy transferred to his nephew, Chester H. Rowell, and which newspaper has been truly described as "the child of his adoption and nurture."

Dr. Rowell was a man much beloved and lovable, modest, unassuming and approachable; a man not to be thwarted in will nor contradicted or opposed in purpose; in politics unbending and one who knew no middle course as between likes and dislikes. The devoted and admiring friends that erected the monument to his memory caused it to be placed for sentimental reasons in an angle of the public park at Tulare and K (Van Ness) Streets where the life-sized seated figure faces the scene of many years of activities in the great newspaper that was the idol of his heart, the corner publication house of that organ and in which he also had his offices; while on the opposite corner looms up Fresno's second, towering, modern sky scraper—the Rowell-Chandler office building on the site of the modest, little, moss-grown and orange tree surrounded, rustic covered cottage that had been his humble home for years continuous so many that it had become a landmark of the city.

"Good Physician, Good Friend, Good Citizen" is his well-earned epitaph. His memory is enshrined in many a grateful heart.

**Fulton G. Berry**

Unique spectacle was presented in Fresno City Tuesday April 12, 1910, at the funeral of Fulton G. Berry. Known the state over, he was because of his genial personality one of the most potent publicity agencies that the county and city ever had. Truly was it said of him that to the last he loved his jest.

No solemn dirge or funeral hymn or chant timed his obsequies but his favorite popular airs marked the last rites over his remains. In the services at Elks' hall as the public was taking a last look at his familiar features, Theodore Reitz's orchestra played "La Paloma." A brass band of twenty pieces headed a parade of the business district by the cortege and entering the cemetery struck up for a march Sousa's "The Stars and Stripes Forever." Following out the dead man's instructions, cortege moved through the streets at brisk walk and to the cemetery the vehicles traveled at smart speed. Passing the Grand Central Hotel, with which the name of the decedent was so long identified, the band played "Auld Lang Syne."

The funeral service was conducted in the Elks' lodge room, the same in which December 31, 1907, many feasted as guests on the golden anniversary of his wedding. Lodge room was not funereally draped but elaborately decorated along the same general lines as at the wedding celebration. The walls were covered with palm and green branches surmounted by a frieze of magnolias. There was no suggestion of the solemn, or of the dead. The first music played was Mendelssohn's "Spring Song" and to its soft strains the family party entered. The music was according to the dead man's wishes. "Just Some One" was one favorite and "Home Sweet Home" was another. The Elks conducted their ritualistic work and the principal address was delivered by an old friend, M. F. Tarpey, who said truly of the departed:

"No place could be cheerless where his voice resounded; no heart sorrowful in the presence of his contagious good nature. He was a specific entity; in everything exceptional; in nothing commonplace. Self reliant and courageous in character, he met fate's rebuffs with undaunted composure; the threats of either adverse fortune or physical decline were powerless to stay the flow of his sunny epigrams, or cloud his intellect to the mirth of a witty sally. He loved his jest to the last; the weary, the despondent, the heartsore took new courage from the example of his untiring energy, one of his strong characteristics; his wise and quaint counsels silenced complaint with a quip, dispelled despondency with an epigram; hope and good will gushed spontaneously from him in a stream, carrying away care, sorrow, despondency and these could find no permanent lodgment in his aura."

At the grave and still carrying out the expressed wish to have nothing suggestive of cold formality or elaborate ritual at the funeral, Frank H. Short made a few simple remarks such as he believed the dead man and friend of many years would wish him to utter. Two thoughts are worth the preserving:

"It was more than a quarter of a century ago that Mr. Berry came here and he was then fifty-two years old. Most men at that period would have sought a place to rest in, but Mr. Berry never wanted to rest. He was a young man as long as he lived. He never succumbed to any misfortune or to any foe, until he surrendered to that to which we all must sooner or later surrender. . . .

"You know Mr. Berry always had a horror of being considered a Christian. He did not want to be considered a 'good' man. Yet his life throughout was one of helpfulness. When we remember how he used to assist, and call on to assist in the work of the Salvation Army and other worthy charities, we may feel safe in saying that if every person to whom he had done a kindness in this world should cast a flower on his grave, there would be even more flowers than are here today, although there never were so many flowers at a funeral here before."

The grave was banked up with flowers and an impressive token was a wreath presented by Mr. Berry to his daughter, Mrs. Maude Lillian Fisher-Moulán, known on the comic opera stage as Maude Lillian Berri, the night before his death when she received an ovation at the Barton theater on her appearance after a long professional absence. The wreath bore the welcome "To Our Lillian." The pall-bearers were: Frank H. Short, M. F. Tarpey, D. S. Ewing, Clarence J. Berry, the Klondiker, Jack McClurg (since deceased), Emanuel Katz, W. H. Harris and George M. Osborne (the actor since deceased) in place of Alexander Goldstein who could not attend because of illness.

This remarkable funeral was in accord with the expressed directions of the will of August 25, 1909, which after the request that the Elks' ritual service be used at the funeral stated:

"That instead of the ordinary funeral sermon customarily used on these occasions, I feel that it would be pleasant to me to have one of my friends, Frank H. Short, or M. F. Tarpey, or in their absence or inability to act on such occasion, then D. S. Ewing, deliver on that occasion just such an address, oration or eulogy as they may think proper and fitting under the circumstances, feeling that they have been in closer touch with the emotions of my life than others could have been; I also feel that I would be pleased to know that on this occasion that I was surrounded by a profusion of flowers, and that appropriate vocal music was a predominant part of said ceremony."

Another bequest of the will was in the following provision:

"8—Recognizing the faithfulness with which my old Chinaman, George, has served me for the past sixteen (16) years at the ranch, I hereby direct and instruct my executors to purchase for him in the event he should ever desire to return to China, all necessary transportation, of such class that George may return to his native land in equally as good if not better style than he reached the shores of America."

There was expression of the pleasure to know that his casket should be borne to its last resting place by the hands of dear friends, naming those that in fact with one exception did act as the pall bearers. This testament was a unique document in Fresno County records. The estate was valued in excess of \$100,000 but incumbered.

To jest was Fulton G. Berry's ruling passion. Countless are the jests and pranks ascribed to him. One historical and extravagant one to recall was on the occasion of the fiftieth jubilee celebration in San Francisco by the Native Sons of the Golden West of the admission of California into the Union. The resuscitated parlor of Fresno made its initial parade in the celebration and Berry headed the Fresno section as marshal mounted on a fine horse and picturesquely attired in costume of Spanish-Californian don in white with red silk waist sash and wearing umbrageous sombrero imported from Mexico as were the sombreros worn by the parlor members. Parade over, Berry created the sensation of the day in San Francisco in riding that mettlesome animal into the famous marble-tiled bar room of the Lick House on Montgomery Street. Only an ebullient spirit such as Berry's could have conceived such a piece of theatricalism. It was with just such pranks that he kept before the state Fresno's name and fame.

On another recalled hilarious gala occasion during the memorable boom era, when every corner and nook in the Grand Central as was the custom was monopolized by gaming tables and the play was high, Salvation Army lassies entered to make their collection. Berry seized the tambourine, flung into it a five-dollar piece and requiring every man in the bar to do likewise, cajoled every table keeper and card player to contribute from five dollars to one according to the size of the pile of chips or money before him, turned in a record collection to the lassies with an invitation to step up to the bar to drink at his expense and no offense if the invitation were declined. The

Salvation Army never had a better friend nor more ardent champion than in Fulton G. Berry.

The vital energy of the man was extraordinary. He was like a pent up volcano. An eruption in an extravagant exploit as the one related was necessary to maintain his spiritual equipoise. He was an enthusiastic yachtsman, born in Maine amidst marine surroundings. On a visit back home in the spring of 1908, he must indulge himself in his passion for the sea by assuming command of the oldest two-masted schooner in the United States, if not in the world, and in actual service at the time—the Polly, whose history antedated the War of 1812 when she traded between Boston and Penobscot Bay, was a privateer in that war, also during the Civil War. He sailed her from Belfast to Castine, Maine, and was proud of the honor.

Not many bore a more active part than he after coming to Fresno in 1884, just before the memorable "boom times," in aiding and encouraging the work of developing the city at a time when it had a population of scarce 2,500, yet soon to seethe with the excitement of the times. Enterprise and energy were characteristic of him. He became associated with the leading improvements and industries. He was one of the most enthusiastic in perceiving the future possibilities with irrigation. He started the first steam laundry, aided in building the first street railway with imported discarded "bob tailed street cars" from San Francisco, was the principal owner of the gas works until the plant was sold, one of the original owners of the electric light plant, was one of the leading spirits to bring to Fresno the first steam fire engine afterward taken over by the volunteer city department; and with Ryland Wallace set out the first orange grove in the San Joaquin Valley, seventy acres of trees at Orangedale on the Kings River, promoted the first chamber of commerce, the first county citrus fair which proved a revelation, the county fairs of a week with their horse racing, open gambling and all the revels in their wake with money spent like water; it was a time when they were grading the streets and making a beginning on paving them; when Fresno was emerging into a wild and speculation reckless town out of the village chrysalis into the glare of the lime light and was the talk of the state.

Fulton G. Berry's death April 9, 1910, was from paralysis of the heart. He was always a liberal supporter of all sports. One of his last acts was to write a letter to James J. Jeffries, of whom he was a great admirer, accompanying the box of raisins sent the pugilist by the Raisin Day Festival Committee as an attraction on the day. By the members of the United Commercial Travelers, who made his Grand Central and Fulton Hotels headquarters, he was hailed as a genial soul and as "the traveling man's friend." The title of Commodore attached to him because of his yachting activities in the San Francisco days and as one time commodore of the Corinthian Yacht Club and ownership of the fast little yacht "Nixie" which outsailed everything on the bay.

He was identified with business and financial interests in San Francisco before coming to pastures new in Fresno. He was a state character, his name known from one end of it to the other. He missed being a Californian of the '49 period, still came during the height of the mining period and gold excitement. He arose from comparative poverty to affluence and influence. Vicissitudes also fell to his lot and when he came to Fresno he was a ruined man financially, Fresno County never had a more consistent booster than in him. Here he retrieved his fortune and he ever was grateful. Visiting his home after an absence of fifty-three years and noting how people economized to exist, he returned declaring that should any reverses overtake him he would never leave the county to start life elsewhere.

Born in Belfast, Me., February 10, 1832, of Scotch ancestry of Massachusetts colonial times, he was the youngest of a family of twelve. At seventeen after the discovery of gold in California, like so many thousands of others

he concluded to try fortune in the mining fields. From New York he sailed by way of the Isthmus of Panama and after a tedious voyage arrived at San Francisco May 20, 1851. He mined in the old diggings at Forbestown and on return to the bay sent to his mother some of his first accumulations. Subsequently he mined on the American River, and on the Yuba, also at Cherokee. Locating in San Francisco in 1853, he shoveled sand and placing his earnings in a horse and dray teamed for seven years, cooking his meals and sleeping in the stable loft.

Another six years was spent in the grocery business at Jackson and Stockton Streets. During the stirring times of those early years he was an active member of the historical Vigilance Committee of 1856. He grew up with San Francisco, lived its strenuous life through until the end of the mining stock speculation craze. In the later years he was in the real estate business, associated with Alexander Badlam who was so long assessor of San Francisco, and at the height of his financial career was a member of the San Francisco Stock Exchange and paid for a seat the record breaking price of \$30,000. He was a charter member of the Pacific Board—the little board as it was called—but sold the seat for the other. Later in San Rafael he leased the Tamalpais Hotel for two years and for three years thereafter served as commissary at San Quentin prison, then coming to Fresno.

Friends who had known him in his days of affluence financed him and he bought a half interest in the Grand Central Hotel here, was successful, bought out his partners in 1888 and made house the best known and most popular caravansary in the valley. He came in advance of the boom times, \$16,000 in debt, and accumulated in time some of the best paying property in the county and notably the 140-acre Grand Central Farm located about three-quarters of a mile on the celebrated Kearney Boulevard, devoted to general farming and dairying, besides valuable city holdings and blocks of what was afterwards platted as Arlington Heights.

He was one of the executive committee of the Midwinter fair held in San Francisco with great success; was a Republican in politics and always prominent at conventions; served one term locally as city councilman; was in many fraternal orders and held membership in San Francisco and Fresno clubs.

He early discerned the great possibilities of Fresno and lent his aid and encouragement in the promotion of public utility enterprises. He was public spirited as a citizen and assisted materially to advance the industrial, commercial and social interests of the city. He was one of the most loyal champions that Fresno ever had and earned for himself a permanent place in the historical literature of the county.

## CHAPTER XLIII

FIRST OF THE OPTIMISTIC LAND PROMOTERS AND COMMERCIALIZERS WAS THOMAS E. HUGHES. HIS METEORIC ACTIVITIES FASTENED ON HIM THE APPELLATION OF "FATHER OF FRESNO." LOUIS EINSTEIN WAS A PIERSTONE IN THE SUBSTANTIAL FOUNDATION OF THE CONSERVATIVE COMMERCIAL AND FINANCIAL LIFE OF THE CITY. RECOGNIZED ALSO AS A FACTOR IN THE SOCIAL AND CIVIC UPLIFT OF THE GROWING COMMUNITY. PIONEER MERCHANT AND FIRST BANKER WAS OTTO FROELICH.

First great promoter with no more substantial backing than optimism was Thomas E. Hughes. He gave evidence in his prime of such speculative energy and activity that his name has been appreciatively handed down in local annals as "The Father of Fresno."

He was born in North Carolina June 6, 1830, and was possessed of a character that made it possible for him to become an agency in shaping and advancing the destiny of the undeveloped community that he found on arrival here in June, 1878. With him speculation was a ruling passion.

Nature had fitted him to be a boomer and promoter and in Fresno he found a virgin field for the exercise of his extraordinary capabilities in this line. His stock in trade was optimism. Financial means to launch his first enterprises he had little or none. In the zenith of his career he was accounted one of the rich men of the county. Fortune favored him several times but with the fickleness of that goddess his experience has been that of others before him to be deserted in the end. Financial reverses, and in his career the experience became a familiar one, left him undaunted.

After several years of ill health and failing mentality due to advanced age, the pioneer builder of Fresno City died at the home of his daughter, Mrs. W. D. Foote, near Los Angeles, April 19, 1919, and his remains were sent to Fresno to be buried. His first love for Fresno was so deeply implanted in his heart that although his home had been for upwards of a decade in the southern city a promise had been exacted from his eldest living son that wherever he might die he should be laid away amidst the scenes of his greatest activities and lasting accomplishments. That wish was respected and the funeral was under the auspices of the Masons, with which fraternity he had affiliated before his coming to California. At the time of death he lacked one month of the age of eighty-nine years.

Much could be written of his remarkable active life, the city development and farm colonization work that he pioneered in Fresno. His optimism was boundless. His experience was that of many others in reverses of fortune as the result of the panic times of 1893, and while he had to abandon many of his interests here and was left financially embarrassed he did not lose heart but retained the courage to make still another beginning, far advanced in life though he was. After leaving Fresno, which for a period of more than ten years he visited only at intervals and on anniversary occasions or family reunions, he undertook lastly an agricultural land development enterprise under a Mexican grant.

Conditions did not please him, especially not the high-handed methods of the landed proprietorship in the promotion of labor peonage. He had also turned his attention to mining development and was believed to have been on the road to success when the Madero revolution of 1909 broke out, and he returned home to await the time when there would be more settled business conditions. He had always hoped to return and take advantage



of the possibilities that he said awaited him there. The hope was vain. He had not reckoned on his advanced age and his health. In his last years he embraced the Christian Science faith.

At the funeral the pallbearers were Masons and old-time friends. The general public was not in attendance as mourners at the funeral of one who had done so much for the city that he was known as "The Father of Fresno," whose name and deeds were in the mouth of every one. Such a change in the population had come about during the years of his absence from the city that he builded that it was only another generation that could recall him from a personal knowledge and association, so rapid and great had been the changes. The flags were raised at half mast from the city public buildings on the day of the funeral.

Surviving him are the daughter, Mrs. W. D. Foote, of Los Angeles, and three grandchildren; the sons James E. Hughes of Fresno and William M. Hughes of Madera and Arizona, and their grandsons Edwin E. Hughes the Fresno postmaster, and Kenneth L. Hughes of Tranquillity, and the great grandchildren. The son, James E. Hughes, desired at the funeral of his father to chose for pallbearers the intimate friends who were chosen companions of him on a memorable excursion in July, 1892. He was unable to find a sufficient number, so great had been the changes between the day of Thomas E. Hughes' departure from Fresno and that of his death. In grateful acknowledgment of many uniform courtesies shown him by Mr. Hughes and other prominent citizens on his visits to Fresno, A. N. Towne, general manager of the Southern Pacific, tendered the use of the private car "Carmello" for a visit to the Sacramento River Canyon to the then newly opened Castle Crag Tavern, to Sissons at the base of Mount Shasta and over the Siskiyou Mountains, the visit in fact not ending until Portland Ore., was reached.

The car was at disposal on Thursday, July 14, and, according to the directions "there will be no charge for the use of the car, the servants or the passage money; the only expense you would be to would be for provisioning the car to suit your own taste." The party returned by way of San Francisco and visited Stanford University before coming home. Mr. Hughes invited the following named to accompany him and wife: Mr. and Mrs. Fulton G. Berry, Miss Maude Berry, Mr. and Mrs. M. K. Harris, Mr. and Mrs. H. D. Colson, Mr. and Mrs. F. K. Prescott, Mr. and Mrs. L. L. Cory, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. McKenzie, Mr. and Mrs. O. J. Woodward, Mr. and Mrs. T. C. White, Mr. and Mrs. Louis Einstein, Dr. and Mrs. Lewis Leach, Miss Imogene Rowell and Mr. and Mrs. J. R. White. Of the gentlemen of the party the living on the day of the funeral of their one-time host were Messrs. M. K. Harris, T. K. Prescott, O. J. Woodward, T. C. White and L. L. Cory.

Thomas E. Hughes was a man of dynamic force of character. He was a bold and successful operator in enterprises in which his neighbors would not dare. He made many successes; he had failures and yet it seemed to onlookers that he had in his grasp the wand of magic and that whatever he touched turned to gold. It was said of him that within five years after settling in Fresno he was paying out as interest \$18,750 a year on \$150,000 that he had borrowed from banks and individuals to float his projects. With his early career in Batesville, Ark., this history is not concerned. It has to deal with him in California as connected with Fresno and the development with which he had so much to do. Thomas E. Hughes married Miss Mary J. Rogers, daughter of a clergyman, December 18, 1850, at Batesville and in the spring of 1853 he sold his business and on the overland journey to California was accompanied by a brother-in-law, William R. Feenster, sister and youngest brother, traveling up the Kansas River. He became a Mason before departure. The cattle drivers working their way across, deserted in the sink of the Humboldt, believing they could travel faster and become

rich before the arrival of the main party in California. The women rode in a wagon to which a yoke of four cattle was attached, drove the yoke or followed the Feemster leading wagon. Hughes and brother, John, drove cattle for four days, and then hiring help on the journey met between the Humboldt and the Carson River the oldest brother, William C., who had come from California to intercept them with fresh teams and provisions.

He had bought an additional band of cattle and the party crossed the Sierra at the old Carson River road and arrived eight miles north of Stockton, October 5, 1853, with two wagons and 200 cattle. William lived at Murphy's Camp. Here the brother-in-law also settled and here, March 28, 1854, Thomas E.'s first son was born. It was to be Hughes' first experience in farming. He traded for a squatter's claim to 160 acres, in the winter of 1853 bought seed wheat at three and barley at two and a half cents and with a twenty-four inch plow and four yoke of cattle plowed and seeded 100 acres of grain. Wheat crop turned to smut and the barley harvesting cost him more than he could sell it for after sacking. Discouraged, he decided to rent land claimed by three neighbors and take stock to ranch. He solicited the horses and cattle of others and in less than thirty days the story is that he had stock enough to give him an income of \$800 a month and he was soon on his feet.

The second son, James E., was born December 26, 1855. The relatives of Mrs. Hughes had for a year importuned her to return to Arkansas. Stockton was left in March, 1856, for San Francisco, for a steamship return to New Orleans and by land on to Batesville. There, after brief stay, the wife was taken ill and the decision was made to return to California in the spring of 1857. The Californians were prevailed upon to delay departure that her father might close his affairs to accompany them westward, and the third son, William M., was born February 15, 1858. The actual departure was on April 1, 1859, with five emigrant wagons, a carriage and 400 head of cattle, owning at start only a small part of the outfit. Mrs. Hughes suffered from lung trouble, had to be conveyed in the carriage and was improving during the first month of the journey, but an unfortunate accident took place. The carriage was about to cross a small stream, a dog jumped in front of the horses causing them to turn to one side, the vehicle was upset. Mrs. Hughes was thrown into the water, took a bad cold, began to sink fast and on the morning of the arrival at Fort Laramie breathed her last. The remains were preserved in charcoal and conveyed to Stockton for burial after arrival late in September.

The stock was kept during the winter of 1859 some twenty miles north-east of Stockton. In the spring of 1860 Mr. Hughes bought 240 acres in what was known as Bachelors' Valley, commanding the waters of a small creek. The father-in-law having left unsettled business in Arkansas and Tennessee prevailed on the son-in-law to return East and Thomas E. left San Francisco, December, 1860, for New York on the steamer "Sonora." He returned to Stockton bringing the trotting stallion known as "Washtinaw Chief" and as "Niagara" after sale by him for \$5,000. There was loss of cattle during the dry season of 1862, and in the notable wet season of 1864 he sold what he had left for five dollars to ten dollars a head and turned his attention again to farming. He had only 240 acres, which was deemed insufficient. A friend had just sold a copper mine. He had cash and from him Hughes borrowed \$4,000 to enter upon more land. He paid two per cent. interest per month, payable monthly or to be added to principal, mortgaging the 240 acres and also the 3,000 acquired by entering soldier warrants bought for fifty cents on the dollar. Here were then 3,240 acres but no money to farm them. Crop was mortgaged at the same usurious rate and the next summer the crop paid the debt with something left over.

Hughes had his three boys with him and they lived in a bachelors' hall. The second marriage followed in December, 1866, with Miss Annie E.

Yoakum of Alameda County. The daughter was born August 19, 1872, of this union. Hughes found his way into Stanislaus County and in 1867 was elected, and served for one term as county clerk and ex-officio recorder. Term of office having been expired, he bought sheep and land and accounted himself worth \$100,000. He rented land in Merced for the sheep and for farming, put out some 7,000 acres to grain, principally in Merced. One dry year succeeded another and in 1873 he was so heavily in debt that he looked for an opening elsewhere and went to Lower California to examine a grant of 300,000 acres as to its possibilities for colonization. Creditors concluded that he had left the country for good and on return in five weeks he found everything in the hands of the sheriff and no compromise for further time obtainable. The assignees in bankruptcy so ill managed affairs that assets were sold for \$46,000 and as claimed they paid the creditors nothing on the assertion that all was consumed in litigation expenses.

Mr. and Mrs. Hughes and daughter moved to San Francisco in the spring of 1874, arriving there with a capital of \$130, the savings of himself and boys from wages as herders of their sheep for the creditors. At so low an ebb were the fortunes of Mr. Hughes at this time that he was given free desk room with T. L. Babin at Pine and Kearney Streets, he to advertise all real estate Hughes might secure for sale and divide the commissions. This gave a scant living, but the three boys were brought together in time and in June, 1878, 7,000 sheep were taken on shares from Dr. E. B. Perrin, the latter to furnish the range in Fresno and the Hughes' to have one-half the wool and increase. The boys attended to the sheep; the father turned his attention to real estate.

The Southern Pacific made him agent for the renting of its grant lands for farming and grazing, and he had also the agency for the renting of at least 100,000 acres of non-residents at a compensation of ten per cent. of rentals received. The Central California Colony was a verity at this time and he was seized with the farm land colonization plan. Edmund Jansen owned 6,080 acres adjoining Fresno townsite between Central Colony and town, but it was rough and waterless land and no one would buy. A colony proposition was suggested, Jansen to procure water rights and supply ditches. An agreement was made. Jansen died and the widow agreed to sell the land for \$40,000, Hughes to pay \$5,000 in six and twelve months and as much annually at eight per cent. from date of purchase.

Hughes had no money. He must have water rights and ditches which would cost about seven dollars an acre, and so he agreed to give M. J. Church five land sections for the water and ditches for the other four and a half sections. Arrangements were made for the advertisement of the project on credit, the railroad was induced to run an excursion to Fresno, and Hughes and Judge North, who was the selling agent of Washington Colony, which had then been thrown on the market, went to Sonoma, Napa and Solano Counties, presented tickets to prominent men, and North lectured on the advantages of Fresno soil with water applied. The excursion brought about 300 men to Fresno. There was little to show them on that dry and barren plain other than the beginnings in Central and Washington colonies and that what was there could be reproduced on adjoining land.

Hughes sold \$30,000 worth of land to excursionists in twenty and forty-acre tracts, receiving some cash payments at fifty dollars an acre, and after a few days disposed of 640 acres to G. G. Briggs at forty dollars, which notes being discounted \$1,000 paid the colonizer cash. Paying out on the land, there was still left money to make a fourth payment on other lands and as fast as he sold and realized he bought more. It was the talk that he would buy anything that he could have on credit. He advertised that he would sell to any one that would improve, giving him credit for one to three years, and the result was that in thirty days he sold from \$85,000 to \$90,000 worth of land on the promise of improvement and enhancement of value. He was

prospering. Thus in 1881 he was one of the organizers of the Fresno County Bank that afterward became the First National. In the fall he incorporated the Fresno Fruit Packing Company, taking one-third of the paid up capital stock of \$25,000. This was done to find a market for the grown fruit and to encourage the planting of fruit trees. It was a financial failure, though it did induce the buying of land and the growing of fruit. He and others organized the gas-making plant which was sold after two years.

A profitable joint venture with J. R. White, pioneer miner from Mariposa for whom Whitesbridge was named, was the purchase of 230 acres from the railroad at \$25 an acre covering in part the town site. A portion of this constituted at the southern end of town beyond Ventura Avenue very first territorial expansion of the town. A small portion was sold in town lots for sufficient in comparative brief time to pay for the entire tract. For the remainder in lots \$1,000 an acre was realized and the speculation netted over \$100,000.

In 1884 the idea of a Masonic Temple was conceived. The corporation was organized with \$25,000 capital, Hughes took half the stock and carried it for two years. Building fell into the hands of the Fresno Savings and Loan Bank on foreclosure. It was at the corner of I and Tulare, opposite the Hughes Hotel and original Hughes residence site. Dr. Lewis Leach and Hughes took up the idea of race track and fair grounds in 1883, Hughes furnishing almost half the capital. Dr. Leach was the president and manager of the association for about twenty years and until his death. The track was one of the best in the state, and eventually became the property of the county by purchase as a public park and playground.

It was in 1885 that Hughes organized the company to build a hotel to cost \$100,000, others taking one-half the stock and he the other. Bids were advertised. Rivalry had sprung up as to the location at I and Tulare, and others boomed the erection of the Grand Vendome Hotel. This so frightened the Hughes subscribers that on the day for the opening of the bids all of his associates had withdrawn from the enterprise. They had organized and elected directors but had bought no property. Hughes took the enterprise on his own shoulders, opened the bids and awarded contract to a Sacramento firm for \$87,000 after completion of the foundation by private contract at a cost of \$25,000. Hughes had no ready cash and depended on property sales and collection of debts due.

The enterprise was ridiculed as "Hughes' Folly" and "Hughes' Elephant" and his bankruptcy was prophesied. The second story was up and a loan of \$45,000 was made on property. Construction progressed slowly. Seeing the opportunity, he bought a corner lot for \$15,000 and before he needed the money in three months sold the property for \$25,000. Not satisfied to hold money waiting until payments should be due be bought, by making a \$10,000 payment, 5,000 acres in Madera for fifteen dollars an acre. Followed then the enterprise of erecting the three-story brick Hughes Block, then and for years the finest in the city. He borrowed \$35,000 on the property and while it was under construction bought 3,400 acres more in Madera for \$95,000 by paying \$5,000 cash with promise of \$10,000 in four months. By this time the hotel was completed and rented for five years for \$1,000 a month and a commencement was made on the sale of the Madera lands.

The terms were the usual—one, two and three years without cash payment—at prices from fifty dollars to \$100 an acre. He bonded 9,000 acres belonging to others for two years at thirty dollars and forty dollars. He sold the first 5,000 acres bought for \$274,000, making within a few dollars a clear \$200,000. The second purchase of 3,400 acres was disposed of on time to buyers who opened a large territory to small holders. The 3,400 acres bought for \$95,000 realized \$200,000 and he had still 160 acres in Hughes' Addition to Madera, valued then at \$25,000. He had agreed with all the bonded to give them one-half of all he sold for over thirty and forty

dollars. He sold in 1886, 5,640 acres of this land, clearing him for his part \$75,000 and was satisfied that he would clear another \$50,000 on the remainder, realizing for the owners the same amount over and above the prices they would have sold at the time that they bonded. The contracts not completed were assigned to others.

In the spring of 1887 there was a move to build a street railroad up Mariposa Street. Hughes wanted it in front of his hotel, then still under construction. He organized the stockholders in the fair association, they incorporated, Hughes took one-third of the stock and the street car line was run to the fair grounds from the railroad depot, up Tulare, turning the corner at the hotel, and along I to Ventura and on that avenue to the grounds. The foothill country attracted his attention and in 1886 survey was made for a railway to the mountains in the expectation that capital and land owners along the right of way would assist in the building. The project failed. It was revived in the summer of 1888, two surveys were made, the route mapped and such progress made that money was paid in to incorporate and secure rights of way.

From Detroit, Mich., came in the spring of 1889 an agent to look into the timber belt in the eastern Sierras. He made report to his principals, who sent out more agents; and Hughes and associates organized again to build a road to Kings River Canyon, but it was another failure. February 1, 1891, "the bold and beardless boy," Marcus A. Pollasky, loomed up on the horizon for the third time and launched on a meteoric career to induce the giving to him of subsidy for a railroad to the mountains. J. D. Gray, F. G. Berry and Thomas E. Hughes agreed to raise \$100,000 for him and secure rights of way, provided he would build 100 miles of road, equip and maintain it. February 23, 1891, the San Joaquin Valley Railroad was incorporated with the above-named as directors, Pollasky, president, and Hughes, vice-president. The subsidy was raised and work was promised to be commenced in thirty days. Hughes threw the first shovel of dirt. It was the sixth time, as Hughes said in a speech, that he had put his name to subscriptions to aid a mountain road. The celebration of the throwing of the first shovel was on the 4th of July.

The "Father of Fresno" was in a prophetic mood on that day. The mountain road, he said, meant "millions of dollars to be invested in factories of various kinds and is but a small part of what will follow. Three years from today 1,000 towboats will be used to transport your products to tide water. Three years from today you will have two other railroads running through your city competing for your patronage. Ten years from today your imports will be, instead of \$10,000,000, increased to \$50,000,000 and the end not yet estimated."

About twenty-five miles of the road were built to the San Joaquin River to a newborn town named Pollasky, and afterwards renamed Friant. This Pollasky was after all only a secret agent working in the interests of the Southern Pacific, which absorbed the road as a feeder to shut out any competition. There was a hue and cry that was not hushed for years and the experience was a block to every projected competing railroad enterprise, even the coddled San Francisco and Valley Railroad on which the people had pinned their faith as a pledged independent competing road, being absorbed by purchase by the Santa Fe Railroad as regards the line from Bakersfield to San Francisco. The valley had again to acknowledge that it was again bitten after its liberal subscriptions, bonuses and grants of rights of way.

In the year 1893 no man in the central part of the state was better known than Thomas E. Hughes. He was at the head of almost every enterprise in Fresno and Madera Counties. He had made a great deal of money. Came then the panic period of 1893 with collapse of the boom. The land

did not realize the value that he set on it and as mortgage on mortgage was foreclosed and deficiency judgments were piled up as liens against his properties he was forced into insolvency. The petition was filed January 8, 1894; liabilities placed at \$176,520.24; assets nil. The San Francisco Theological Seminary of San Francisco was a secured creditor for \$90,000, the hotel the security property. The insolvency came not as a surprise. Mrs. Hughes had filed insolvency petition on her separate property two months before. And this was the end, where once he had owned almost everything in sight.

At the age of sixty-nine and accompanied by wife, in 1899 he cast his lot in Mexico in the state of Oaxaca in the mining district of Taviche, and for nine years acquired mining properties, sold mines to advantage and bonded to English capital for sufficient to place him, as was believed, once more in the list of the rich. It was delusive. So was his later grant colonization project. He made his home in Los Angeles after his return from Mexico first, in 1908. The colonization scheme was in connection with a tract of 130,000 acres near Manzanillo.

The Hughes home vineyard was only saved by a lucky stroke of fortune. That property was made a gift to the daughter and was saved from the wreck. It has since been subdivided and sold as residence lots. "The Father of Fresno" told this story of the windfall; "In 1891 I was in need of money and I induced my wife to place a mortgage of \$10,000 on eighty acres of her land which adjoined the City of Fresno (on Ventura Avenue), deeding her the Hughes Hotel and furniture. Raisins and dried fruit became so low that people who owed me money could not pay even their interest. Suit was brought to foreclose the mortgage of \$10,000 and it was advertised to be sold in twenty-five days, and I had no idea how I could raise the money to save the eighty acres. My wife drew \$15,000 in the old Louisiana lottery, paying off the mortgage and saving her land."

The oldest son of Thomas E. Hughes, named Thomas M., died in this city at the age of thirty years and eleven months, February 23, 1885. His first wife was Huldah, daughter of Jesse Morrow. The second marriage was in June, 1884, to Miss Annie Johnson, and shortly after their return from the bridal tour he took to the bed from which he never arose a well man. Mrs. Annie E. Hughes died at Los Angeles, May 20, 1911, having been a resident of California for sixty-three years.

### Louis Einstein

A man of retiring disposition, shrinking from a public life, never more contented than when in the privacy of the home circle, one who was the personification of old-fashioned conservatism and yet in his very passiveness filled a part in the upbuilding of Fresno City, was Louis Einstein. He died in November, 1914, honored and mourned. This pioneer merchant and banker of years of experience locally, of judgment and tact, was very generally appealed to as a counsellor whether in matters of private or public concern. He was respected because of his business integrity.

Born in Germany, he came to America at the age of eighteen, engaged in the dry goods business at Memphis, Tenn., and in 1866 at the invitation of a relative came to the budding little city of San Francisco as bookkeeper for Wormser Bros., subsequently going to Portland, Ore., and establishing a wholesale liquor house. Three years later, he returned to California and attracted to the San Joaquin Valley in January, 1871, here he established his permanent home, here he grew up with the country and here he died and lies buried.

He became associated in business with Elias Jacob at Visalia under the firm name of Jacob & Einstein. It had a branch store at Centerville in this county as far back as 1870 in charge of H. D. Silverman, whose home residence later in Fresno early pioneers will recall as having been on the



bluff now occupied by the Forsyth building at the prominent business corner at Tulare and J. Mr. Einstein entered the Visalia firm in August, 1871, and the announcement in the public print at the time was that it had completed "a fine one-story house at Kingston, twenty-four by fifty feet," also "a warehouse which they have filled with grain, flour and provisions" and that building, not designating which, was regarded "as an ornament to Kingston." It was the store which while in charge of Mr. Einstein was one of the several places that was looted in the memorable robber raid by the bandit gang of Vasquez, when the hamlet on the Kings River was shot up by the desperadoes and the pursuing villagers, and that Mr. Einstein was left a gagged and pinioned victim by the robbers.

The Visalia firm did a large business and in June, 1874, buying the pioneer store of Otto Froelich at the new railroad town of Fresno, articles of association were entered into between Jacob, Einstein and Silverman as Jacob & Company at Fresno, as E. Jacob & Company at Centerville, as Jacob, Einstein & Company at Kingston with Launcelot Gilroy as an associate and as Jacob & Einstein at Visalia. Mr. Einstein moved then to the new county seat and in February, 1875, he and Silverman bought out Jacob & Company of Fresno and E. Jacob & Company of Centerville. The new Fresno firm became Silverman & Einstein and continued as such until the death of the first named in August, 1877, Louis Gundelfinger purchased the estate's interest later. Mr. Einstein on a visit to Germany had induced him to come to California and a \$200,000 capitalized stock corporation resulted in December, 1888.

Firm name was changed to Louis Einstein & Company and years later the various interests were reincorporated. From the pioneer location at Mariposa and H in a store erected in 1875 as the third brick structure in the city, enlarged and improved with expansion of the business, it moved uptown to Tulare and K (Van Ness) on completion of the Rowell-Chandler modernized building. In the original location also were because of proximity to the railroad station across the half square the telegraph, express and post office, the latter the second in the little town with Charles W. De Long as the second postmaster appointed in November 1873 to succeed Russell J. Fleming, still in the land of the living as is De Long. The latter received the munificent annual remuneration of twelve dollars.

Mr. Einstein was founder and president of the Bank of Central California organized February 26, 1887, for years located at Mariposa and the alley between H and I. It is now known as the reincorporated Bank and Trust Company of Central California with the estate represented by his sons in controlling interest. At his death, he was accounted one of the richest men in the county. It was a question which was the richer, he or John W. Patterson of the Fresno National Bank whose wealth came largely by inheritances.

Mr. Einstein early devoted his personal attention to banking. He had other interests as in a smaller bank in Coalinga, besides large real estate holdings in the choicest residence and business districts and in outlying locations toward which the city's growth was trending, all of them enhancing in value as the city grew. Before the day of banks, Einstein & Silverman, Kutner, Goldstein & Company, other mercantile firms and the large grain, sheep and cattle buyers were the money brokers and providers and during the dry farming era financed the ranchers and carried them over bad periods until the lucky year came when with one fortunate season the accumulated debt was wiped out. A close observer of human nature and character, many a tale is told of Mr. Einstein's helpful financial aid given at times on no more tangible security than his faith in the integrity of the applicant.

He was never allured by political life, though never holding back his influence in whatever was helpful to the moral and civic uplift of the com-

munity. He gave his aid in organizing the free library movement, was a patron of the liberal arts and of music and took an active interest in the formation of the Unitarian Church of the city. The Einstein and Gundelfinger families are related by marriage.

The residences of Einstein and of the Gundelfingers on "Nob Hill" were most pretentious in their day. They were specially designed by an architect from San Francisco to meet the climatic conditions of the hot summers in being provided with latticed high basements, lofty attics and window openings in plenty for air and free ventilation. The Einstein residence was removed in the fall of 1917 to clear the site for the Liberty theater and the Louis Gundelfinger residence in the same block for the Liberty Market. The other two Gundelfinger residences between Kern and Inyo are no longer used as such because encroached upon by the business district.

#### Otto Froelich

Mention of Louis Einstein recalls the name of Otto Froelich, pioneer of the county and also of the city, when the latter boasted two houses only and he was its first merchant and banker. He died in San Francisco in March, 1898, at the age of seventy years. He was a Dane who had come to Millerton when it was yet a thriving mining camp and the county seat early in the sixties. He was for a time a clerk in George Grierson's store and succeeding to the business removed it to Fresno on completion of the railroad in 1872. He was the first to start the hegira to the plains to lay the foundations of the future Fresno City.

As before stated, that business was transferred to Silverman & Einstein and with Dr. Lewis Leach, William Faymonville and Charles H. Barth he established the first Fresno County bank of which the First National is today the successor. The banking firm was known under the name of Barth & Froelich and was in a small brick building on the north side of Mariposa between I and the alley. In 1880 he was appointed post master which position he afterwards resigned to devote his entire time to the business of wine making which he and Dr. Leach had established. He was also a land owner.

Later he moved to San Francisco and save for a year or two as cashier of a bank at Pasadena was in the employ of August Weihe, a moneyed man of the city who while never a resident of Fresno had large investments here. Mr. Froelich was a man of scrupulous integrity, bright and accurate in business affairs, impulsive yet kindly in nature, public spirited and honorable in every relation of life. His name is prominent in the early records of the county and of the city. He left an only child, Miss Maren, an artist of repute in San Francisco.

## CHAPTER XLIV

IN JEFFERSON G. JAMES PASSED AWAY ONE OF THE LAST OF THE PICTURESQUE CATTLE KINGS OF EARLY DAYS OF CALIFORNIA. LAND BARON HENRY MILLER NEVER DID KNOW HOW MUCH HE POSSESSED IN TERRAIN OR LIVESTOCK. FREDERICK ROEDING WAS AN AGENCY TO MAKE KNOWN THE AGRICULTURAL POSSIBILITIES OF THE DESERT LAND AROUND FRESNO CITY. S. C. LILLIS AS ONE OF THE LAST OF THE LAND HOLDING BARONS. THE ROMANCE OF OTHER DAYS CROWDED OUT BY THE GRINDING MATERIALISM OF THE PRESENT ERA AND TIMES.

The life histories of so many pioneers are intertwined with the beginnings of state, county or city and are as full of adventure as the wildest tale of fiction. Characteristic is that of Jefferson G. James, pioneer of state and of county and one of the last of the cattle kings. He died March 28, 1910, at his home near San Francisco. He left widow, Mrs. Elizabeth Rector James, and a daughter, by a first marriage.

James was eighty-one years of age at time of death. His estate was a large one, estimated to be worth between \$1,500,000 and \$2,000,000. In it were included about 100,000 acres of the James ranch in this county. This great tract on the West Side watered by Fresno Slough has passed by sale to Los Angeles capitalists and colonizers and has several times changed corporate name.

Mr. James spent life's closing years in San Francisco conducting a great wholesale cattle business. He was prominent for the legal battles that he waged in the courts of the state for eleven years. These were begun in 1889 and involved not only Miller & Lux, the greatest cattle and irrigation land holding firm in the state, but also the California Pastoral and Agricultural Company, a British corporation, and the San Joaquin and Kings River Canal and Irrigation Company, another Miller & Lux enterprise. In all, Henry Miller instituted six suits against James, while the latter had one against him. These were waged with bitter determination by the cattle kings yet never became personal in nature.

The point whether James could take water from the San Joaquin and the Kings was involved in all. James' lands did not abut directly on the river but were on the slough and watered by the overflow. He contended that this entitled him to take water from the river above him. The contention was resisted. The decision by the supreme court after long litigation was for James. The decision only precipitated another battle with the San Joaquin and Kings Company which has a contract to take prior water from the river. The point then was whether James had to wait until it could have its 760 cubic feet of water before he could be served with any for his lands. In this suit the superior court gave judgment for him three days before his death.

James was prominent locally also through his connection with the Fresno Loan and Savings Bank, capitalized at \$300,000 and organized in 1886 and with him as president two years later. In the panic of 1893 it closed its doors and there was a scandal that it should have received a large deposit of public funds only a few hours before the closing of the doors. Its affairs were liquidated and settled by the late Emil F. Bernhard after long years. The bank erected the Land Company building at Mariposa and J, which passing through several hands at price record deals is the present property

of the Einstein interests. James, it was, that erected the so-called Masonic hall building at Tulare and I.

Born in Pike County, Mo., December 29, 1829, his education was that of the primitive log cabin school, and in 1850 with relatives he came overland with a party captained by Jeff Alman, the caravan of "prairie schooners" toiling wearily toward the west by the famous South Pass and the Green and Raft Rivers. At the last named stream, James and party decided that the locomotion was too slow. They removed the wheels from their wagon, sawed out the spokes and fashioned pack saddles from the wood. They packed their outfit on the backs of eight fractious mules. It was a task that demanded patience and determination but the effort was successful. On the first day with the pack they passed 1,400 emigrant trains.

They reached Hangtown, now called Placerville, in August, 1850, and turned out their pack animals to graze on the Hicks ranch on the Cosumnes River. The James brothers went to Greenwood Valley on the middle fork of the American River where each cleaned up \$3,500 prospecting with sluice and rocker. Returning to Hangtown in April, 1852, they went back to Missouri via the Nicaragua route, traveling home from New York by rail.

Next year, James returned to California alone bringing with him ninety-one young cows which being fattened sold at a profit. He engaged in mining at Placerville and in the business of buying gold dust. In June, 1857, he made another change and left for Los Angeles and on this trip laid the foundation of his cattle raising career with the purchase of 960 head of cattle. In the fall of 1857 he drove his cattle to the famous "25" Ranch near Kingston in this county, then called Whitmore Valley, and next year accompanied by old time vaqueros engaged in several rodeos. After gathering his cattle at these round-ups, he drove the animals to the head of Fresno Slough and tarrying there five years bought the ranch near the San Joaquin River on Fresno and Fish Sloughs.

In 1860 he returned to Missouri and married Miss Jennie L. Rector whom he brought out to California. One child, Maud Strother James, was born to them. The daughter married Walker C. Graves, a San Francisco attorney. After the death of the first wife, who was twelve years his junior, he married her sister, Elizabeth, in 1903. In San Francisco which was his residence and home he dabbled in politics and in 1882 was elected a supervisor, four years later a school director and reelected to a second term. Later he was the Democratic candidate for mayor but was defeated by the late Adolph Sutro who carried the day with his promise that if elected he would give San Franciscans a single and five cents street car fare rate to the ocean beach for popular recreation.

### Henry Miller

A penniless butcher boy, at twenty working in the Washington Market in New York, in 1849 following the horde of gold seekers to California and in 1850 still a butcher boy in the village of San Francisco, Henry Miller was at death at the age of nearly ninety a notable man of California, a cattle king of the West and founder of the famous firm of Miller & Lux, land and cattle barons. He died in San Francisco at the home of an only daughter, Mrs. J. Leroy Nickel. He had been confined to bed for nearly two years and was unconscious for two days before death.

He owned an empire described as "twice the size of Belgium." He never himself knew how much land he possessed. At the death of Charles Lux, the partner, their estate was valued at twenty millions, mostly in live stock and land. They were wholesale cattle butchers of San Francisco and with Dunphy & Hildreth enjoyed a monopoly of the business. Lux attended to the city butchering and selling; Miller to the ranches, the breeding of stock, the buying and driving of stock to market, was a man of unlimited powers of endurance and reputed one of the best buyers in the state. Estimate was

made after Miller's death by experts that he had approximately 22,717 square miles or 14,539,200 acres under his control in California, Nevada, Oregon and Arizona. It was an ancient saying that Miller & Lux could drive cattle from Arizona to Oregon through Central California and nightly camp on their own land, at any stage of the journey not being out of sight of a firm ranch. It owned much land in Fresno in the vicinity of the triangle formed by the junction of Fresno, Merced and Madera counties, the great ranch being the Sanjon of Santa Rita in Merced and Fresno, and it was in continuous litigation over its asserted rights over the bulk of water for irrigation from the San Joaquin by reason of appropriation and riparian rights.

Miller held more land on the Pacific Coast than probably any other one individual. At times 150,000 cattle and 100,000 sheep grazed on western pastures, bearing the "M" brand. The firm operated a chain of slaughter houses, banks, stores, and hotels in addition to the ranches and ranges. Managers, clerks and foremen were in employ by the score, vaqueros by the hundreds; traction engines bought by the dozen, barb wire fencing by the mile and seed by the carload, for the reckoning was not in acres but in miles. The tale was that Miller never sold but always bought. He had a juvenile dream of wealth, bought land when the Spanish and American government sold cheap, hoarded his property and realized his fantastic dream. In Visalia once he made on one day entry upon six townships of land.

It was in 1851 that he launched into business on his own account. He had met Lux and six years later they formed the partnership that made history on western ranges. Their active days were when the great sweeps of California valleys stretched unenclosed from the Sierra Nevada foothills to the Coast Range and when the vast land grants were devoted to cattle raising. They watched the land settlers come, saw their ranches marked off by barb wire fences and farms and orchards grow where the cattle had roamed at will. He married Miss Sarah W. Sheldon in 1860. After Lux's death in 1877, the business was incorporated, Miller retaining large interests. In his later years he remained in the seclusion of daughter's home. He was the last of the great land barons of California. Dismemberment of the vast domains will come, for conservation policies, population increases, high taxes and clamoring demands of settlers are making impossible the holding of the cattle empires of old. Lux and Miller were both German born, hard workers, and shrewd, and Miller all bone and muscle with no surplus flesh. Until the last he talked with a strong accent. He was prompt and decisive, made examination of cattle, followed up with offer and seldom varied from it.

It was not unusual for him to ride seventy to eighty miles a day. If cattle bogged on account of high water, none worked harder in the rescue than he. None knew better than he the value of an efficient, trustworthy man. Such were always rewarded. Many afterward financially independent owed their advancement to him. He allowed nothing to go to waste; his most frequent differences with ranch foremen were on this score. On trips from ranch to ranch extending over thirty days he would borrow from one to pay up another, keeping no memoranda and no accounts, carrying the transactions in mind, giving accurate account to bookkeeper upon return to the city and the monthly statements to foremen were always correct. The practice for years was to give on every ranch a night's shelter and supper and breakfast to every applying tramp for the washing of dishes or other service on the theory that this was a cheaper method than to court their enmity or invasion of hay stack with loss by fire by reason of carelessness or malice. The practice was discontinued in later years. So great were the cattle herds that neighborhood raids were frequent and secret service men were under retainer to trace down the thieves and prosecute them. Miller was about five feet eight inches in height, weighed about 150 pounds and was a bunch of nervous activity in prime.

Sensation followed the seizure, in June, 1918, by the internal revenue department, of the Miller properties for non-payment of \$6,000,000 federal income taxes due. In Kern County the estate has from 140,000 to 150,000 acres tributary to the Kern River and Lake Buena Vista, at Conner's Station, Millux, Buttonwillow and the lake, the bulk estate holdings being in Kern, Fresno, Madera, Merced and Santa Clara counties. In 1913 he placed the holdings in trust for the daughter and when the government sized up the estate there was found standing in his name only apparently from \$35,000 to \$40,000. It sued for the income taxes and after its claim the state has another of four millions. Heirs claimed that to meet these taxes it would be necessary to sell off much of the acreage and in the war conditions of the market these sales would not net enough to meet the claims.

The plan of seizure and sale was welcomed in some quarters as encouraging agricultural development and the fact that the subsidiary corporations in the irrigation counties had tied up water rights in a jangle of legal decisions as to rights and rates had enabled them to monopolize first rights. Heirs applied for leave to appeal from the ruling enabling the collector of internal revenue to take control of the \$40,000,000 estimated properties, under a warrant of in distraint for non payment of \$6,961,240.47 with sale announcement June 29, also for an injunction to restrain him until the appeal is passed upon. With the close of the month of June, 1918, Miller & Lux, as a Nevada corporation filed as covering holdings in eighteen California counties deed of trust to the Mercantile Trust Company of San Francisco for \$10,000,000, securing first mortgage and refunding gold bonds for \$5,000,000 as a transaction of July 1, 1910, and added indebtedness under a resolution of April 30, 1918. The Miller & Lux lands in this county are of 268,092.42 acres in entire sections, many parcels and include the townsite of Firebaugh. The increased indebtedness, it was believed, was to meet the income tax demand. According to a report filed June 20, 1919, by R. F. Mogan as state inheritance appraiser, the Miller Estate owed the state \$1,859,961.52 tax, being approximately \$4,000,000 less than the unofficial estimates of tax due. According to the report, Miller owned 119,781.25 shares of the total issue of 120,000 of the Miller & Lux corporation and this stock, exclusive of all indebtedness, was at his death valued at \$31,039,143.15.

### Frederick C. Roeding

Frederick C. Roeding, the father of George C. Roeding, who is such a prominent personage of Fresno, was one of the earliest large landholders in this section of the San Joaquin Valley and the donor of Roeding Park to the city of Fresno. He died in San Francisco from a stroke of paralysis in July, 1910, at the age of eighty-six. He was a pioneer of California of 1849. His early education he received in Germany along business and mercantile lines. In 1846 he emigrated for South America, sailing around Cape Horn, landing at Valparaiso. For three years he engaged in mercantile business in Chili and Peru, and in 1849 left South America to seek his fortune in California.

As all others he went direct to the mines but after a hard and cold winter returned to San Francisco where he opened a general merchandise store as a member of the firm of Larco & Company. He was heavily interested in this firm until 1878, when he retired from business. In that city he was one of the first Vigilance Committee of 1849 in the suppression of "The Hounds." In 1868 he was one of the incorporators of the German Savings and Loan Bank, later elected vice president and cashier which position he held for twenty years. In that year his health failed and he retired from banking.

It was in 1869 that he organized a company of well to do German business men which purchased 80,000 acres of land on the plains covering the afterward chosen site of Fresno. He was chosen one of the trustees of the



syndicate to look after its sale and management and thus became interested in the county and its future. In 1872 this land was divided and Roeding acquired eleven sections. He made the first sale to F. T. Eisen who bought 640 acres paying ten dollars an acre, and was one of the first to enter upon the cultivation of the raisin and wine grape and was one of the pioneer authorities on the subject. A second sale was made to Charles J. Hobler, also of a section and at the same price. Hobler was the first after 1872 to introduce the French merino sheep in the county in the improvement of the breed.

In 1879 Roeding interested Jeff Donahoo to sow 320 acres of grain as an experiment, Donahoo to pay twenty-five cents an acre for the use of the land. This was the rich sediment land bordering on Fancher Creek east of the city. The German syndicate was the agency and means that attracted settlers to the county with the possibilities of the soil under irrigation. It was one of the first that brought the land under cultivation on a large scale and led up to the extensive grain growing enterprises. It played an important part in the agricultural development of the county, especially in the neighborhood where Fresno City was afterward located, and was an agency that was instrumental in the location of the county seat where it was placed by the railroad when the latter came.

Mr. Roeding was a large land holder but before his death had disposed practically of all his holdings in the county. For several years prior to 1900 he lived in Fresno, occupying the house that his son did east of Fresno. It was destroyed by fire December 22, 1917 at loss of \$20,000. At his death his holdings consisted of only five lots in the city. These were in the 1200 block on J Street, three of these occupied by the Fancher Creek Nursery of which the son is the manager, and two long occupied by the Borello Brothers as a soda water factory, afterward sold to Mrs. C. B. Shaver and on which the Sierra Hotel is located. In addition to the above there were several fine ranches west of the city. The nursery covers about fifty acres of ground, a specialty being made of fig, fruit, olive and ornamental trees. Its shipments go to every habitable part of the globe almost.

The park on Belmont Avenue which bears the name of the deceased was a gift to the city. The offer of it was first made during the Spinney administration of city affairs in 1898. The original offer comprised a donation of twice as much land than incorporated in the park. The city trustees refused at the time to accept the gift and Mr. Roeding withdrew his offer. Under the L. O. Stephens' administration, the first under a charter, the city decided that it would like to have the land for a park and that the rejection of the offer was a mistake. Roeding was piqued that his offer had been rejected and when the request came he decided to give the city only seventy acres but on further consideration after an inspection of the park decided that he had not given enough and enlarged the gift to 117 acres, the present acreage. Roeding Park is today a beautiful landscape garden that once was a sandy grain field, the stubble of which was fed to sheep.

#### Angus M. Clark

Prominent figure in his day was Angus M. Clark, a Millertonite that helped make county and city history. He died December 2, 1907. He was a Mason, a Knight Templar and Shriner and a charter member of Fresno's first Masonic lodge and its first master. He came to California at the age of nineteen during the gold excitement in 1850 and after following mining for seventeen years in various parts of the state came to Fresno in 1867 and worked in the copper mine at Buchanan, early enterprise of great promise.

He abandoned mining work when in 1873 he was elected county clerk and recorder, assuming the duties of the office in March at Millerton. In the fall the county seat was removed to Fresno and to Mr. Clark as the custodian of the public archives fell the task of removing the records to

the new town on the plains, and he assisted at the laying of the corner stone of the second county courthouse. He held the office for eleven years and in 1885 its business had so increased that the work of the office was separated and he resigned. He was elected to the state legislature this same year. Other political activities included two terms as district school trustee and two or three terms as city recorder before there was a police judge under a charter.

All through the earlier years, Mr. Clark continued his mining interests and was associated with W. H. McKenzie in the abstract and land title business and owned at one time a controlling interest in the Fresno Loan and Savings Bank, for a time a prosperous financial institution. Ill health and reverses in fortune shadowed his latter days.

#### William R. Hampton

With the aged husband William R. Hampton, in one part of the house struggling feebly against certain approach of death, the wife, Catherine, died June 13, 1908, in another part of the house of the surviving daughter of a family of seven with whom the aged parents spent the declining days of a long and adventurous life of pioneer experiences. He died July 13, 1908, she at the age of seventy-six, he at the age of eighty-three.

The name of Hampton recalls the days when early activities centered largely on the river in the vicinity of Millerton. The name had been forgotten by all save the early residents because of the Hampton's long retirement. She had come to California from New York with her family in 1855 to Stockton, where he had also settled on coming from Grand Rapids, Mich., in 1849. There they married September 4, 1862, he being in the general merchandising business. The Hamptons came to Fresno in 1867 and he entered the employ of J. R. Jones who was a general trader on the San Joaquin River about three miles below Millerton at a point where a ferry was located with the little settlement popularly known as Jonesville.

Hampton later acquired ownership of a tract of land on the Fresno side of the river and embarked in the merchandising business, locating his buildings at the present townsite of Pollasky which as the terminus of a branch railroad from Fresno to serve the mountain region opened great expectations which have never been realized. The place is shown on early maps as Hamptonville and the old store building and hotel and family residence stand at the upper end of the park enclosure at Pollasky where the first large re-enforced concrete river bridge in the county was erected replacing the ancient Jenny Lind bridge a little distance above and carried away in one of the spring freshets. With the extension of the railroad Hampton sold his interests to it and with his wife moved to Fresno in the late 80's to end their days.

#### Simon W. Henry

The death at Stockton March 24, 1918, of Simon W. Henry at the age of eighty-two recalls one who was a resident of the county for nearly sixty years, a pioneer of the county of 1859 and of the city since 1874 and one who participated in their stirring times. Coming to the new county seat when the old one was virtually moved to the plains on wheels, it is of interest that he it was that erected the once well known hotel on the site of the postoffice.

He owned practically the half block through fronting on Tulare and between I and K with a 250-foot frontage on J, now occupied by the Patterson building, conducting a blacksmith shop and livery stable that at first fronted on the alley in rear of the postoffice and locating his home on the property. That cottage stands to this day on the quarter block corner not included in the city owned Emerson school block.

Henry held a fortune in that Tulare Street property but let it slip through his hands. He was offered \$90,000 for that half block by a syndicate and a \$2,000 deposit was made to bind the bargain. He made offer to Jeff M. Shannon to exchange options, the last named owning the quarter block at Fresno and J as far on the latter as the Strand theater with the cottage home surrounded by an orange grove. The exchange was declined. Henry raised his price to \$92,500. It was accepted. Then he raised to \$95,000. This was declined, the pending deal fell through, and Henry lost the opportunity of his life and as the result of financial entanglements the property passed into other hands.

The Henry Hotel was a popular house of entertainment. It passed under the control of various managements, known in turn as the Henry, Morrow, Southern Pacific, Cowan and Mariposa and the building is still in existence but serving other purposes on the second site since its original.

### Robert Perrin

On Sunday, May 5, 1918, at Williams, Ariz., and at the age of eighty-one years died Robert Perrin, who was a factor in the upbuilding of Fresno in the development of the irrigation system in the county. After the Civil War, in which he had commanded an Alabama battery of artillery that he had recruited and equipped, he returned to farming but in 1869 came to California and Fresno and purchased land. He was at first largely interested in sheep, associated for a time with Thomas E. Hughes and it was he, by the way, that introduced M. Theo. Kearney to Fresno.

He and others conceived the plan of the upper San Joaquin River canal to take water from the stream near Friant (Pollasky) to be delivered on the plains above the river at Herndon. Later they became the controlling owners of the Fresno Canal and Irrigation Company. It was involved in vital litigation involving the right to take water from the Kings River and this litigation was ended with the purchase by the canal company of the Laguna de Tache Grant lying along the lower Kings. This move made the later development of the canal system a comparatively easy matter and much additional land was brought under water.

Largely through the work and influence of Perrin and associates was it that in the 80's and the early 90's was created the idea now hailed as national conservation and later the forest reserves to protect the natural supply of the irrigation districts. The feature of the canal company management under the Perrin regime was to sell a cubic foot of water per second for a quarter section of land in perpetuity, using the money to build and extend canals and laterals, while reserving the right to charge and collect sixty-two and one-half cents per acre for delivery of the water to the user.

Disposing of his canal interests, Perrin went to Arizona in 1894 to enter the sheep and cattle business. His first visit to Arizona was in 1877 to look for ranges, going by steamer to Guaymas, traveling overland on horseback with small party across a country infested at the time with hostile Indians and predatory Mexican bandits and taking up two large grants in the then territory of Arizona. These were stocked with sheep and cattle. For fifteen years before his death he had retired from active life, having practically divided his property between a brother, Dr. E. B. Perrin of Williams, Ariz., and sisters, Mrs. S. A. Thornton and Mrs. F. B. Minor of Fresno. The extensive Fresno Perrin Colony lands are named for him.

### S. C. Lillis

A decree and order of distribution placed on record here from the San Francisco superior court January 19, 1918, is of historical note as showing the landed possession of S. C. Lillis, who died in Oakland almost a year before lacking a few days, and was one of the last living of the early land barons of California.

According to the will the distribution was in equal shares to the widow and only daughter, Miss Helen C. Lillis, who is cashier in the First National Bank at Hanford. The distribution was as to land:

In Fresno County—41,966.82 acres of grazing land;  
 Twenty percent. interest in 4,937.97 acres.  
 Half interest in another block of 15,946.47 acres.  
 In Kings County an interest in 3,831.31 acres:  
 In San Benito County 480 acres.  
 Total—67,162.57 acres.

#### William L. Apperson

William L. Apperson, who had passed the ken of all when he died at the age of ninety-three at the home of daughter, Mrs. Edward Miles, of near Reedley January 31, 1917, arrived at Sacramento, Cal., by ox team in September after leaving St. Louis, Mo., in May, 1849. He followed mining and made and lost several fortunes. About 1865 he forsook mining and followed his trade working for the government at Mare Island navy yard. The family came to Fresno to reside in the early 70's and being a carpenter and cabinetmaker by trade he opened a shop on the present site of the Grand Central Hotel and probably the first coffins used in Fresno were made by him. He had a sign over his shop "Coffins Made to Order." At one time he owned the two J Street lots adjoining the hotel. He was in his last days a great lover of pets and had chickens, quail and birds so tame that they could be approached and picked up.

### CHAPTER XLV

THE SMALL FARM IN A SETTLEMENT GROUP NOT AN IDEA ORIGINAL WITH FRESNO. LARGE HOLDINGS THAT RECALL DAYS OF A LAND BARONAGE. CENTRAL CALIFORNIA COLONY THE PIONEER IN THE COUNTY AND THE TYPICAL ENTERPRISE. THE ALABAMA AND HOLLAND FAILURES. COLONIZATION PROJECTS BROUGHT ON THE BOOM PERIOD OF FEVERISH SPECULATION. SIXTY OR MORE AGRICULTURAL PROJECTS FLOATED IN 1900. EARLY FARMERS WERE EXTRAVAGANT WITH THE USE OF CHEAP WATER. STERILIZATION OF SOIL WITH THE APPEARANCE OF ALKALI IS A CONSEQUENCE.

Distinctive feature that the small farm was in the colony settlement system as a contributor to the agricultural development, the general wealth and the individual prosperity, it is not to claim that the idea originated in Fresno, successful on a large scale the demonstration as nowhere else. The colony or settlement of small places was a borrowed one from Southern California in the notable examples of Anaheim thirty miles south of Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside in San Bernardino and the Indiana Colony which yielding to the quicker and large returns from lot sales resulted in the town of Pasadena.

Nordhoff, whose little book with its revised edition did as much to make agricultural California read about as all the boom literature since, traveled over the state making notes and acknowledged that he was amazed in the fall of 1881 at the great changes after an absence of nine years wherever the small farmer had come in with his careful culture and scientific planting. Said he: "Fresno County, which eight or nine years ago was given over to cattle, and where a man put in a hundred acres of wheat at the peril of his life and with an almost certainty that cattle would destroy

it before it was half grown is now dotted with colonies, where after five or six years only of settlement trees and vines are coming into bearing and the former desert has become a prosperous and happy country side."

Nordhoff quotes the assertion that "California was made by Providence for the small farmer." Californians once denied the allegation, declaring that in general it was fit only for great holdings on which the moneyed, absentee owner could raise cattle, sheep and wheat in the loose and wasteful manner of the Californian as did the Spaniard before him, with the aid of unskilled labor directed by a foreman. Big ranches there are yet but they are hazardous ventures, and the fact is that in the big valley the twenty, forty and eighty-acre farmers brought the lasting and real agricultural prosperity. There, where wheat was once the big and only crop, the man with less than 320 acres classed himself as an humble small farmer. Slowly but gradually the conviction forced itself that eighty acres with water on a good location was a little too much, forty a liberal plenty with which to make a fair start in life, and twenty just enough for one man on which to make a comfortable living for self and family and have something over with industry and health for the proverbial rainy day. Wonders have been accomplished with ten acres by men who were not overambitious, not overburdened with money and hesitated not to combine brain and brawn in the labor in the field. Intelligent twenty-acre men are laying up what eastern farmers would consider a fortune and are enjoying during the accumulation process more of the comforts and pleasures of life.

Interesting from a historical standpoint and as recalling the days of land baronage is the following list of large block holdings once owned by Fresnans. In the course of time changes in ownership and subdivisions of the tracts have come about, but not in connection with the early colonization enterprises. In the list are eleven as follows:

ADOBE RANCH of 68,000 acres on the Fresno River, ten miles from Madera, J. G. Stitt owner.

DAULTON—16,000, ten miles from Madera, H. C. Daulton.

FISH SLOUGH—40,000, twenty miles southwest from Fresno, J. G. James.

HAZELTON—3,800 on the Kings River near Centerville and twenty miles east of Fresno, William Hazelton.

HELM—14,000, four miles north of Fresno, intersected by Kings River and San Joaquin Canal, William Helm.

HERMINGHAUS—20,000 on south side of San Joaquin, twenty-five miles northwest of Fresno, Gustavus Herminghaus.

HILDRETH—12,000, fifteen miles east of the railroad and five north of the San Joaquin, Charles McLaughlin.

LAGUNA DE TACHE—48,000-acre Spanish grant to Jose Castro on the Kings River, twenty miles south of Fresno, Jeremiah Clarke.

MILLER & GORDON—5,700 on north side of San Joaquin, twenty miles north of Fresno, W. C. Miller and Alexander Gordon.

MILLER & LUX—200,000 acres extending from Coast Range on the west to the Central Pacific Railroad line on the east with over seventy miles of board fencing and about fifty of irrigating canals, Henry Miller and Charles Lux.

SUTHERLAND—14,000 on both sides of the Kings, twenty miles south of Fresno and ten from the railroad, John Sutherland.

Without extension of irrigation, it goes without saying the colony farms that sprang up all around Fresno and the county over would not have been. Results came after patient waiting, much planning, hard labor and many a setback. Had development of Fresno's dry plains been an easy task, there

would have probably been no colonization, or rather the more favorable conditions and superior natural advantages of other localities would have attracted for settlement the people of moderate means. It is needless to consider the difficulties that were in the way of the early colony farmers, or the reasons why the productive acres of the valley lay unused so long, despite the cheap and rich virgin land and the abundance of water. Relatively the same condition exists today in lack of water and transportation as regards the West Side region where lie thousands of acres of the best tillable soil utilized only for sheep grazing or cultivated in small patches near some creek, the flood water of which can be conserved for the time when needed at seeding and after germination. The development of this area is such a vast undertaking that it has been doubted whether it can be carried through without federal government aid in a water conservation plan.

### PIONEER SETTLEMENTS RECALLED

Central California Colony was the first in the county, fathered by Bernhard Marks of San Francisco, former miner and later teacher. His plan was followed in main features by subsequent similar enterprises. He contracted with W. S. Chapman for twenty-one square miles of best land surrounding the new town, selected six out of the center, divided this tract into 192 twenty-acre farms, surveyed and laid out twenty-three miles of avenues and caused to be extended the main irrigation canal from its terminus then at the Henrietta Ranch and across the railroad through the proposed colony tract in three branches. Water rights were bought from the company in perpetuity as a notable departure at the time from its policy of dealing with land only in quarter sections, practically excluding the small farmer, who was as yet unheard of. This very feature with other considerations suggested the adoption of the colonization plan.

Seven broad avenues, each two miles long, were laid out running north and south: East Avenue bordered with almonds alternating with red gums, Cherry with nine varieties of cherries, Elm with cork elms, Fig with the White Adriatic, Walnut with the English walnut, Fruit with a variety in systematic alternation and West was to have been set out to eucalyptus but never was. Three miles long North Avenue was planted to Monterey Cypress and Central to Black Mission figs in all thirty-six miles of trees. Avenue planting was insisted upon to overcome the caprice or indifference of settler and to insure uniformity and system. Considerable of this planting was lost for lack of water at the right time but enough survived to mark this distinctive feature. In two and one-half years the lots were ready for irrigation and fruit culture. The installment plan of payment without interest was allowed and included planting of two acres of raisin vineyard on every twenty to be cultivated and cared for without expense to the purchaser. In the first two years such vineyards were set out on 119 lots but lost for the want of water. The phylloxera vastatrix was at this time ravaging European vineyards. Timely warning was sounded. The only known remedy was submersion, easily accomplished here, before planting. The company was generally relieved of this in consideration of allowing colonists the estimated cost of this planting. Intention was to surround colony with a rabbit proof fence, project was abandoned and estimated cost divided pro rata.

The work of surveying and constructing began in August, 1875, continued until the winter of 1877 and the first settlers came on the land to erect their rude shanty homes in the autumn of 1875, hopeful, anxious and ever fearful of the water problem. For lack of experience, there was ignorance as to choice of and adaptability of the fruit varieties to plant, and how to irrigate scientifically, necessitating costly and aggravating experiments. The fate of the colony hung in the balance. Marks and Chapman seriously debated abandoning the venture by buying out the settlers and Chapman of



relieving Marks on his contract. Better counsel prevailed, the third man in the project, W. H. Martin, was bought out, and the enterprise was proceeded with on the original lines, even though Chapman was not an enthusiastic believer in the colonization system. Fortunately many of the first settlers were of the Scandinavian race, thrifty, plodding and home building settlers. During the second year of the colony's existence S. A. Miller, a former Nevada miner then in charge of the Republican, became the promoter and within three years the last lot was sold. M. Theo. Kearney was a sales factor with judicious advertising and business energy. Central California Colony became a notable "beauty spot on the arid plain." Its history is typical of the others.

Washington Irrigated Colony of five sections of land afterward enlarged to eleven lying south of and adjoining Central California was the next project organized in March, 1878, by J. P. Whitney, O. Wendell Easton of San Francisco, A. T. Covell who was resident agent and superintendent with Easton as the nominal owner and general manager. In June, 1880, J. W. North, whose name is associated with the Riverside Colony, located in the colony and assumed the agency preceded by Easton and Walter J. Whitney. In January, 1882, G. G. Briggs, vineyardist and fruitman of Yolo County, bought the unsold land and fencing in 100 acres began improving a holding of nearly 1,000 acres. The colony became an industrious and thrifty settlement of varied nationalities.

The Nevada of three sections was promoted by S. A. Miller among his Nevada mining acquaintances whom he induced to invest in the western third of the tract while still with the Central California, whose western extension was blocked by litigation. In Washington Colony only three-quarters of a section was sold as at first contemplated in twenty-acre tracts, the remainder in eighty-acre lots and quarter sections going to purchasers of means. Impetus was given the enterprise by the former land owners—Church and Roeding—in a gift of a 160-acre tract with water right for the erection by the colony of a fruit dryer to stimulate orchard planting. M. J. Donahoe was the first buyer of land and improved it notably. Among the early big settlers were J. S. Goodman, John R. Hamilton, William Forsyth, J. M. Pugh, B. R. Woodworth and Henry Donnelly.

Scandinavian Home Colony resulted from an organization in San Francisco of October, 1878, to colonize either in Oregon or Washington. A visit was made to Fresno with the result of location on a land section, three miles northeast of Fresno bought from Henry Voorman of San Francisco on liberal terms, among others ten years' credit at low interest. Within one week the thirty-two twenty-acre lots were taken up and by the middle of 1879 the first settler families arrived. Two adjoining sections were added giving the colony 1,920 acres in ninety-six lots, practically all disposed of in 1882 save five choice reservations. While at first the membership was restricted to the Scandinavian born, the bar of nationality was afterward let down. Scandinavian proved a distinctive success. A notable improvement was a winery, but the orchard was not neglected. Throughout the county the Scandinavian has proven himself to be a desirable and welcome settler and as making the best citizen. Lots bought in the Scandinavian in 1880 for \$450 were valued unimproved two years later at \$1,000 and upwards, while improved land was held from \$100 to \$300 per acre.

The Easterby Colony of the historical ranch of A. Y. Easterby of Napa came about 1877 into the ownership of William O'Brien of the Nevada Bank and the Bonanza firm of Flood and O'Brien, upon whose death the bank had the management. It was sold to N. K. Masten and M. Theo. Kearney to colonize in June, 1880. Improvements followed with enlarged irrigation facilities. Here were located some of the best known first large raisin and wine grape vineyards such as Malter's, Butler's, the Fresno of 400 acres organized by Kearney with Lachman & Jacobi and other prominent

wine men. Some 900 acres were sold off in smaller forty and twenty-acre tracts. The colony was intensively cultivated and highly improved. It was located three miles east of Fresno and in later years with the general growth became a cluster of pretentious suburban farm residences of the well to do.

Fresno Colony was the speculation of Thomas E. Hughes & Sons upon purchase of 2,880 acres in August, 1881, from the estate of E. Jansen and nearly one-half of the tract was sold in three months. The land was bought for six and one-half dollars an acre and sold for forty dollars and fifty dollars, over \$30,000 having been realized on sales in six months. One-half of the land was deeded for water rights on the other half. The colony joined the town of Fresno immediately on the south, stretching northward to the boundary of Central California. It was virtually part of the town: is in fact part of the school district. Colony was in twenty-acre parcels, sold for fifty dollars an acre, \$300 cash at purchase and balance at ten per cent. To the original tract an addition of 960 acres was made, giving a total area of 3,840 acres, or six miles.

The Coulson Colony named for Nat. T. Coulson was a project of 1882 of Dr. J. L. Cogswell with others, one mile and a half from old Centerville. It involved a trust estate.

The American comprised 3,200 acres adjoining the Washington on the west and the Central on the south. Its twenty-acre lots sold at \$700 or in 160-acre tracts at fifteen to twenty dollars an acre with water right.

Temperance Colony adjoined the Nevada with ex-Supervisor G. W. Beall as one of the larger and more prominent settlers. It was launched in December, 1880. Temperance and Nevada were enterprises of M. J. Church, the land owner, who was a total abstainer, always a temperance man, and in his later days embraced the faith of the Seventh Day Adventists. According to the platted map, the canal branch contemplated to run on each side of every avenue, and on all lines of lots for the convenience of irrigation.

### SUCSESSES, FAILURES AND RESULTS

Within a radius of less than ten miles from Fresno, there were then in 1882 nine wholly or partially improved colonies as above outlined, ranging in acreage from one to eleven sections. The substantial financial and economic success of many of these and others that followed them does not signify that there were no failures.

Notable as the first failure was also the pioneer effort, the Alabama Colony or Settlement of 1868-70 around Borden, the pioneers mostly Alabamans. It was the only settlement south of Mariposa Creek for farming purposes on the plains in the sense of grain farming. It was practically abandoned about 1874-75. Without inquiring into all the causes for the failure, suffice it that "the Southern planter did not make a successful farmer," even with water for irrigation, and that when another set of men succeeded them "with other methods more adapted to the requirements of the times" they were more successful.

Equally notable—though at the time considered notorious—was the Holland Colony of Dutch immigrants located about five miles from Fresno where a mansion headquarters with broad porticos was erected and stood until a few years ago when it was destroyed in an incendiary fire. The Holland Colony has been put down as a bare faced swindle. In one sense of the word it was in the representations made to induce colonization. If what is known now had been known then, the failure might have been retrieved in part. The colonists were placed on "hard pan" land which pick would not disintegrate and which was impervious to water. Experience since the colony's day in that neighborhood and on that very land has been that "hard pan" surfaced land is fit for agriculture but the original cost of preparing it for development and cultivation is much increased by reason of the

added one of blasting the "hard pan" to reach the sub drained subsoil. Where this has been done, the soil has been found excellent for peaches, apricots, grapes and other fruits. In time the "hard pan" can be by constant working crumbled to assimilate with the unbared soil. It is a laborious and costly undertaking. With the increased value of land, while "hard pan" is not anxiously sought, neither is it absolutely condemned.

These and other failures did not prevent the spread of colonies in every direction to which water could be directed. Features of the colonies were that later many purchasers were non-resident investors. Along about 1885 when the colonization fever was at its height, Fresno was receiving extraordinary advertising all over the state. Large real estate sales agencies in San Francisco handling tract colonizations ran train excursions with bands and lunches on the grounds on the sales days, and thus brought people to view the country. Another feature borrowed from the Central was the planting of border trees on the avenues. The White Adriatic was a favorite, and thus Fresno's prominence as a dried fig producer had its beginning. The Australian gum was another favorite because as a rapid grower it gave shade, was evergreen and furnished wood for fuel. The mulberry had its champions with the reorganization in 1880 of the State Silk Culture Association which later became dormant. This recalls a one time popular craze. The Riverside Colony founded in 1870 bought its land from the California Silk Center Association which gave up the ghost with the recall of the state bounty of 1866 of \$250 for every plantation of 5,000 two-year-old mulberries. Bounty demands were so many that treasury was threatened with bankruptcy, for the estimate was that in 1869 there were 10,000,000 mulberry trees in the Central and Southern portions of the state. Bounty had stimulated tree planting but the silk production (3,587 pounds of cocoons according to the 1870 census) was negligible, evidenced in a few specimen flags and ornamental doilies at state and county fairs.

With the colonization of Kearney's Fruit Vale Estate in August, 1885, the Chateau Fresno Avenue or boulevard was laid out to float the colony scheme, but conditions were exacted from land buyers on the avenue looking to its maintenance in perpetuity, even though it had not later been made a gift to the county.

Colonization projects and their promotion brought on naturally the land and town lot boom times of the early 80's. Curbstone brokers would turn a piece of property two and three times in a day, each turn at an advance, making big money on the day's transactions and having nothing more substantial as the basis for the day's business than an option limited in hours as to time. It was big money, of course, for the owner of land not too far from town and accessible to water to make the necessary arrangements and sell a five-dollar acre for ten times that much and more as land values increased with the feverish boom demand. With the call for acreage land, Fresno city boomed speculatively and villa and homestead additions were hung on at every conceivable angle to the old boundary limits, causing much expense and trouble in later years in the extensions of city streets to the outlying districts. Vineyards and orchards were torn up and town contiguous acreage was cut up into city lots to bring material advances on sale. A sorry day came with the collapse of that unhealthy boom, due to inflation of values and abnormal demand not warranted by the conditions and the times. Years of stagnation followed before the reaction came about with sane, slow but substantial and apparent progress. Meantime, however, fortunes had been turned by those who let go on the crest of the wave and lost by those who held on too long and did not know when that wave had crested but imagined that the cresting would continue indefinitely.

## MANY PROJECTS ARE FLOATED

In 1900 when conditions had taken a decided turn for the better, there were sixty or more projects floated in the county. Not all successfully breasted the times. Most of them did. It is a tax on memory to remember the names of many of these. They have been forgotten in the passage of time to be recalled only by an occasional transfer deed or an examination of the referred to descriptive recorded plat. Among the better known these may be recalled:

Bank of California Tract (West Park Colony garden spot); Brigg's Selma Tract; Caledonia Tract adjoining the county fair grounds floated by Alexander Gordon and Bank Cashier John Reichman succeeded by the late Archie Grant; Clay's Addition between Fresno Colony and the city on the south; Curtis & Shoemaker near Reedley; Eggers' named for G. H. Eggers adjoining Kutner's; El Capitan in the Malaga Tract; Enterprise of J. A. and A. R. Cole adjoining Eggers'; Kearney's Fruit Vale with its Monarch, La Favorita, Estrella, Nestell's and Paragon vineyards; his Fruit Vale Estate with avenues named for the Presidents and the Fruit Vale Raisin Vineyard; the Fortuna of the P. I. Company in T. 15 near lands of I. N. Parlier; E. S. Kowalsky's Gould Ranch north of Scandinavian and the later British capitalized celebrated and model raisin and wine grape vineyard of the late Robert Barton, who expended \$450,000 in the improvement of the estate when sold to the English syndicate and which stood as one of the foremost landmarks in the county; the Indianola at Sanger and the Kingsburg near the town of the same name.

The Kingsburg was an example in the reclamation as a garden spot of a veritable sandy Sahara through the advisory and practical efforts of the late F. D. Rosendahl, a graduate of the University of Sweden and a California pioneer of 1849. He had made botany a special study, was a lover of nature, and having traveled much had large experience in his field. He aided in the landscaping of Central Park in New York, Golden Gate Park in San Francisco and the Kearney Fruit Vale Estate in Fresno. He was the pioneer nursery man in this territory that stocked the vineyards and orchards of the neighboring counties in the Kings River watershed. It has been said about him that if one-half of the unsettled for nursery stock in plantations furnished by him on time contracts was paid for he would have had a competency in his old age. He was one of nature's noblemen and of such a philanthropic spirit that he wrought more for the community than in his own interest. For years he was the township justice and in office prevented rather than encouraged personal litigation and in that capacity was the father confessor, repository and pacificator of community and individual troubles. He recognized early the possibilities of the land and was a factor in its improvement and development.

Then there were the Kutner Colony one section removed from Temperance and a corner crossed by the mill ditch from Fancher Creek, the water of which ran the grist mill in town and passed on in ditch along Fresno Street for irrigation of the plains to the west of town; the Muscatel just below the third Standard line southwest of Herndon of three sections embracing the plat town of Sycamore and avenues named for big men of finance—Gould, Vanderbilt, Astor and Huntington; the Norris colonies of C. H. and L. E. D. Norris and J. C. Kimble, who had also one named for him adjoining Del Rio Rey Fig and Raisin Company in T. 15; the Nye-Marden near Fowler of Mrs. E. M. Nye and W. H. Marden; the numerous Perrin colonies of Dr. E. B. Perrin, head and front and controlling owner of the irrigation system before it passed into English hands with Lord Fitz-Williams as the titled money holder and one of whose land holdings companies trust deeded in the spring of 1917 for one million dollars covering a loan floated to meet a bond issue of an older corporation that had fallen

due; Reedley of S. L. Reed around the town; the Richland Tract adjoining the Caledonia and A. S. Butler vineyards and the tract with the sale of which the name of M. Theo. Kearney is first associated; Riverside at Reedley; the Salinger Tract, a large body of land northeast of town comprising Belmont Addition and which contributed to the eastern expansion of the city into acreage land; the Sierra Park Colony and Vineyard of C. K. Kirby, the distiller, west of Fowler, besides many others.

Nor should be overlooked the J. T. Goodman, Frank Locan of 800 acres, the William Forsyth and R. B. Woodworth Las Palmas vineyards in the three sections of Nevada Colony; the G. H. Malter, M. Denicke, Dr. W. J. Baker's Talequah, the A. B. Butler, Fresno, Margherita and H. Granz vineyards in Easterby Rancho and in the Fancher Creek Nursery neighborhood the equally prominent W. N. Oothout, Dr. Eshelman's Minnewawa, the Minneola in T. 14, the T. F. Eisen vineyards and the F. Roeding sections.

The sorry fact must be recorded that the early small farmers and their successors for years after were extravagant in the use of water for irrigation. The problem that they have left as an heritage is how to reclaim within reasonable cost and with assurance of successful reclamation land that was once fertile but now is barren because surcharged with alkali. The government has demonstrated that theoretically it can be done by sub-drainage and leaching. The state university on the Kearney estate has drain-tiled a section of land with reported reestablished fertility, but time must more fully determine the practical success of the leaching process. The soakings that the large dry areas received with first and long continued application of water for many seasons resulted in such a saturation of the bone-dry subsoil that for miles about in the irrigated districts the water level arose from fifty to fifteen and twenty feet from the surface. In Fresno city at Mariposa and H Streets, the level in gauged wells there arose from seventy to twenty and twenty-five feet.

Beneficial experience has taught that after a primary thorough saturation, a little water judiciously applied suffices. Too much injures trees and vines and forces the alkali to the top. Too many noting the marvelous effect of irrigation on new and raw land with the cheapness of water in Fresno—cheaper than elsewhere in the state—imagined that they could not abuse such a good thing and irrigated to excess without a thorough plowing and cultivating that should succeed every water application. Of late years, orange, citrus and alfalfa growers have turned to pumping from wells by electric power for irrigation in localities not served, or where the supply is not dependable for various causes. A flowing artesian well will irrigate twenty or thirty acres of alfalfa or orchard land and in cases even more.

The more experienced farmers use water sparingly now—verily a case of locking the stable door after the horse has been stolen. Once upon a time orange orchards were drenched six or seven times in a season; now three or four are considered sufficient. Vineyards were watered several times; now the best vineyardists irrigate once during the winter and at the most another slight application in May. Grain land where irrigated is watered before ploughing. The result of over-irrigation has been to alkali sterilize large areas of the first colonized lands about Fresno that were once things of beauty and joy and show places to take the visitor to, but now are nightmares around which wide detours are made.

Land has risen so in value that these sterilized spots must in time be reclaimed, even though there are other large tracts in the county awaiting the husbandman. The colonization enterprise supply in tract sales is far from exhausted as the recorded plat filings and real estate column advertisements in the newspapers will show. But it is colonization on altogether different lines. The day of pioneering is no more. The worth of the soil has long been demonstrated. The present day colonizations are purely commercial affairs for seller as well as buyer. The man without money or securities

need not apply. Where once ten's of dollars were paid for an acre, now it is in the hundreds, depending upon conditions or how many. Looking back though, it must be conceded that the country progressed more rapidly than did the city, and sorry indeed the city without the sustaining basis of a back country as in Fresno.

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## CHAPTER XLVI

NEWER TOWN LOCATIONS REPRESENT LATER AND MODERN DEVELOPMENT PERIOD. THEIR ORIGIN BRIEFLY REVIEWED. FRESNO IN 1879 STILL "A COW COUNTY VILLAGE." BURIALS IN TOWN CEASED ONLY IN 1875. TWO TRANSCONTINENTAL RAILROADS SERVE COUNTY. A REMARKABLE MOUNTAIN RAILROAD INTO THE SIERRAS. AUTOMOBILE HAS SOLVED PROBLEM OF INTER-URBAN COMMUNICATION.

The newer towns of the county today are "the product of the new blood, the newer order of things in the county," representing a later modern development period. In a write up published on New Year's day in 1879, Fresno is "damned with faint praise" and given distinction as "the largest place in the county," and as "one of the most flourishing villages" in the valley with "about 2,000 inhabitants including Chinese."

The Expositor feigned to know of "many elegant residences surrounded by beautiful gardens within the limits of the town." It also recorded that "unlike other California towns the Chinese quarter is not located in the white portion of the town but is located to itself on the west side of the railroad track and fully one-fourth of a mile from the town proper." Much was made in the write up of the \$10,000 "elegant" two-story, seven-room school house that was being erected on "a rising piece of ground north from the courthouse." That old building turned to face another street and moved to another site on the same school block is still in use. For the period of 1876-78 Fresno was credited by another authority with a population of "about 700 inhabitants" and boasting "of courthouse of elegant design erected at a cost of \$60,000"—not the present structure.

The fact is that at this time Fresno was "a cow county village." It had not yet awakened to its possible future, and while there were things to commend many more were there to damn. It was yet in the village formative period with a world of experiences to undergo before striding out on the quick march of advancement. It was still in the shanty period. The bungalow had not been dreamed of. The two-story brick building, plain to ugliness, was an architectural eighth wonder; the sky scraper unthought of. The graded, chuck-hole street, deep in dust in summer a muddy quagmire after every shower, was a step in advance but the paved or oil surfaced roadway was not to be realized until years later. If you arrived by train at night, you were piloted with lantern across the rubbish and dump pile facing the depot where now Commercial Park is laid out; and were you a resident you would be met with lantern also to pick your way across lots homeward. It was only about January 20, four years before in 1875, that burials had ceased in the first "old cemetery in the north part of town" and the bodies "some nine in number" were being exhumed for removal to the second burial ground "lying south of Chinatown" off Elm Avenue. That old city cemetery was at what is today M and Stanislaus Streets, less than six blocks east and three north from the railroad depot, then the business center of Fresno. When the cemetery was located there, so far out on the prairie, little was it thought that the town would in a few years have spread to there. Yet again at county seat removal time, the gift of a courthouse



site, only one block northeast of the present location was declined and exchange made because too far out of town. So much for the faith that some then entertained as to the future of Fresno.

There have been town locations in the county that not passing beyond the initial stage of founding were overcome by arrested development. There is not lacking in the record projected and platted towns that never had material existence as:

Butler partly on the Easterby and Henrietta ranches on land of W. N. Oothout, A. B. Butler and W. D. Parkhurst and bisected by the projected Stockton and Tulare Railroad.

Covell (Easton postoffice) in Washington Colony with four blocks reserved for townhall, school and two plazas on four central 'surrounded blocks.

Clifton on Washington Avenue one mile east of Prairie school house and on fifteen acres.

Riverview on the north bank of the San Joaquin at the railroad bridge crossing and as the rival of Herndon on the south bank.

Shelbyville in T. 14 S., R. 16 E, a notable swindle.

Smyrna on the Kearney Fruit Vale Estate alongside of the chateau grounds, besides others.

Among Fresno's newer towns may be mentioned:

Clovis northeast of Fresno was once a grain growing country. Today it is a producer of more Malaga grapes than the original district of Spain. It is a bustling little town, the creation of the lumber company with operating mills at Shaver in the Sierras as its flume shipping terminal with mills on the plains. Its payroll alone is \$450,000 a year. Town has a population of 1,500 and is the gateway to a rich section of mountain territory. It is a naturally favored, modernized little town with a future exceeded by none as the logical trading post of a 125,000-acre region for the most part in the thermal footbelt and awaiting development. Two colonizing companies will in time bring nearly 8,000 acres under fig cultivation, one of these selling land at \$400 an acre.

In 1880 Fowler was marked by two shanties and the railroad siding. Fruitful harvests made it a large warehousing and grain shipping point. Fruit and raisins followed and in 1890 shipments included 688 carloads of grain, 153 of raisins and fifteen of green and dried fruit. Three irrigation ditches supply it with water. During the last ten years town and country have made prosperous strides. It is one of the favored spots in close relation with the county seat since the automobile has annihilated time and distance. With a town population of 1,200, the tributary district claims 5,000. To tell of all its varied resources would smack of advertising literature.

Sixteen miles from Fresno to the west is Kerman, central point in a 26,000-acre colonization tract. It has had rapid and substantial growth, is essentially a grouping of bungalows and as with all the new settlements in the county is liberally provided with school facilities in modernized buildings with district high school affiliations. An agricultural center and a railroad freight transfer point, Kerman has been laid out and built up on progressive lines as to public utilities. Dairying is an industrial specialty.

Laton on the Santa Fe is the natural result of the development of the Laguna de Tache and Summit Lake lands, as a trading center at the junction of the transcontinental road and the Laton & Western branch. Laton is a village of some 600 people, in oak tree shaded and parklike surroundings and in a fertile territory noted for dairying, alfalfa and hog raising. It is picturesquely situated and though not more than ten years old is advancing despite a destructive fire in its eighth year. Lanare is the terminus at the other end of the branch road.

Malaga is a triangularly platted hamlet central to Malaga Colony, just east of Central California Colony, and established by G. G. Briggs pioneer raisin grower of the state. The tract was of ten sections in twenty-acre farms and vineyards. It is in a fertile section and thickly built up with attractive and prosperous rural homes.

Oleander village, seven miles southeast of Fresno and three from Fowler, is essentially an intensive farming community with 2,500 acres of raisin vineyards and an equal acreage in orchard, alfalfa and grain tributary, and with several raisin and fruit packing houses. The work in these establishments in season is not performed by transient labor but by the villagers, the men, women and young people. Rural life in the Fresno settlements with all their comforts and social surroundings borders on the ideal.

A great wheat field marked in June, 1888, the townsite of Reedley named for the late T. L. Reed. It is on the two railroads almost in the southeast corner of the county, twenty-five miles east of the county seat and about sixty from the Coast Range on the south bank of the Kings. Contributory to the town are 160 sections of land. It is in the Alta Irrigation District. Wheat and raisins are the two important exports. The region is one of fertility, a part of the citrus belt, and one of great promise. The first sale of town lots was on April 25, 1889, with the foundation of the town laid after the 1888 wheat crop was off and Mr. Reed giving the railroad company a half interest in 360 acres to plat and locate the townsite. On the first sales day \$16,000 was realized. Reedley is contiguous to the Mount Campbell orange country, a sight of which is an inspiration.

As late as May, 1888, a spreading wheat field covered the ground where today the bustling little foothill town of Sanger is as the result of a location on a division line of the Southern Pacific. It is fourteen miles east of Fresno and was founded as the industrial terminus and mill-town of the Kings River Lumber Company with its fifty-four miles of flume to float down from Millwood, high up in the Sierras, the lumber cut in Converse Basin, around Millwood and the nearby timber forests, operations which with the changes of time and ownership successions are being conducted by the Sanger Lumber Company in the new mountain sawmill town of Hume on Ten-Mile Creek to which the base of operations was moved across a mountain ridge from Millwood in the upper Kings River region. Ground was broken for the \$35,000 concrete dam to create an eighty-seven-acre lake of impounded water from the creek on June 26, 1908, and work completed late in November. The dam project was worked out by Civil Engineer J. S. Eastwood on original lines as a unique piece of engineering and construction work. The dam has the appearance of a long bridge of arches and buttresses set on edge, with the rounded arches withstanding the immense pressure of water in the lake behind them, but receiving it equally distributed at all points. The dam is the first of its kind in the world. The town was laid out on sanitary lines and seventeen and one-half miles were added to the flume, joining the old one at Mill Flat Creek. The first lot sale in Sanger was held in June, 1888, and the result of the location was the depopulation of pioneer Centerville. Sanger is on the edge of the thermal belt and in a rich fruit and raisin country. Centerville was only three miles away southeast. East of Sanger is the foothill orange belt, west and south the famous "red lands" so adapted to raisin grapes. Sanger is a wide awake town of cosy and pretty homes, and an estimated population of 2,500 in 1914, has steadily grown and advanced and has a magnificent future.

Selma on the line of the Southern Pacific, about fifteen miles southeast of Fresno and five miles from Kingsburg, once on "a sandy desert," was located on his soldier's land warrant in 1878 by Jacob E. Whitson, a veteran of the Civil War, former county treasurer and founder of the town. As late as 1879 the country about was utilized by the herdsman for the wild grasses as stockfeed. Whitson's location was 160 acres and he laid out the town in

1882. It was for a money consideration paid by him, aided by E. H. Tucker, M. Snyder and G. B. Otis, whom he gave equal interests in town lots, that the railroad was induced to build a small switch to the town, which in 1882 had a population of less than 250 but of 1,000 five years later. The neighboring land was brought under irrigation by the main branch of the Centerville and Kingsburg Ditch Company and vineyards, orchards and alfalfa were the plantings. The soil is sandy and specially suited for the peach which is the leading specialty. The town draws its support from the cultivated area surrounding it and its growth has been despite discouraging reverses, especially in destructive fires. The community is a prosperous one, overshadowed commercially as it always will be by reason of its proximity to Fresno. It is preeminently an ideal town of attractive homes, churches, schools, fraternities and of high moral tone, having early in its career no less than ten organized churches. Selma is typical of the best developed phase of semi-rural life in the San Joaquin Valley with a population 3,500.

Mendota is a divisional point on the Southern Pacific. Friant, or Pol-lasky as once known, is on the San Joaquin as the branch terminus serving the Millerton region and the northeastern mountain country of Fresno and Madera. A fine, arched, concrete bridge spans the river at this point, and another below Herndon, Skagg's bridge, at an old time ford crossing. Oak-hurst on the Santa Fe is the center of the Kings River Thermal Tract and Wahtoke at the terminus of the Reedley branch is in the orange belt.

A region west of Fresno on the Southern Pacific line, south from Ker-man, was opened to development about five years ago and given over to alfalfa, fruit and grapes. Located on the line are Raisin City, a community of Dunkards, nine miles west from the county seat, and five miles south of Caruthers, both central to 50,000 acres susceptible of development.

Parlier is in a rich strip of territory, northwest of Reedley and is a grape center on the Santa Fe. Del Rey, north of it, is a raisin shipping point with three packing houses.

Evidences of the new blood are to be seen also in the many changes in the Pine Ridge mountain region, once monopolized by the saw mills. Apple and fruit orchards and berry and vegetable patches now mark the meadows and plateaus; there's Ockenden, popular mountain resort; Shaver, the lumber mill village with its Sulphur Meadow as a favorite summer camping ground, and beyond it on lake the headquarters of the Shaver Lake Fishing Club, unique organization of trout anglers. On the other side of the Kings divide there is, starting out from Reedley, the county built Sand Creek mountain road with hardly a perceptible grade to Sequoia Lake, trout fishing, camp ground and the popular General Grant National Park resort, the road continuing to Hume and joining the state projected extension to open up eventually the Kings River Canyon as accessible playgrounds in a scenic region that when better known will rival the Yosemite. In its mountains Fresno County has a valuable scenic asset that has too long been neglected.

### ON THE RAILROAD LINES

A few years ago when there was agitation for interurban railroads, the map of the county was described as looking "like a gridiron of railroads." The description was fantastic rather than real. A great ado was made over several projected enterprises, but after all the smoke and noise the net result was only two small electric lines, one running out east of Fresno, never completed to Clovis as the planned terminus, camouflaged as an interurban road, operated at a loss and in court in foreclosure litigation based on its quarter of a million bonded indebtedness, and the other a city line extension to new farming settlements west of Fresno. Talk alone will not build interior and seaboard connecting railways, however urgent the

need for them. The promoter faces the fact of the Southern Pacific and the Santa Fe in control of the situation, working in harmony to maintain the monopoly and blocking competition by open hostility or extinguishing it by absorption, when not actually promoting a "feeder" branch under guise of an independent enterprise of private capital. The interurban problem has been solved in part by the automobile.

Two transcontinental roads serve the county. Many villages and settlements have of late years sprung up on the branch lines as the result of the colonization and sale of tracts for orchards, vineyards and alfalfa. With the consequent development of the county, there are many central points that could be catalogued, but with a sameness in detail and altogether lacking the picturesque features of the early settlements. As the inspirations of speculative colonization and industrial enterprises, they are too numerous for detailed mention. The Southern Pacific main line passes across the county on a direct line at its narrowest from Herndon on the San Joaquin to Kingsburg on the Kings, and south of the county seat through Calwa Junction, Malaga, Fowler and Selma. Another line enters the county from the northwest through Firebaugh, Mendota, Ingle, the site of Jameson, Kerman to Fresno, and from Fresno south and to the east of main line through Sanger and to Reedley on the Kings. Jameson is named for the late Jefferson G. James of San Francisco, pioneer cattle man and one time owner of the big Jeff James ranch in the West Side slough country.

West of Fresno the main line is paralleled by a branch starting from Kerman running south through Dubois, Raisin City, Caruthers to Lillis named for S. C. Lillis, who died January 22, 1917, at Oakland, Cal. Lillis was a picturesque relic of the pioneer land baron of early California, owned at one time one quarter of the great Laguna de Tache cattle ranch of the Spanish days, occupied the headquarters Grant House as his home, and could claim possession of 140,000 acres of land. His name is associated with the Laguna lands and lawsuits with the government, serving a term of imprisonment for the offense of fencing in public lands.

Still further west of Kerman, branching at Ingle and running south is a line through Tranquillity, Graham, Caldwell, Helm and other slough settlements to Riverdale on the Laguna, the Hanford and Summit Lake Railroad. This line is in the rich slough country formed by the back water from the San Joaquin and the overflow from the Kings. A great reclamation work is in progress there. The 72,000-acre James ranch has been opened to colonization and is being developed by its syndicate successor, the Graham Farm Lands Company incorporated for \$3,000,000 to handle the 113-square-mile farm project. Jameson and Tranquillity Colony and town have been relegated to the past. The Laguna de Tache is a British capitalized enterprise, the same that controls the irrigation system. Its colonization was begun a decade ago and thousands of settlers have been brought on the land. To the original ranch grant have been added the Summit Lake lands rounding out a tract of 40,000 acres. Laton is the seat, with Lillis one mile and a half west, Kingsburg at the eastern end of tract, Lemoore in Kings County near the western, and the railroad to Coalinga a little to the south, flanking it the full length. This slough branch joins an east and west road touching the Southern Pacific main line south of the county, running west again into the county, passing through Rossi, Huron and Stanley to Coalinga and beyond to Alcalde on Warthan Creek, a stock shipping point for the Coast Range foothills. A northeast Southern Pacific branch from Fresno passes through Clovis with Friant on the San Joaquin as the terminus in the Millerton country. This is the Pollasky road, so-called.

Above and west of development arrested Herndon, the Santa Fe enters the county from the north and heads direct for Fresno, passing through the city on Q Street, four blocks behind the courthouse. It branches with one fork southeast, later joining the main line further down but passing

through Lone Star, De Wolf, Del Rey and Parlier to Reedley from which latter extends a branch northeast through Vino, Wahtoke to Piedra on the upper Kings where the magnesite mountain mine, the street-paving rock quarry and crusher are located, where canal companies take water from the stream and in which foothill region there is a well marked thermal belt. Main line headed south touches Oleander, Bowles with its colony of intelligent and thrifty colored settlers from the south, Monmouth, Conejo and Laton, and out of the county. At Laton in the southwestern part the Laton & Western runs to Lanare as a feeder in a newly opened district. One mile southeast of Fresno is the railroad town of Calwa through which the Southern Pacific passes and where the Santa Fe has expended one million, it is said, for terminal switching facilities not to be had in the county seat, and for homes for railroad employes and those of industrial plants that time, it is hoped, will bring forth.

North of Clovis at El Prado is the terminus of the San Joaquin & Western, the unique mountain road to the great Power House No. 1 of the San Joaquin Light and Power Company. Its terminus is high up in the Sierras at Cascada where a stupendous construction feat was accomplished in the erection of an immense dam to impound the waters of Big Creek to form Huntington Lake for the generation of electricity and its transmission for power and light. A mountain resort has been established at the lake. Much has been said and written about the Mount Lowe scenic railway at Los Angeles and the tortuous railway to the top of Mt. Tamalpais on San Francisco Bay, but neither can compare with the Fresno scenic railway in the ascent of the Sierra Mountains and on shelving mountain side following for miles the winding course of the San Joaquin in its rugged and wild canyons. Its scenic pictures are bewildering. A feature of the road is that the rolling stock is not hauled up the snaky mountain track but is pushed up by the locomotive placed where one looks to find the homely caboose. The descent is by gravity with the locomotive in rear that the train may not run away. This mountain road serves all the accessible Sierra timber region on the San Joaquin River divide of the county. The story is told that the cost of blasting out the original wagon road, which the railway follows in its sinuous track, with the added construction, equipment and operation of the steam railroad was found to be a substantial saving in the estimated mountain freighting of the cement and the construction material for the dam, tunnels and big power house, wherefore the San Joaquin & Western was conceived as an economy.

## CHAPTER XLVII

INCORPORATED CITIES OF THE COUNTY NUMBER NINE. NEWNESS OF THE TOWNS ON THE PLAINS WITH FRESNO AS OLDEST LOCATED AND FIRST TO INCORPORATE. SETTLEMENTS EXISTING BEFORE 1872 ARE MEMORIES OF THE PAST. CLUSTERS OF POPULATION BEFORE 1880. EARLIER TRADING POINTS RECALLED TO MIND. WITH MADERA'S DIVORCE IN 1893 WENT THE EARLY HISTORICAL REGION OF FRESNO COUNTY NORTH OF SAN JOAQUIN RIVER.

Incorporated towns and villages in the county today are nine with the date of and vote on incorporation as follows:

	Election Date	Vote Cast
Fresno.....	September 29, 1885.....	277—185
Selma.....	March 4, 1893.....	124— 54
Coalinga.....	March 26, 1906.....	99— 28
Kingsburg.....	May 11, 1908.....	72— 34
Fowler.....	May 25, 1908.....	74— 63
Sanger.....	May 9, 1911.....	130—104
Clovis.....	February 15, 1912.....	169— 83
Reedley.....	February 14, 1913.....	310—104
Firebaugh.....	September 10, 1914.....	56— 7

Fresno is also the oldest town in the county reckoned from the year 1872 when townsite was staked and located, unless you would include moribund Centerville in the Kings River bottom lands and Firebaugh in association with the ferry of the same name established in the earlier days, which would place Fresno third in the list. If not, Kingsburg would be the second oldest, having been founded in 1873 as a grain shipping station. At any rate not any of the nine incorporated population centers today are connected with the pioneer history of the county. With the location of Fresno on the plains, the center of population also changed, the county began a new historical era and all before became practically a sealed and closed book, so all comprehensive were the changes that followed.

This accounts for the comparative newness of the towns on the plains. The settlements before 1872 are today little more than memories, decaying and toppling ruins, as notably Centerville, Kingston, Tollhouse, Dunlap, Herndon, Millwood, etc., besides all the roadside hamlet stations, once bustling spots but perpetuated today only in post office names and stores. The cutting off of the territory north of the San Joaquin to the Chowchilla to form Madera County in 1893 bereft Fresno of its principal historical region, leaving only the strips immediately about Millerton and Centerville and the Pine Ridge region to link it with the past. Even the Fresno River is in another county, so is the historical Chowchilla and so is Madera, once the largest town next to the county seat, and Borden, Fine and Coarse Gold and Grub Gulches, and all the other mining camp locations that contributed to earliest history even to the last resting place of Major James D. Savage, the most picturesque character in the region's annals.

In January, 1879, the postoffices in the county—towns or settlements as they were denominated—were: Berenda, Borden, Buchanan, Big Dry Creek, Fresno, Fresno Flats, Firebaugh, Huron, Kings River, Kingsburg, Kingston, Liberty, Madera, New Idria, Panoche, Tollhouse and Wildflower—seventeen in all and six of these not now in the county. To dispose first of the six:



## SETTLEMENTS BEFORE 1880

Berenda called into existence in June, 1872, when Leroy Dennis, former sheriff, erected store and hotel, is still a station on the Southern Pacific Railroad and was terminal for the mail stage route to Buchanan and Fresno Flats, located in the mountains forty miles from Fresno. It is a relic of the past.

Borden, seventeen miles from Fresno and on the line of the Southern Pacific, was a busy station when Fresno was a barren plain. Its settlement was in 1868, and in 1873 as post office and trading point for the Alabama Settlement of Southerners, which ended in a fiasco. Borden aspired to be county seat to succeed Millerton. With the failure of colony, it was practically abandoned. It was overshadowed at best by its proximity to Madera, and existing today only as a railroad point on map lives in a dead past. R. Borden was Central Pacific Railroad agent and R. P. Mace the hotelman in 1876-78. It was dignified once in a description as "the metropolis of Fresno County."

Buchanan's glory has long departed. Located in the northern foothills, it was called into life by the discovery of copper ore veins, notably the Ne Plus Ultra. Much money was spent in development but high cost of labor and transportation made the venture unprofitable. In the vicinity ranching, sheep and stockraising were followed. H. C. Daulton had near here his large and valuable Poverty ranch, and Buchanan boasted of a \$2,000 school-house.

Fresno Flats is today a tumble-down mountain camp near the head of the Fresno River in a farming, mining, lumber and stock raising country. The Yosemite road passed it and the head of the Madera flume is eight miles away. Discovered quartz outcroppings once promised a future never realized. T. J. Allen was postmaster and general merchant, R. T. Burford lawyer and Thurman & Dickinson lumber men there in 1876-78. Smaller camps in the hills to the south and east in the 80's were Michael's and Walker's ranches, Brown's store and Oro Fino.

As the child of a flume enterprise, Madera, twenty-eight miles northwest of Fresno, was laid out in 1876 by the California Lumber Company on the south side of the Fresno River on the Central Pacific line, as the terminus of the first great lumber flume from the mountain pineries forty-five miles distant. Its population in 1882 was about 500, and until the formation of Madera County of which it became the seat was the second largest and most flourishing town in Fresno County. R. P. Mace, who represented this county in the legislature at two sessions, was the pioneer settler securing in September, 1876, first choice at the auction of town lots and located thereon the hotel bearing his name and facing the railroad depot. The Madera Flume and Trading Company supplanted the California in 1878, and has continued as one of the dominant industrial enterprises of the town. Madera was the terminus for the stage route to the Yosemite Valley and Big Trees. It is a thriving community centered in good farming land, much of which was held in large undivided parcels. It was a political center while a part of Fresno County with ambitions not to be satiated save through county division. Seven miles south was located the much advertised John Brown Colony enterprise of 3,500 acres in five-acre farm lots. The industries and enterprises that give life to Madera are on the same lines as those of the parent county. For years after first settlement mining, stock raising and grain farming ruled in turn and orchard and vineyard demonstrations brought about a transformation. It had in 1900 a population of 1,500. The Fresno River is the principal irrigation water supply, helped out by the north fork of the San Joaquin, and Big Dry Creek as a tributary of the Merced.

New Idria was at the quicksilver mine in San Benito County in a region fit otherwise only for grazing. Inhabitants were mostly Cornish miners and Mexicans, the latter numbering 500 at times when the furnaces were in full operation. Stage line from Hollister via Big Panoche connected it with the outside world. New Idria was by annexation of territory lost to Fresno sequestered as it was in a remote pocket corner. The mine was long idle during the costly litigation to the United States Supreme Court of the McGarrahan title claim. Three quicksilver furnaces were in operation in 1875. These were the \$5,000 plant of the Little Panoche of 1874, the \$10,000 of 1873 of the Cerro Gordo in Moody Canyon and the \$100,000 of 1858 of the New Idria on Silver Creek.

Raymond in Madera was laid out by C. G. Miller in April, 1889, as the terminus town of the Yosemite division of the Southern Pacific from Berenda completed in the spring of 1885. The famous granite quarries are located near here. The staging and freighting that once animated Raymond exists no longer, Yosemite travel having been diverted and the mines and settlements in this section, once in the northeastern part of this county, depopulated.

### FRESNO EARLIER TRADING POINTS

The old settlements of Fresno County were ephemeral and characteristic of the unsettled state of the times with their industrial revolutions. Not one has survived to become a notable factor in the subsequent great development of the county.

The first settlement in the extensive Dry Creek stock and farming community dates back to 1852 with John G. Simpson, W. L. L. Witt and William Harshfield, the latter returning later to Arkansas and Witt removing to the San Joaquin River. In 1856 they raised hay for sale to the Fort Miller garrison and then sold possessory ranch title to C. P. Converse, who for three years raised fodder for the fort and became a settler. The region was dotted with cross road trading stores, such as Jensen's among others, with a post office established at Big Dry Creek in 1870. In this foothill region were the settlement groupings of Academy named for the pioneer incorporated school, Mississippi for the settlers from that state and Big Dry Creek. Irrigation never was run to this stretch of the county. It was the great dry farming region and prominent in the days of cattle and sheep. The Collins brothers had store, shearing and dipping corral at Collins' Station, also a stage halting point. Above Academy is a fine quarry of granite. The Dry Creek region was prominent in early days socially, and industrially and in all the better attributes of settlers in a new country.

Firebaugh's Ferry on the San Joaquin was named for A. D. Firebaugh, who died in June, 1875, and years before conducted a ferry there. The village has been a dependent upon the great Miller & Lux cattle ranch along the river and the later grain and alfalfa and stock farms. It is one of the oldest sheep shearing stations for the annual season of six weeks. The Italian population predominates. At high water light steamers ran up the river in earlier days as far as Whitesbridge, ten miles above on Fresno Slough, though practical navigation ended at the ferry drawbridge. It is not denied that town incorporated to place itself beyond the operation in the district of the Wylie local option law.

Huron as the terminus of the Southern Pacific branch running west from Goshen was located in a desolate waste and has stood absolutely at a standstill. Considerable farming in cereals is done here with results in wet seasons: otherwise it is a sheep grazing region as most of the West Side land of the county is where petroleum has not been discovered. Huron was described in 1890 as "an embryo settlement." It has never passed that stage. A time was when trains ran beyond it to Coalinga three times a week.

Centerville or Kings River as the post office designated this pioneer settlement on the Upper Kings, was once the principal stopping place on the Stockton-Visalia line. With abandonment of the route and later location of the near by lumber mill town of Sanger on a branch railroad from Fresno the settlement has been buried in its past. Centerville is today a collection of ruinous, weather and time beaten, toppling rookeries of a past era. It had in 1882 a population of about 800, besides 300 Indians, one of the two reservations of early days having been located near here. Settlement was originally named Scottsburg, a name changed to Centerville about 1870, and the post office serving all the Upper Kings River country. It was once the center of population of the county, outrivalling Millerton and controlling the county's political destinies. It had a flouring mill antedating the one at Selma, pioneered in irrigation because of its proximity to the river but was also subjected to inundations in wet winters in its bottom land location, which was considered unsurpassed for corn. The thrice moved settlement is located about sixteen miles from Fresno and at the base of the foothills bordering on the Kings. Jesse Morrow erected in 1872 the three-story Centerville flouring mill at a cost of \$22,000, using in the construction part of Sweet's mill further up on the stream. Centerville is the pioneer orange growing district. Its navel orange has high repute. It is largely populated by Japanese in the citrus nursery industry. In 1879 Fresno alone exceeded the old settlement in population. Centerville and its people contributed much to the county's history making. It was thought for years to be the center of the valley until survey accorded the distinction to the county seat.

Saloonless Kingsburg on the line of the Southern Pacific, twenty miles southeast of the county seat and one mile and a half from the river for which named, was founded in August, 1873, by Josiah Draper, who moved to what was then called Kings River Switch run by the railroad on his land. He erected the first habitation of posts set in the ground and covered with willow brush. His purpose was to freight with teams to Jacobs & Einstein, merchants at Kingston west of the railroad. Some forty-eight carloads of grain raised in the vicinity of Grangeville were shipped from the switch during the season. The next nearest settlement was Centerville, only one other farmer having located near the switch to raise grain hay. The first store in the town was Simon Aaron's in the basement of Farley's hotel, the second Simon Harris' in a structure erected for him, and the third was a saloon. In the fall the railroad erected a station house cubby, a post office was established called Wheatville with Andrew Farley as postmaster, and Wells, Fargo & Company opened an office with Harris as agent. In the winter of 1874-75 two sections of land were put to wheat and barley.

Irrigation was agitated in the spring of 1875 and twenty-four of the settlers organizing with the Fresno Canal and Irrigation Company started work on June 21, 1875, on a canal. Eighteen months elapsed because of the heavy work before water was brought up, and about this time the village name of Wheatville was changed to Kingsburg. Water was sold to incorporators for \$250 per right represented in labor, and an annual tax of twenty-five dollars per share. Two dry seasons retarded the progress of the town. In 1878 another company was formed and ditch pushed to completion in a dry summer. Water changed the drear aspect of the country and in 1880 16,000 acres were in grain in the vicinity, yielding 4,000 tons, with about a third more in 1881. In 1882 Kingsburg had a population of about 400, and was a grain shipping point, having in 1881 in three warehouses 7,000 tons or fourteen million centals of the grain output of the vicinity. Village was shipping point for the Tulare country and the Laguna de Tache grant, and a busy little place as a stage line station. Louis Einstein and Leo Gundelfinger were pioneer general merchants. It was an early beneficiary from irrigation in the Centerville and Kingsburg Irrigation Ditch Company, Lo-

cated today in a fertile fruit and grape section, it is one of the loveliest villages, and is a strong religious and moral community, the home of thrifty, industrious Swedes induced to locate through the efforts of the late F. D. Rosendahl. Kingsburg and Riverside colonies are prosperous syndicate enterprises.

Kingston on the south bank of the river and twelve miles from Kingsburg was located in a fine body of farming land but held in large tracts for stock raising. Edward Erlanger erected a store there in 1875, but it was long before that the Kings River ferry crossing for all that section of country on the southern highway of travel back to very early days. It counted in 1876 one general store, two hotels, saloon, livery stable and several residences, and as late as 1879 was accounted "some place" with three hotels, of G. N. Furnish, John Potts and Louis Reichert. It was the scene of one of the Vasquez holdups. It is not on the railroad, wherefore Kingsburg extinguished its future, while later Laton displaced it as the trading point for the Laguna de Tache. Kingston is recalled only for its past.

Riverdale, formerly known as Liberty Settlement, changed its name about 1875. It is located about twenty miles from Fresno near Cole's Slough, a branch of the Kings and ten miles from Kingsburg. It is an alfalfa and dairying country.

Panoche Valley post office and settlement was established in 1870 with R. Burr as postmaster in a fertile and broad nook in the Mt. Diablo chain of the Coast Range on the West Side of the county. Stock raising and farming were and are the pursuits. All this country is now tributary to Coalinga.

Tollhouse, picturesquely located at the foot of the first mountain of the Sierra base, is thirty-two miles from Fresno and was in its day a bustling lumber depot and shipping point for the mills on Pine Ridge. Its 1868 founders were Henry Glass as blacksmith and A. C. Yancey as the hotelkeeper. In 1882 250 and more found employment and had homes there, and it had a tri-weekly stage mail service. M. J. Donahoo built there in 1876 a steam planing mill. Thousands have traveled over the old Pine Ridge road to the pineries in the Sierras, chartered in 1866 and sold to the county in 1878, with the stage line and the freighting traffic with the mills adding to the life of the place. Tollhouse was to the Sierra lumber region what Millerton was to the county, Centerville to the Upper Kings, Dry Creek to the foothill region, and Kingston to the Lower Kings. Many a pioneer lies at rest in the little cemetery there.

Wildflower, postoffice name of Duke Settlement on the Emigrant Ditch, twelve miles south of Fresno, was a cattle and grain country. Its original settlers were people from the South. General farming and stock raising followed up irrigation.

In 1876-78 Millerton was still classed in statistical works as a town of Fresno but with the fort as the postoffice and Charles A. Hart as postmaster. It was hoped that it would not "entirely disappear" as a town with its mines, forests and fertile soil surroundings but in vain. Its Chinese quarter held out to the very last. In 1879 it was a deserted village beyond the wildest hope of resurrection short of a miracle.

Markwood Meadows in the high mountains, fourteen miles east of Tollhouse on the stockmen's earliest trail to the Sierras, form a plateau of preserved virgin forest land and for years have been a favorite summer resort for campers, as was Dinkey Creek in the same locality. With the denudation of the timber by the mills, the Meadows are a veritable mountain oasis.

Pleasant Valley in the mountain range with New Idria and Panoche was a flourishing stockraising settlement. It is an agricultural tributary to Coalinga.

Sycamore located in 1872, postofficed in September as Palo Blanco, was a ferry station on the south bank of the San Joaquin at the head of river navigation. Much was expected of it, but the location of Fresno and the failure of the big irrigation enterprise on the river doomed it.

Watson's Ferry as the head of steamboat navigation on the San Joaquin, eight miles above Firebaugh on Fresno Slough, was a busy shearing station, 200,000 sheep having been sheared in a season.

Whitesbridge, ten miles above Firebaugh on Fresno Slough, derives its name from the bridge erected by James R. White, who came a pioneer to Fresno from Mariposa. It was a sheepshearing station, the clip shipped to market by steamer. It is a stock and alfalfa country.

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## CHAPTER XLVIII

PHANTOM SHELBYVILLE RECALLS A WIDESPREAD SWINDLE OF THE LAND BOOM DAYS. IT WAS A LOTTERY CONCEPTION OF AN EASTERN CIRCUIT THEATRICAL MAN. TOWN HAD NO EXISTENCE SAVE IN THE MIND AND ON A FILED MAP. SITE HAS LONG REVERTED TO THE STATE FOR UNPAID TAXES. NOT FOR YEARS HAVE THE LOTS BEEN ON THE ASSESSMENT ROLL. FRESNO AS THE FIRST TOWN INCORPORATED IN THE COUNTY. CHANCE DISCOVERY OF EARLIEST RECORDED TOWNSITE ON DRY CREEK IN 1865.

Shelbyville? Have you never heard of the phantom town in Fresno that had existence only in an imaginative brain, and on a beautifully designed plat in the county recorder's office?

Shelbyville has been a standing joke at the county courthouse since about 1890 to recall one great swindle of the land boom era, for there were others as the Holland Colony scheme. Hundreds have had deeds to Shelbyville town lots, and mailing them for recording from all parts of the United States on the bare supposition that they had a valuable present or prospective property learned sorrowfully that they had long before forfeited to the state for non-payment of taxes, and title deed was not worth the postage wasted on the letter of inquiry. Every now and then one of these deeds comes by mail to the surface with anxious inquiry as to the value of the lot or lots that it calls for. So numerous once were these inquiries that the recorder had printed slips run off of a newspaper account of the story of Phantom Shelbyville and printed slip was sent to enlighten the inquirer. Shelbyville is a part of the history of the land boom in Fresno, when \$100 was paid in gold for what in land would normally have been worth at most ten dollars.

Shelbyville was the brilliant conception of a theatrical man on the circuit of the Central states as Indiana and Illinois, Ohio and Nebraska. Having drifted through Fresno, he conceived the idea of tempting people to his show with a gift lottery proposition in which Fresno County, then springing into prominence as an agricultural country, flowing with milk and honey, was to figure. Every one patronizing his show was given opportunity to become a lot owner in Shelbyville, Fresno, Cal., so beautifully and regularly laid out on plat as a city within close distance from the Raisin Center. The townsite was and is a desert waste. There are never lacking people with eyes wide open to secure something for nothing, and these wise ones argued that if they could obtain a town lot for nothing in Sunny California and in the great and fertile San Joaquin Valley they could either sell outright for a good sum of money or take possession and await destiny.

The philanthropist who was deeding away lots thus had good title, and in fact made more money out of the scheme than has any owner of a lot in the visionary town. The highest value ever placed during the boom times on a Shelbyville lot was four dollars, and the big hearted, aforesaid philanthropist collected almost as much from every lot owner for deed, notarial attestation and seal. Hundreds of such deeds are in the recorder's office with recording fee unpaid. The greater part of the townsite is owned by the state, having reverted to it for delinquent taxes. Lots are not worth the taxes assessed against them, and how little that is may be computed on an assessed four-dollar valuation, the highest ever placed on them, with a rate of one dollar and twenty-five cents to one dollar and forty cents on the \$100. If all the taxes on deeded lots were paid, it would not compensate for the services of the deputy's handling of the assessment book covering the property.

There is in Indiana a town called Shelbyville, and it may have given title-name to the scheme. The printed deeds that floated in were indorsed "Dan'l of Shelby," probably some theatrical character name. The scheme was a gold mine for the speculator, who had bought the land for a song very likely, and turned the title deed on a subdivision principle loose among gullible patrons who attended his show anyhow. The name of the enterprising showman was Guy Webber, who described himself as of Jersey City, Hudson County, N. Y. Earlier deeds were made in his name as grantor. After a time, they were in the name of one Hoytt, and lastly in that of one W. H. Whetstone. Webber was not long in the enjoyment of his monopoly for a similar theatrical swindle was operated in connection with the mythical town of Sam'l of Posen in some part of California. As to title, Webber could read that clear. He bought and paid for it, and had the deed recorded, but as to the value that is quite another story.

The townsite was in view from the Jameson depot of the Southern Pacific, one-half mile northeast of it, and between the depot and the San Joaquin River, covering four sections or 2,560 acres, less half a section immediately contiguous to the depot. It was described as the purest alkali land, on which not even a mortgage or salt grass could be raised, and not unlike the country around the Dead Sea in Palestine, where the birds fly high in passing over it. West and south of Jameson station, there is good land, within half a mile of the depot, but Shelbyville was in a class of its own. Value it had once as grazing land, but with the bringing of water for irrigation the alkali in the subsoil was forced to the top and not a blade of grass was on the land. The leanest and hungriest coyote or jack-rabbit that crossed the plain to the wheat ranches beyond made detour rather than shortcut across inhospitable and desert Shelbyville.

By the time that lot and lottery victims became acquainted with Whetstone in the scheme, the panic of 1902 was on. Of the hundreds of non-resident lot owners, few kept up tax payments and in large part the townsite was sold to the state for the unpaid taxes. Indeed so valueless were the lots that the assessor has not listed them for years. The recorder has at times been deluged with inquiries as to the cash value of them, and expressing readiness to part with them for anything from fifty dollars to \$5,000. Most of the inquiries came in from 1892 to 1894, but every now and then one bobs up serenely. Assessed once at four dollars per lot, it was pay taxes with the back claims or quit. They quit, and this is why the state came in and why the site is sacred to the cuckoo owl, the coyote and the nomadic and rattle-headed jack rabbit. It was a wide spread and successful swindle, and its promoters probably justified themselves by pleading that no one really suffered much. Those that attended the show had their entertainment for their money, some drew lots in Shelbyville and were out only two dollars with about as much more for a deed to a piece of land surely worth that much. Very much like the ancient justification



of fox hunting—the huntsmen liked it, the hounds like it also, and it has never been proved that the fox entertained other views.

It is a noteworthy circumstance that until Fresno City took the step after several preliminary failures in that direction, there was no incorporated town in the county from 1856 to 1885. Millerton, though county seat, never assumed that dignity, never had a board of councilmen with chairman as ex-officio mayor, and never any town governmental supervision save such as the county supervisors chose to bestow upon it. Fresno followed Millerton's example for thirteen years until it incorporated. Millerton could not assert to have had a townsite in which anyone owned a foot of earth, because it was on unsurveyed government land and holdings were no more secure or substantial than possessory claims. The county was a notorious trespasser when it erected the courthouse on Uncle Sam's domain without as much as by your leave.

Which recalls the discovery in the examinations of filings in the data preparation for this history that the earliest recorded townsite in the county is that of June 14, 1865, by George Rivercombe of Georgetown, of thirteen lots on Jones' Flat west of Big Dry Creek. Discovery was made in the record book of mining claims. Lots one to seven, each fifty by 100, ran back to the hills, and eight to thirteen to the creek, lots located on both sides of a central street. The ink sketched townsite notes the existence of a "China house" on lot eleven, and south of townsite and at right angles with it marks out a 400-foot wide mill lot. The lot owning locators were; J. D. Woodworth, Henry Burroughs, Ira McCray, Dr. Lewis Leach, William Faymonville, and Rivercombe. It was probably a mining camp, but the oldest Dry Creek pioneer has no recollection of it and the record might not have come to light but for an accidental discovery.

Only a few years ago, a mild craze followed the publication and circulation of a government bulletin telling of the money possibilities in a commercialization of the eucalyptus. Stock corporations were formed. Land was bought on option agreements or long term contracts. Eucalypti groves were planted. Craze died out. Corporations disincorporated or forfeited charters. Shareholders relinquished stock rather than pay more promotion assessments. Some of the scattered groves are still in existence, trees uncared for and growing wild and rank. No factories were erected to manufacture the highly polished eucalypt veneer, the beautifully grained hardwood for furniture, pianos, organs and the like, the axe, hatchet, hammer and other tool handles, the imperishable ties and whiffle-trees and all the other things that were to have been made from the eucalypt tree.

The short lived craze benefitted no one save the stock sellers and the corporation promotion agents. It was a craze that ran its brief day as did the later one for the cultivation of the cactus after the loudly heralded announcement that Luther A. Burbank, the plant wizard of Santa Rosa, had evolved a spineless species: For a time public attention was diverted by promoters to the fortunes to be made from the growing of the cactus as a forage plant and from the commercial fibre to be extracted from it. This craze also had its brief run. The location of one of these eucalypti groves and the association of a cactus plantation with that location on the river recalled another well nigh forgotten town swindle on the banks of the San Joaquin, very prettily and appropriately named Riverview and harking back to the memorable boom period of 1887. The map of Riverview is a record in the county archives. And that is all that there is of it, or ever was.

The town was actually staked out with the lots and the avenues on the ground ten miles north of Fresno on the river. There was the announcement November 4, 1887, by Fleming & Waterman that the sale of lots in their new town would take place on the Tuesday after and the sale was conducted by a picturesque character, who was known as "Cactus Ed" Fleming. He was one of the creations of the boom days as was many another character

of the day. The two days' sales of Riverview lots resulted in disposing of 632 on the first and of 427 on the second day, and among the buyers were men whose business sanity was considered to rate normal. After Fresno was given ground-floor favors, Riverview lot sales were transferred to San Francisco, Stockton and Sacramento with varied results and "Cactus Ed" disappeared from public view for a time. Incidental mention was made of him in a local publication of December 2, 1887, as follows:

"'Cactus Ed' Fleming is home again, but it is not the 'Cactus Ed' of yore, he who wore the broad sombrero and who, with pants in boots and in short sleeves laid out the town of Riverview. The 'Cactus Ed' that returned yesterday is dressed in the height of fashion, wears a silk tile and gives other indications of being a bloated bondholder or a capitalist. The transformation is due entirely to Riverview, for since his departure from this city a few weeks since, he has been selling lots in his town at an astonishing rate, and reports that the building up of the town is not a question of years, but of months."

Years have elapsed and never any Riverview. It was an iridescent dream of the speculator, based, if it had any basis ever, on a gamble on the coming of a side line railroad in the direction of the river. There have been other railroad building reports in connection with this particular locality on the river where the Southern Pacific and the Santa Fe cross it. Sycamore and Herndon were in their day dreamed of towns following railroad building reports for speculative purposes. Sycamore, Herndon and Riverview are in the same category as myths, save only that Riverview was a swindle and Herndon never anything more than a switching station.

How much foundation there was for the Riverview railroad side line report time proved when a line was built out of Fresno due east to the railroad fostered town of Sanger and there turning abruptly southward and through Reedley ran out of the county southward to Porterville in Tulare County. And Riverview was on the river north of Fresno. Did the singed moth return to flirt with the flame?

It did when one Marcus Pollasky appeared on the horizon as a secret agent, cut a wide swath as a railroad promoter and worked the moth for rights of way concessions and bonus subscriptions and saddled upon the city a right of way grant for a jerk-water line to a new town of Pollasky on the San Joaquin below Millerton, and there ended what was held out might be a transcontinental line across the Sierras tapping the mountain region. And what of Pollasky or Friant as it was afterward named? Moribund a settlement almost as Millerton, Riverview is found as a spot on the map only because the Fresno Traction Company runs an occasional car to the river picnic ground there and the spot has been dignified with the name of "Fresno Beach" for the swimming in the river during the sultry summers.

The nickname of "Cactus Ed" recalls Fleming's boom time exploitation of the cactus hedge business in association with J. M. Statham and William Wilkenson with dissolution of copartnership in April, 1887. He was a voluble fellow who took up this short lived fad as a "get rich quick" scheme and the name stuck to him. The cactus was a round, spiny species with stem not much thicker than a pencil, full of thorns and when grown and interlaced was represented as making a hedge or fence well calculated to prevent stock attempting to break through or over it. In the summer of 1876, Fleming planted a demonstration hedge at the Mariposa Street entrance of the courthouse park and county officials and other citizens signed a published testimonial certifying that the cactus hedge would be the coming fence of California and representing Fleming in that testimonial as a benefactor and the agent in saving thousands of dollars in the cost of fencing. The cactus hedge enterprise was abandoned for the Riverview town lot scheme as promising of greater and quicker returns. And it was. No more was heard of the cactus hedge.

## CHAPTER XLIX

COALINGA OIL FIELD IS THE LARGEST PRODUCER IN THE STATE. ANOTHER INTERESTING CHAPTER IN THE HISTORY OF A WONDERFUL COUNTY. A GREAT INDUSTRY ESTABLISHED IN A WASTE SHEEP-GRAZING REGION. COALINGA IN INFANT DAYS TYPICAL OF THE WESTERN MINING CAMP. FIRST OIL EXCITEMENT OF 1865 IS RECALLED. CALIFORNIA'S PETROLEUM POSSIBILITIES FIRST RECOGNIZED ABOUT 1900. COAL DEPOSITS HAD PROVEN INADEQUATE TO MEET THE DEMAND FOR A FUEL SUPPLY. WITH 1907 THE PETROLEUM OUTPUT EXCEEDED THE VALUE OF THE GOLD IN CALIFORNIA.

According to the Standard Oil Bulletin, there has been a production of crude oil in California since the beginning of the industry to and including the year 1917 of 1,040,350,164 barrels. Industry dates from the reported 1876 product year of the Newhall and Ventura County field. It was until 1894 the sole producing field with a reported output of 175,000 barrels prior to 1876.

There are today eleven recognized producing and proven oil fields in the state. Besides, there are smaller producing localities with an output since 1897 of 964,721 barrels. The named field is the oldest. The next two are Los Angeles and Salt Lake and the Summerfield of 1894. The fourth is the Fresno Coalinga of 1896. It is the third largest producer with 196,872,731 barrels of lighter gravity fluid. The Coalinga field is another of the great resources of this wonderful county. It has added much to the county's wealth. It has brought into existence a new crop of millionaires. It has impoverished perhaps more than it has enriched. It has written in one of the most interesting chapters to the history of the county.

Discovery and development of field established an industry in a waste section of the county where there would have been and had been nothing save sheep grazing. It located in this isolated nook a modern and enterprising little city, the wealthiest with the exception of Selma and the larger county seat. Oil field as with so many other things in the county can only be treated in superlative terms.

An enthusiastic write up in 1910 likened to a fairy story the tale of the growth of the little city of Coalinga in the foothills bordering on the semi-arid sage brush plains. A few years before, name stood for a wretched village in the crudest stage, little more than a hurried thrown together mining settlement, surrounded by black oil "rigs," many on land of doubtful productive value, settlement overrun with wreckless men and worse women, gambling resorts, saloons or deadfalls rather, wild with money excitement and the smell of petroleum all pervading. In 1910 there was a rich proven oil field and there had blossomed a modernized city of 5,500 people, a bustling business community supported by one of the greatest and latest proven oil fields in the world, a city the abode of substantial well to do people and one marked by modern steel buildings, banks and business ventures of magnitude and everyone prosperous and content.

Its history as a place of habitation may be traced to M. L. Curtiss' homestead entry of 1882 covering the site of the city, with his cabin relic still standing on C Street a few years before the birth of the city. District was included in the original land grant to the Southern Pacific with an apology of a railroad completed to Huron in 1877. Curtiss came before the rails were laid to Coalinga ten years later. Coalinga's early history is bar-

ren of picturesque incident. It was first the home of the homesteader, living in rude cabin and eking out an existence on blue beans, bacon and jack rabbit flesh. Then came the railroad and next the saloon as "the inevitable harbinger of civilizing influences."

In that early history is mentioned the name of Frederick Tibbits. He landed a grub stake, opened a saloon and after a lucky turn at cards bankrupted the miners of Robinson & Rollins, Englishmen interested in an indifferent coal mine in the nearby hills at Alcalde. Next comes Louis O'Neil with a store. Coalinga became a trading place for a cattle and sheep community, for the coal mining colony whence its name, and for grain farmers in propitious seasons which were dependent on rainy winters and this was not often. Its advance was retarded by remoteness of location, lack of a water supply, wretched transportation facilities, lack of faith in oil field and all in all unpromising business conditions in that desert location. In 1900 it was a collection of about twenty houses scattered along Front Street, "Whiskey Row" as it was long after known. It was from near Coalinga that the output of the Robinson-Rollins coal mine was shipped out on a little railroad to Hanford, as the nearest accessible point, much nearer and more accessible than Fresno. Output was meager. The market for it also. Louis Einstein was interested in the coal mine. The enterprise was abandoned. When the price of steel went up, rails were torn up and some of them were brought to Fresno for the building of the horse car lines. Drilling for oil progressed in the meanwhile in an experimental way. The progress was slow, even after Chanslor & Canfield had proven the field workable. First companies met with discouragement.

There was little about the place or its surroundings to attract. Water to drink was brought from Hanford in rail tanks and for years was sold by the bucket or barrel. Oil supplies were brought from Los Angeles or San Francisco. Oil transportation was by horse or mule to railroad shipping point and until the coming of the railroad cut deeply into the profits. Thus things pothered along until 1902. They improved then slightly. Three years later the boom was on. In 1907 oil rose from eighteen and twenty to forty cents a barrel. The rush came on with advances to sixty and in the fall of 1908 to sixty-two and one-half cents and in 1909 the oil fever was on in the county. It is said that "the town grew by leaps and bounds over night," a collection of shack houses at first, "because busy people were too busy to build better."

People with beer appetites indulged in champagne. Along Whiskey Row congregated the fortune seekers. The faro table was never idle. The hum of the roulette was incessant; twenty-dollar pieces were stacked up as the stakes. Money came easily. It went more easily. Coalinga was the typical western mining camp—instead of gold or silver it was oil. The saloon was as much of a fortune as the "gusher." Did not Edward M. Scott sell his saloon business in October, 1909, for \$15,000 to devote time to improving his city properties and give attention to his oil interests? The spirit of the gold epoch of '49 hovered over the mushroom settlement in the sage brush desert waste following the oil strikes, the first comers the same adventurous spirits that rushed to the Klondike in frozen Alaska and the later gold fields of Goldfield and Tonopah in Nevada.

With the greater profits of 1907-09 came also a greater stability. Throughout the days of the fever, substantial men and corporations had been at work. Development of the field had proven it. Its possibilities were demonstrated. Then the permanent improvements in the city began. Better homes were established. Neat cottages were erected. Substantial blocks were constructed. Whiskey Row went up in fire. The shack era passed away. A city of brick, steel and concrete buildings, with cement sidewalks and paved or oiled streets, pretty homes and social, sanitary and public utility demands followed. Population of town and fields in 1907 was 2,400.

In 1910 it was estimated at about 10,000. Buildings in 1900 numbered a score. In 1910 it was 1,000 with 600 in July, 1909, year of great improvements.

The district bonded itself later for \$100,000 for schools. City has a bonded indebtedness of some \$20,000 to complete a municipal water system. It is the largest city in California supported alone by the oil industry. Its elementary schools are as good as the best in the county. Its high school holds high rank. The school houses are overcrowded. It was the first and only community in the county to organize a library on the union district plan. The seven elementary schools in the high school district have bonded themselves for an intermediate school and to build a larger high school. Churches are not lacking when at incorporation as a city there was only one minister of the gospel and death overtook him while participating in the public exercises in celebration of city incorporation, the last appeal from his lips a reform in social conditions in the closing of the saloons. The rough mining town with the saloon as a dominant industry, with all the other side issues of a wild western frontier camp, its most prominent highway facing the railroad euphoniously designated even unto this day "Whiskey Row" voted itself "dry" April 8, 1918, by a majority of eighty-eight in a total vote of 1,304.

The first recorded oil excitement in the county was in February, 1865. Springs and seepages were discovered on the eastern slope of the Coast Range near Vallecito Canyon, some two miles from the Griswold and Anderson ranch. They were the outcroppings of the subterranean oil reservoir that is the basis of the wealth foundation of the Coalinga field. Credit seems to have been given for the discovery to Frank Dusy and John Clark of Bear Valley. At any rate, they took up 160 acres in December, 1864. Others did likewise and Dusy, Clark and W. A. Porter as a third associate assigned their claims to the San Joaquin Petroleum Company, the first of the hundreds of stable as well as wild cat organizations to follow in time and the crop of which has not yet been exhausted.

A word or two in passing concerning this man, Dusy, whose name was perpetuated until late years by a son in the Selma drug firm of Dusy & Sawrie. Here was a man who was a pioneer at almost everything. He was a discoverer of things. An early comer to the county, yet a much later one than many. Pioneer photographer of Millerton was he. Shipper of the first freight from the new Fresno railroad station. It was wool, because he was one of the big sheep men in the county at the time. He was one of the number that founded the first Republican newspaper. He was one of the original lot of Republicans in a county that was a seething stronghold of war time Southern Democrats. He was a pioneer explorer of the mountains in seeking ranges for his sheep. He discovered the grove of big trees above Dinkey Creek. He named the creek for a pet dog that a bear had devoured. He gave the name to Tunemah Pass and to many other locations and land marks in the Sierras that have been perpetuated in the government's quadrangle maps. He pioneered from Selma the first exodus from the county to the Klondike. The rear steps of the courthouse were his gift to advertise his granite quarry at Academy. It would seem that almost everything had to bear the trade mark of Dusy.

The 1865 petroleum excitement in Fresno County proved a veritable craze for a time. As an ancient record had it, it assumed "from day to day a more firm, fixed, undeniable, self-evident reality." Locations were recorded by the scores. The Elkhorn mining district was organized. Gallons in samples of the precious fluid were hawked about in Millerton by dusty and wild-eyed locators and prospectors, who like Col. Mulberry Sellers perceived "millions in it." The newspaper record has it that the excitement "has already become a furore and will ere long terminate in a mania." Companies for working the springs were formed, and "there never was such a hurrying

to and fro; everybody is busy, wild and in fact nearly crazy." The craze even extended to San Francisco.

Its start was in the sale by Talleyrand & Choiser and two others of their claim in Tulare County for \$20,000 in greenbacks to a New York company. By May, 1865, 2,000 acres of waste barren land, the same as it is today superficially, had been located as possessory claims, besides thousands of feet in this county held under mining locations of the Elkhorn mining district formed at the Chidester ranch on the San Joaquin River with M. T. Brady as chairman with associated others, the only remembered names being those of Galen Clark, so long state guardian of the Yosemite Valley, and of Cuthbert Burrell.

Money and effort were expended in superficial development. Great was the confidence in the richness of the field, but the usual quarrels and wrangles attendant upon new and rich mining discoveries followed. There was the usual "jumping of claims." No one was safe or protected in his holdings. Filings were made in Millerton on holdings that were in another's possession or actually being worked. The county government was a careless and loose one. The location of the oil seepings a remote one and difficult of access. The oil was there but it was another problem to get at it and having gotten it to transport to a market, even if there was one and a demand for fuel oil or other purpose. Ill smelling petroleum was not a medium of circulation as was the clean gold dust. Gradually the excitement subsided. It ended in nothing.

While it lasted, correspondents in the field filled the papers with accounts of the "glorious prospects of boundless wealth." They fired the excited brain with accounts of "the rich springs that in their natural undeveloped state yield a thousand gallons daily of their precious fluid." They drew mental pictures of "the subterranean ocean of petroleum that is now known beyond a doubt to exist in this region." Basis there was for all this verbal description. It was not "the vague, uncertain and chimerical speculations of some deluded prospector," nor "the fantastic hallucination of some crack-brained philosophical alchemist." It was quite true, but it was not to enrich the pioneer discoverers. A later generation was to be the beneficiary.

As suddenly as the craze was started up as suddenly ended the swarms that passed Firebaugh's Ferry in the spring of 1865 "like unto a battalion of soldiers—some in wagons, some on horse and mule back and many on foot, all bound for the land of petroleum"—at any hour of the day "with squads of two, four and six" coming from the remote counties and "all wending their way toward the oil region." The prophet was wrong in his vision that this portion of the county "will shortly be thickly settled" and as the oil excitement soon abated groundless also his fear that there would "ere long be a great many applications for admittance to the insane asylum at Stockton."

The existence of petroleum in California had in fact been known for years before. The Indians made use of asphaltum for various purposes. The padres used it for roofing the mission and other buildings. It is tradition that Andreas Pico distilled petroleum on a small scale for the San Fernando mission, using crude oil from Pico Canyon near Newhall in Los Angeles County. He was probably the first refiner. In 1856 a company commenced crude oil refining at La Brea ranch in Los Angeles. In 1857 another attempted at Carpinteria in Santa Barbara to produce illuminating oil from the crude. Similar attempts were made in localities prior to 1860 but with no success.

Prof. B. Silliman made in 1865 the first scientific report on petroleum in California. The decade following "was marked by a considerable oil excitement in California." Many companies were formed. Most of these achieved no success. Pioneer oil men had not the drilling machinery of the present day and little or no knowledge of the geological conditions. Dis-







COALING IN 1900

tillers expected to obtain the same results as eastern distillers. They were disappointed in products from fractional distillation. The development in time of the Coalinga field in Fresno County as one of six in four counties is one of the remarkable features in the history of the oil industry.

In 1887 when the State Mining Bureau made reconnaissance only four companies were operating. In July, 1900, there were 250 producing companies and some 1,500 producing and 470 prospect wells. The first commercially successful refinery was that of the California Star Oil Company near Newhall in Los Angeles, followed by the Pacific Coast Oil Company at Alameda and by the Union Oil Company at Santa Paula. Today there are ten or more. The most bewildering figures might be cited in the comparison of the Fresno field and the state growth of the oil industry to emphasize the immensity and value of the petroleum yield of California, today the country's largest producer. A few generalities must suffice. As indicative of the enormity of the industry, it may be cited that in April, 1910, as an instance, for the companies listed on the California Stock and Oil Exchange in San Francisco the dividends were \$710,368, while the total paid on all stocks to the end of that month was the large sum of \$2,958,276.

Beginning with 1907, petroleum has exceeded the gold output. California has produced a total of about \$1,547,967,468 in gold since 1848. This gold would weigh 2,580 tons and to move require a train of fifty-two freight cars, each holding fifty tons. Expert authority is that the production is being swelled annually at the rate of about \$20,000,000 and likely to become more rather than less for some years. The largest production for any year was in 1852, \$81,294,700, and the next largest in 1854 with \$69,433,931. The year 1852 was the one of most active development of the superficial placer areas. Thousands were at work with pan, rocker, Long Tom and sluice, and even the hydraulic in a small way had been introduced. Petroleum leads by a wide margin in the output for 1911 with 84,684,159 barrels, valued at \$40,552,088; gold \$19,738,908, and cement third with \$9,085,625 among the mineral products of the state. Statistics on this line might be multiplied.

The productive fields opened and developed in the San Joaquin Valley are in the Coast Range foothills and the lowermost Sierra foothills at the southern extremity. At Oil City, near Coalinga, an oil remarkable for its low specific gravity has been obtained from formations underlying rocks containing fossils of the eocene (Tejon) age. According to the geological story, these rocks were deposited when the California coast line was east of the area now occupied by the Sierra foothills and the valley was covered by the ocean and the Coast Range only partly above the water. The eocene period was one of land depression with deposit of shale formation over much of the tertiary deposit. During the later neocene epoch, there was a marked period of elevation.

It was about 1900 that the importance of the state's petroleum possibilities was recognized. The question of petroleum as fuel assumed special importance because the discovered coal deposits in the state were found to be inadequate to the steadily increasing demand for fuel. Exclusive of asphaltum and gas, the value of the industry is represented in the extraction and handling of the oil by the price for that which is exported and by the value of that which is consumed at home, the latter as fuel constituting the bulk of the output and a factor in commercial economy. There is a tradition that the earliest mention of the valley oil fields was by Father Garces, the intrepid missionary, in the region about the neighborhood of the present Maricopa in Kern County. This was in the spring of 1776 when Washington was such a conspicuous figure on the world's stage. More than a century passed and yet, while the deposits in the Coast Range were long definitely known and in Fresno County at least as far back as 1865, general development of the oil deposits was not commenced until about 1888-89, and most of it during the decade following in the rich valley section.

Fortunes did not always reward the drilling companies or the individual in the Coalinga field. Riches were more often the result of lucky strokes in real estate. The fact is well substantiated in numerous instances. The late W. J. Dickey took up a section of sheep land for debt security at a small valuation per acre, held on to it because he could not well dispose of it and when discoveries were made around him sold the land for \$450,000. The late H. H. Brix loaned a small sum of money on a homestead in the proven field and during the boom when every one was wild over oil realized nearly a million. The rise in land values was phenomenal as in the days of farm colonizations, values went up by jumps.

A syndicate of Fresno capitalists bought land around Coalinga for twelve dollars and fifty cents an acre and sold 600 for fifty dollars an acre and later 200 of adjoining same land for \$600,000. These spectacular leaps marked all the oil towns. Nowhere though were the results so material as in the phenomenal building up of the surroundings of Coalinga as the town on the West Side that jumped in population, wealth and possibilities during the field development to a place in the county next to Fresno. The site of the Bank of Coalinga valued as much as the corner lot, which sold for \$14,000, was offered in 1894 for twelve and one-half dollars. The site was one of two lots offered once for \$375 and bought by the owner for \$275. Prices of oil land in the Coalinga oil field ranged in 1910 from \$500 to \$7,000 an acre. A feature of the times was the invasion of British capital, notably the investment of four and one-half millions in May for Section 2-20-15, adjoining the famous Coalinga-Mohawk well on the east side anticline.

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## CHAPTER L

CENTRAL CALIFORNIA OIL DISTRICT IS ONE OF THE STATE'S GREAT WEALTH PRODUCERS. EARLY DRILLING METHODS WERE CRUDE. TALES OF FRENZIED FINANCE, DISAPPOINTED HOPES AND UNLOOKED FOR RETURNS MARK EARLY DEVELOPMENT DAYS. DISCOVERY SHOWINGS WERE SMALL COMPARED WITH LATER BROUGHT IN WELLS. PICTURESQUE FEATURES OF THE FIRST EFFORTS IN THE EXPLOITATION OF THE WEST SIDE FIELD. A STORY AS INTERESTING AS THAT OF THE GOLD PERIOD OF THE ARGONAUTS. PROVEN SUCCESS OF THE FIELD MARKS A NEW ERA OF PROSPERITY AND CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY IN THE COUNTY.

The Central California oil district stretching from southwestern Fresno County at Coalinga to the Kern River at Bakersfield in a half moon, so to speak, is one of the great wealth producers of California. It has put forth a product more profitable than its gold. The rise of this industry is astounding. From 3,600 barrels in 1870 worth \$3,125 to 56,982,070 barrels in 1909 worth thirty-three millions. The story of this industry is as interesting as that of the gold period of the Argonaut days. There were failures, many of "dry holes," and of companies insufficiently equipped financially and venturesome at most that went down during the hard times before 1907. There was also shameful wild catting but it was a time for money gambling as in the wildest days of Comstock mining gambling in the exchanges of San Francisco, of poor men made rich, rich men made poor, stockholders enriched or impoverished, fortunes made and lost.

Early oil drilling methods were crude, tools less efficient and where failure consequently was recorded often flowing wells were opened by later and more experienced operators. The money did not flow alone into the lap

of the well or stock owner. As in the days of gold, everything that was touched in the oil field turned into money. All reaped the general harvest. Those who made their piles invested in real estate and erected fine residences and business blocks in Fresno and elsewhere. Coalinga's rise was one result in a bustling, modern, well built up city which was the wonder of the visitor. To it once for the lack of drinkable water the fluid was conveyed in tank cars and peddled out and distributed at so much per pail. With the notable increase of the assessment roll on account of the development of the field, Fresno practically dates from then its most recent constructive era, the day of sky-scrappers and big buildings and general improvement of the city on lines broader and more ambitious than before.

Conspicuous among the corporate enterprises is the California Oil Fields Ltd., one of the largest operators in the field, having the best camp in it. It is an English concern capitalized at \$2,000,000 and for years has yielded dividends ranging from thirty to forty percent. It bought up holdings which one time were considered undesirable. The Union Oil Company is another large independent operator. The Standard and the Shell also have extensive holdings, as has the Southern Pacific, and all with many producing wells. Clarence J. Berry, whose name is associated as a grub staker in Alaska in the wild days of the Klondike, made more money in oil. He invested in Fresno real estate and farm land and becoming a modern Monte Cristo dared finance a baseball nine. He placed money in Coalinga and McKittrick holdings, in the latter making a big thing of the C. J. lease, a close corporation, paying its owners more than \$25,000 a month. Upon return from Alaska, he owned the heart of McKittrick and sold out early all but forty acres for \$50,000. W. F. Chandler, H. H. Welsh, G. L. Warlow, H. H. Brix and others, living and dead, enriched themselves not only by drilling for oil and striking, but in real estate and investment enterprises, in the oil transportation lines and sales agencies, and in the public utility companies.

Tales of frenzied finance and remarkable and unlooked for returns are told of the days of development almost unbelievable. The Peerless for instance owning originally 160 acres in the Kern River field bought in 1897 Coalinga and Sunset properties which improved cost about \$500,000 yet returned to stockholders in dividends \$810,000, equal to more than \$5,000 an acre on the original tract.

The Sauer Dough of Coalinga was a wonderful dividend payer. It held thirty acres only, capitalized at \$300,000, yet by 1910 had returned \$517,303.50 in dividends.

The Lucile of Coalinga was another record maker. Drilling for two years against every difficulty, shares selling as low as four cents and taking pay in shares, \$42,727 was paid in dividends on 26,704 shares when they "struck oil" and stock was quoted at fifteen dollars per share.

Joseph H. Canfield for years president of the Associated Oil Company with C. A. Chanslor were the early successful developers of the Coalinga field, and their returns were enormous—no one knows how much.

Greater efficiency of methods used and the more substantial basis on which the business was conducted are illustrated in the twenty-year well record of the state from 1888 to 1908 showing 5,611 wells and 1,017 dry—successes eighty-one and nine-tenths, failures eighteen and one-tenth percent., very low indeed compared with the United States record since the beginning in 1859. The 1908 record of California was 617 wells, 323 drilled—successes ninety-six and three-tenths, failures three and seven-tenths percent. The town of Coalinga, sixty miles south and west of Fresno, in 1900 numbered some twenty habitations with Whiskey Row in the foreground; in 1910 its horizon had greatly extended and it had an estimated population of 5,000.

The field is regarded as probably the greatest in untapped possibilities of development, transportation facilities and fixed output. It has been worked since 1896 and with the resuscitation of the industry in 1907 the output has made the semi arid territory the richest in the state. In 1910 it numbered 654 producing wells with probably 150 companies operating, the field tapped by five pipe lines with daily capacity of 95,000 barrels, approximately double the output of the region. At the then rate of development, it was figured that it would take fifteen years to cover the absolutely proven ground. As evidences of the faith in the future, buildings in Coalinga were of best modern construction, oil camps were laid out as small towns on sanitary and architectural lines, pipe lines and machinery of a type to last were installed at high cost. Coalinga, purely an oil city, passed the stage of the frontier type of town of its early career and its floating population vanished.

The proven territory of the field covers 20,520 acres and figuring a well to every six the total in expectancy is 3,420. Completed wells in 1910 were 650, leaving according to figuring 2,970 to be drilled, estimating 200 per year. These figures are only an index as to time for drilling and no indication as to the producing life. The Coalinga district adjoins on the north the Kreyenhagen, partly east of the western boundary of Fresno and Kings Counties. The Oil City field is north of the north fork of Los Gatos Creek and the Alcalde between Alcalde and the north fork of Los Gatos. Oil City is about nine miles north of Coalinga.

The first Coalinga district well was drilled about 1890, 163 feet deep, yielding green oil, twenty barrels pumped up by windmill in two days and seven on the third. Rowland and Lacy of Los Angeles drilled four wells in 1891-92 and one of these 400 feet deep yielded on testing nine barrels daily. The others were never pumped. In 1893 there were five wells full of oil and plugged. In 1895 the Producers' and Consumers' Oil Company of Selma (J. A. McClurg and others) sunk a 695 and a 700-foot well on Section 20-19-15, southeast of Rowland & Lacy. They yielded fifteen and twenty barrels daily of thirty-four degrees B gravity oil. In 1896 the Producers on Section twenty brought in a sixty-barrel well. Chanslor & Canfield and the Home produced in 1896 oil of thirty-four degrees from depths of 500 to 600 and small wells on Section 17-19-15. The P. and C. of Selma was drilled 300 feet east of the other wells, and at 890 struck oil, yielding 300 barrels a day. In 1897 the Home Oil of Selma organized by G. W. Terrill and others drilled on the N. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 20-19-15 ranging in depth from 900 to 1700. Other wells were drilled in endeavor to extend the limits of this pool but excepting sixteen on property of the Home and of the Coalinga companies were failures—thirty dry holes, each probably averaging \$25,000. The next strike was in 1898 by the Independence on 29-19-15 on Hanford Oil Company leased land, a good well on the East Side field. Late in 1898 the Confidence which had drilled three dry on 25-19-14 brought in a sixty-barrel and shortly a 200-barrel well, making the first strike on the West Side field. The third Blue Goose at 1,400 completed in 1898 produced from 900 to 1,000 barrels a day. In 1899 there were many to commence operations without resulting successes; the year after there was more exploiting further east and in the early development there was much inconvenience from the lack of water. The 1899 output was of 439,372 barrels and an eight and one-half inch pipe line was laid from Coalinga to Ora station. The above were some of the discovery wells from which as centers development work was extended to open up the proven territory covering an area fourteen miles long and from one-half to two and one-half wide and with oil ranging in gravity from fourteen degrees in the shallow West Side to thirty-four and one-half degrees in the Home pool and averaging respectively sixteen degrees and twenty-two degrees.



Many of these discovery showings are small compared with the later productions. Verily the industry had a day of small beginnings. In 1910 the number of new wells spudded in had not been large for the fore half of the year but much was being done in the deepening of some old wells and the redrilling of others, the history of which would indicate that improved methods of working would have better results. In some instances this drilling was done to a depth of several thousand feet at great cost and with necessarily elaborate equipment. With this in mind, it is recalled what expectations and how much satisfaction resulted from the small pioneer discovery showings and what encouragements they were. It recalls the jubilation of the Coast Range Oil Company of Los Angeles in 1890, when at a depth of 163 on 20-19-15 that greenish light gravity oil was struck, and that wind mill pump brought up ten barrels in two days, less than ten after the third and the yield thereafter lessened gradually. Two years later, Rowland & Lacy of Los Angeles brought in the first deep well in the field at 400 feet with an initial record of nine barrels. The real "first big well" in the district was in 1896 by Chanslor & Canfield at 890 and 300 barrels a day—the reward to these pioneers.

The field has produced some notable wells. Recalled with thrills by oilmen are the "gushers." The original Blue Goose (Home No. 3) on 20-19-15 was a wonder of wonders in 1897. The Independence on 28-19-15 made good showing for a time in March, 1904, and in 1905 California Oil-fields No. 25 on 27-19-15 was a big one for those days. Blowout caught the perforator in the hole preventing finishing the well but later it came under control and made about 600 barrels a day. The next big one was W. H. Kerr's Missouri-Coalinga in the summer of 1906 on 34-19-15, production estimated to have been from 10,000 to 18,000 a day. It shot itself to pieces.

In the fall of 1904 Art Anderson in Section Seven Oil Company's No. 1 well on 7-20-15 brought over 400 barrels in a day. It came under control and yielded over 1,200,000 barrels. In February, 1905, No. 1 of the P. M. D. & O. made over 100 barrels per hour for ten days. Anderson drilled in this well, controlled it and it yielded over 770,000 barrels and continued a good yielder at about 200 a day. A spectacular well of the spring of 1905 was Guthrey No. 1 brought in by H. B. Guthrey on 31-19-15. It made over 7,000 barrels one day when it was at its best. Gas pressure was so great that well cut itself to pieces and it became dead.

The Standard Oil Company in 1906 had a blow out on 28-19-15 after striking a gas pocket in the water sand. Blowout rose so high in the air that it was visible in Coalinga. Greatest gusher was Well No. 1, the Silver Tip on Section 6-21-15 brought in by Z. L. Phelps September, 1909, making 4,000 barrels a day while under full control. The Section 7 No. 1 well produced 1,000 barrels a day for a year and had to its credit in 1910 over 1,500,000 barrels. Two 1907 wells of the K. T. O. on 25-20-14 are credited with 1,000,000. No. 23 of the California Limited of March, 1905, initial production 14,300 barrels for twenty-four hours fetched up at 1,115,000. Coalinga-Pacific No. 1, on 7 of August, 1904, over 750,000. Pittsburg No. 1 on the California Limited, 390,000 in thirteen months, Lucile No. 1 of September, 1908, 450,000. Sauer Dough No. 3 nearly one million. P. M. D. O. Company No. 1 of April, 1904, over 500,000. American Petroleum twenty-eight wells drilled after December, 1908, averaged 300 barrels to well. Silver Tip with 36,000 barrels tanked in seventy-two hours flowed normally 300 in a day.

The history of the oil business has its fantastic side as in the development of the East Side field with the coming in of the Mohawk "gusher" in what was considered to be wild cat territory. W. H. Kerr drilled in 1904 on 34-19-15 in the Pittsburg-Coalinga of four years before but abandoned on account of water. Kerr drilled with money of his own and of R. H. and J. E. McCleary and at 2,640 opened a well that yielded 500 to 800 barrels daily for a year. The California Oil Fields came in with Twenty-three, start-

ing off with 4,000 barrels a day and this until the Silver Tip was considered the greatest well in the field. The Coalinga-Mohawk started a well in a corner of 12-20-15 in 1907, drilling 4,100 feet with indifferent success, re-drilled to 3,960 and struck a 1,400-barrel producer.

The Standard Oil Company has become one of the dominant factors in the Coalinga field and according to its bulletin the proven acreage in all California fields for 1916 was 86,550 acres, Coalinga ranking second with 14,611 acres and Midway-Sunset first with 39,404. Total state production for the year was 91,976,019 barrels.

According to figures of the California Independent Oil Producers' Agency the 1916 shipments were 104,312,905 barrels. Petroleum stocks were reduced by 12,336,586 barrels, a figure unprecedented in the California industry. The year's daily output averaged 251,989 against a 1915 total yield of 89,725,726 and daily average of 245,824 with 18,000 daily estimated shut in. A banner year also was 1914, with 102,871,907 and daily average of 281,841. Above reported 1916 shipments figure a daily average of 285,789 compared with 1915's total 92,007,715 or daily average of 252,076, while 1914's total record was 94,470,989 or daily average of 258,825. In round figures 1916 exceeded 1915 by over 12,000,000 barrels and 1914 by nearly 10,000,000. Reported producing wells were, in 1916, 6,542; 1915, 6,016; 1914, 5,867; and abandoned wells, 18, 15 and 11; and there was a drilling of 238, 153 and 222 for the respective years. The demand for the California crude oil product in 1916 exceeded the supply by 35,822 barrels daily, with the result of a decline in stocks, for the year ending December 31, 1916, of 13,110,861 barrels. No two reporting agencies absolutely agree in their figures, some including in the output the quantity used in the field and estimated at 5,000,000 gallons annually.

Producing wells reported in March, 1917, for the state were 7,427 with a daily production of 262,528 barrels—Coalinga with 941 and 42,486 barrels. For California in 1917 the proven area is shown to have been 88,745 acres. It should be stated that in the determination of these area figures the boundary lines of proven area are drawn 200 to 300 feet outside the proven field. In outlying single wells, the field is credited with about fifteen acres. The figures presented are of actual proven area, no consideration being given to territory regarded as proven and not fully drilled. For instance large areas of undrilled territory are in the Buena Vista Hills which regarded as proven are not included. Coalinga field is credited with 14,771 proven acres.

California is the largest petroleum producer in the United States, and the latter leads in the world's production, supplanting Russia which holds second, having led for nearly half a century. Overproduction in 1914 in the California field reduced activities to the lowest practical minimum in 1915, estimated production 89,000,000 barrels. New wells drilled during 1915 were 240 compared with 400 in 1914. The latter year's product of 102,881,907 barrels was valued at \$47,487,109; average price in counties 46.1 cents, a reduction of 3.2 cents over 1913.

California total crude oil shipments for 1917 furnished an unprecedented record: Total, 108,764,487 barrels; daily average, 207,986. Shipments for 1916, 104,312,905 barrels; 1915, 92,007,715; 1914, 94,470,989; the increase for the year 1917 being 4,451,967 over the year before.

The state mining bureau's compilation of oil and gas produced during 1917 is based on sworn statements from all producers and shows a total petroleum of 94,433,547 barrels. This is an increase of 7,370,352 over 1916. The official figures are less than the total published by private concerns. The latter

make, however, no allowance for water and other impurities in the oil when first produced and gauged.

There were no important additions to the proven oil land in 1917 as determined by the state bureau for the 1918 assessment. The new Montebello field production was one feature of the year. The production increase as above given was brought about by marked drilling activity throughout the state. There was an increased output in every petroleum producing county, Los Angeles showing the highest percent. increase, fifty-two over last year's production. There were 984 wells reported to the bureau for drilling in 1917. The rate of assessment levied to support the work of supervision of drilling operations and to protect the fields from damage by water is based on the quantities of oil and gas produced and of proven oil land. The total collected for 1917 was about \$130,000. The state's reported figures on production are:

	Land (Acres)	Oil (Barrels)	Gas (10 M.)	Wells Number
Fresno .....	12,993	16,146,797	59,189	1,131
Kern .....	56,947	52,688,711	1,927,506	4,716
Los Angeles.....	2,401	4,357,162	24,175	748
Orange .....	3,418	14,568,980	655,027	467
Ventura .....	1,726	989,726	..	355
Santa Barbara....	9,023	5,589,223	60,157	385
San Luis Obispo	772	74,143	.....	18
Santa Clara.....	80	18,855	.....	14
Total .....	87,360	94,433,547	2,726,054	7,834

Final statistics on the California petroleum industry for the year 1917 made public by the Independent Oil Producers' Agency show stocks at the close of the year of 32,656,996 barrels as against 43,640,294 on the first of the year, indicating a reduction of 10,938,298, and daily average of 30,091. This record compares with the total withdrawal during 1916 of 12,336,886 barrels or a daily average of 32,800 indicative of a total decrease of 1,353,588 or daily decrease of 3,709.

This same authority gives California's oil production in 1917, 97,781,574 barrels, a daily average of 267,895, compared to a yield in 1916 of 91,976,019, a daily average of 251,989, indicative in turn of a production increase in 1917 of 5,805,555, a daily average of 15,906. California's 1917 production is the third highest in its history, exceeded by the years 1913 and 1914. The shipments of 1917 broke all records and totalled 108,764,872 barrels, a daily average of 297,986 and comparing this total with the movement in 1916 of 104,312,905 and a daily average of 285,789, the year 1917 shows an increase of 4,451,967, with a daily average of 12,197. Three hundred eighty-two new wells were being actively drilled and there were 7,742 active producers—in Coalinga field five and 1,045 respectively with production of 15,898,912.

In the light of the above generalized figures and facts to give a bird's eye view of the subject, it is no exaggeration that the topic is one that can only be done justice to in the employment of superlatives. The use of crude oil solved one of the difficult problems in the keeping up of public highways and city unpaved streets. It has become a universal fuel as substitute for coal in industrial and manufacturing enterprises. The railroads converted their locomotives from coal to oil burners and the navy and merchant marine steamships likewise adopted it.

Conceive for a moment the wealth that Frank Jennings was the agency in producing for others. He was the pioneer drilling superintendent in the Coalinga fields when he resigned in 1918 to take well earned rest after ten years of continuous service under two companies. He came to the old California Oilfields Limited a decade ago and was connected with that company as its drilling superintendent for seven years. After the company sold to the Shell Oil Company, he remained with the latter for three years.

During his ten years of service he has sunk 245 wells with the assistance of crews and deepened and redrilled many others.

When he came to the Limited in 1908, the field was not what it is now. On Section 27 there were then thirty-three wells, now ninety-one; on Section 26 one, now twenty-six; on Section 14 two, now thirty-six; on Section 34 nine, now thirty-six; on Section 10 one, now ten; on Section 2, twenty-four, now thirty-seven; on Section 36 one, now three; on Section 29 two, now six.

In the drilling of these wells he had many experiences. He made the acquaintance of "jonah wells" and saw others blow off the top of the derrick. He noted many things as to formation in the well logs invaluable to geologists in their work on other wells and in the ten years that he spent in the field he became familiar with the strata to a degree that made him one of the best informed men. He came to Coalinga from the Pennsylvania field and his first experience there was to bring in the old Mathews well in Allegheny County, which flowed more than 25,000 barrels in a day. The well was owned by J. M. Guffey, well known eastern oil magnate.

The great production of the oil fields suggested another great field of operation in a more rapid and economical means of transporting that product to market and shipboard. The pipe line was the result. Many millions are invested in the California pipe lines. It was with the oil business as with the lumber industry. The latter suggested the use of the water of mountain streams to flume lumber to mill and market. The splendid production, the high price of oil and the great increase in development throughout the fields aroused discussion among operators as to the output facilities for transporting the product of the fields in the years to come. The pipe lines carrying petroleum from the fields to market have done and are doing a most useful part in the important work in developing the giant industry.

The Standard Oil Company has a branch of the Bakersfield-Richmond pipe line from Coalinga to Mendota, twenty-nine miles. Its lines from Bakersfield to Richmond and from Midway to Bakersfield are the largest conveyors, the capacity of each being 65,000 barrels a day. The others range from 28,000 to 1,400 a day.

The Producers' Transportation Company has six lines, one of the three largest being the eight-inch from the Coalinga field south to Junction Station in Kern County, forty miles.

Two pipe lines are operated by the Associated Oil Company and one of these is a six-inch from Coalinga to Monterey, a distance of 105 miles. It has a capacity of 15,500 barrels a day.

Conveying oil for the Associated Oil Company and the Kern Trading and Oil Company, the Associated Pipe Line Company operates two lines. One of eight-inch runs from Vulcan, three miles east of Bakersfield, to Port Costa on San Pablo Bay. It is 281 miles long. The other eight-inch extends from the Midway-Sunset field 278 miles to Port Costa also. The capacity of the first is 13,000; of the other 26,000 barrels a day. The oil carried on these lines for the Kern Trading and Oil Company comes from the leases operated by that company and is delivered to and used by the Southern Pacific Company and all transported to the account of the Associated is either produced on its leases or purchased for it in the fields and sold by the Associated on the market.

The total capacity of the four lines is 98,000 barrels a day, 50,000 in excess of daily production. Producers and Associated pipe lines were completed in 1910 at an approximate cost of \$2,570,000.

Investments in California petroleum production mount into the millions, when represented by such great concerns as the Standard, the Union, the Shell, the Associated, the Oil Fields Limited and all the others that might be named. The figures of their operations are staggering. To quote only the returns of operations of the Associated Oil Company for the first half

of the year 1918 and made public at the close of July. They make the greatest showing ever of the company with its subsidiaries and reflect the boom condition that has prevailed in the California industry since the opening of the year. They show earnings for the six months at the rate of eight and twenty-four hundredths percent. on the \$40,000,000 authorized stock practically all outstanding. This would be at the rate of more than sixteen percent. for the year as compared with a little less than ten percent. for 1917.

Gross earnings for the half year after deducting all costs were \$5,692,-235.72 as against \$7,598,220.90 for the twelve months of 1917. Surplus transferred to profit and loss was \$3,296,110.28 after all charges and allowances for depreciation and amortization as against \$3,895,713 for the entire year 1917: During the six months there was expended in drilling operations and improvements \$1,808,828; current assets exceeded current liabilities by \$6,604,565, dividends paid amounted to \$993,915.08 and the balance reported was \$2,302,195.08 on a net income of \$4,671,914.20.

The Oil City (Pa.) Derrick recently quoted Milton McWhorter, whose name will be recalled by early Coalinga operators and who is described as an "old time scout and pioneer developer of oil in California." He is now connected with the petroleum industry in the Pecos Valley in New Mexico. Which also recalls that the late Gen. W. R. Shafter of the Spanish War and so long colonel of the First United States Infantry owned a large body of land in the valley and his nickname in his old regiment was "Pecos Bill," suggestive of the comradeship between the American soldier and his superior officers. Pershing is "Black Jack" to his men.

McWhorter being reminiscent referred to the many claimants to the discovery of oil in the Kern and Coalinga fields, stating that while the credit for locating the first Kern River well is generally given to the late Thomas Means he (McWhorter) drilled the well that first produced oil and which started the later development that brought the Coalinga field to notice and resulted in the development of one of the greatest fields in the world. His explorations were in the years from 1886 to 1888. Impressed with the outlook, he secured money to drill and arranged with Charles A. Canfield to finance him. Canfield died one of the richest oil operators in the state. He agreed to drill a well at one dollar and forty cents a foot and McWhorter returned to Coalinga to await his coming. After delay, the outfit arrived at Coalinga, and so did also Canfield but without money enough to pay for the hauling from the railroad station to the well location. McWhorter persuaded a relative to lend him \$150, the equipment was forwarded and spudding in began.

"Our tools were out of date," narrated McWhorter, "I fitted them up myself and we started a sixteen-inch hole when the drilling cable pulled out of the socket and we were up against a fishing job with no tools of any kind. There was a man named Fish working on the job, a very slim man and some one suggested he might crawl down the hole and with a small chain loop it around the collar of the stem and the tools could be pulled out. It was one of the funniest experiences I ever had. We tied a rope around one of his legs and lowered Fish down into the well. He called back all the time until his voice sounded like as coming from a phonograph: 'Careful boys! Go it gently!' He made the connection and we raised the tools. This well was either 400 or 600 deep and was the first one in the field."

Fame and fortune rewarded Canfield in later years, and McWhorter recalled: "I can never forget his early struggles. He was never despondent, always hopeful and resourceful. He won through sheer grit and never forgot his friends or those who had helped him. His contributions to institutions and for charity and in helping unfortunates must have amounted to thousands."

## CHAPTER LI

EVANS-SONTAG TERROR REIGN OF 1893. THE MOST LURID CHAPTER IN THE CRIMINOLOGY OF THE COUNTY. MANY THE ARMED CONFLICTS WITH PURSUING OFFICERS OF THE LAW AND ESCAPES OF THE BANDITS. A DELECTABLE POPULACE IN THE FOOTHILLS COMFORTED THEM AND BLOCKED THE AUTHORITIES. MURDER AND BLOOD TRACED THE CAREER OF THE TRAIN HOLDING UP TRIO. ITS LEADER ENDED HIS DAYS IN A COUNTY POOR FARM, A WRECKED OLD HULK OF A DAY WHEN HE WAS A RESPECTED FARMER.

Much could be written on the subject of the crimes of earlier years in the county. It is not a pleasant nor an inspiring subject. The old timer would expunge it from the record, could he do so. It must be sorrowfully admitted that Fresno's reputation for lawlessness was a bad one.

The remarkable development of the county in the 80's gave it wide publicity and the latter attracted bad men who made it a most profitable and fertile field. The better element in the city organized vigilance committees and well recalled are the sessions at the old J Street armory, when in the efforts at a civic and social purification drastic measures were taken against the canaille that fattened and idled on the earnings of fallen women and fastened that evil reputation on the growing town.

It has taken years to outgrow and live down that reputation. The wonder is today not so much that the conditions existed and were so rotten, but that a marvelous transformation has taken place and that recollecting the past Fresno is one of the best governed, law abiding, and as the war experience has demonstrated one of the most enthusiastically patriotic communities in city and county in the state. No chapter, however, in the criminology of the county is more lurid than the one dealing with the Evans-Sontag band of outlaws and its reign of terror in 1893. It is comparable only to the bandit reigns of Murieta and Vasquez.

Chris Evans died February 9, 1918, at the age of seventy in a Portland, Ore., hospital to which he had been removed from the Multnomah County poor farm at the instance of a son living in Clark County, Wash., who saw that he should not want in his closing days. John Sontag died July 3, 1893, in the Fresno County jail from wounds received. George Sontag and Edward Morrell served their penitentiary terms and are now social reformers.

Evans had lived in Portland since 1911 when Governor Johnson of California paroled him with later pardon and he was released from Folsom penitentiary on the pleas of wife and daughter and the showing that his physical infirmities, his left eye and right arm being gone and suffering constant pain from old wounds, were such that his days were numbered, and on condition that he leave the state. He went to live with his aged wife in a wretched cottage and eked out a precarious existence, as it must have been obvious that he could not earn a living. Evans' sufferings became so acute in 1917 that he came to California to be operated on the head for the removal of a bullet. He received temporary relief, the pain returned later and discouraged he applied for relief as a public charge. His sojourn at the county farm was of only a few days. His days were numbered. There are four sons to survive but of late years they had known little of their father.

Evans was one of this state's most notorious outlaws and yet a popular one also with a certain class that would make of him a martyr and an adorable villain. Seventeen years in the penitentiary probably reformed him



but also left him physically a wreck of an old man. After he was sent to prison in February, 1914, wife and daughter, Eva, appeared through the state in a penny-a-line lurid melodrama, "Sontag and Evans," depicting the murderous bandits as persecuted heroes and martyrs. In places the authorities interdicted its presentation and anyhow the enterprise bankrupted. In later years and after his parole the bandits were filmed but this also proved a failure, and the film if not destroyed is being held as chattel mortgage security for money loaned to finance the project.

The Sontags were Minnesotans named Contant. Their father died and the mother remarrying they took the name of their stepfather. George was sent to the Nebraska state prison for embezzlement, served one year, escaped, but committed burglary in convict garb with a companion and voluntarily returned and served his term until 1887. John came to Los Angeles in 1878, became a brakeman with the Southern Pacific, was injured and nursed a grievance against the railroad for some fancied ill treatment while convalescing. He secured employment with Evans at Visalia, Cal., a typical farmer, reputedly honest and hard working and family respected. It was a time when the railroad, whether deservedly so or not, was exceedingly unpopular and therefore his activities against it, especially in the money losses as the result of train hold ups gave him popularity of a kind.

Evans and John Sontag entered into a conspiracy against the railroad to satisfy their revenge. Their first exploit was January 21, 1889, to board a train at Goshen, Tulare County, putting on masks, climbing over the tender, ordering the engineer at pistol's mouth to halt, rifled the express car of \$600 and escaping on horses returned to Visalia the next day. Washington's Birthday a train was held up in like fashion at Pixley, Cal., and with the \$5,000 booty they opened a livery stable at Modesto, but it was destroyed in an incendiary fire. In May, 1891, John visited his brother, George, and confided to him the train robberies. In June John returned to California but not without telling George that he and Evans had planned to hold up a train at Ceres in Stanislaus County.

The attempt was in fact made with dynamiting of the express car, but Southern Pacific Detective Len Harris was aboard. He fired at Evans, the latter returned with buck shot. No one was seriously hurt, the bandits fled to Modesto, John returned to Minnesota, related what had taken place and asked whether there were any trains in that neighborhood that could be held up. They did secure \$9,800 in the hold up of a train at Western Union Junction November 5, 1891, and joined their relatives whom they had sent on to Racine, Wis. Then it was agreed that George go to Visalia, meet Evans and John to follow. He found Evans at Visalia with his patriarchal beard as "one of the twelve good men and true" sitting on a jury. George met Evans at home at the noon hour, prospective enterprises were discussed, Evans was loaned \$200, George became ill and returned east. John in California wrote to him as to eastern opportunities and Evans going on he and George attempted a hold up of the Omaha train at Kasota Junction, July 1, 1892, but profited nothing. John tarried in California and George announced he would come on to Fresno and Evans would follow.

The trio assembled here August 1, 1892, and agreement was made to hold up the San Francisco-Los Angeles passenger train at Collis (Kerman) on the night of the third, Evans walking out on the road and the Sontags overtaking and carrying him to the scene. John Sontag did not board the train but awaited his companions with the team at an agreed upon place. Needless to follow up all the details, suffice it that the express car door was dynamited, three sacks of money were seized, fireman and expressman made to carry them, the engine disabled by Evans with dynamite, the treasure bearers accompanied a short distance, ordered to give up the money and return to the train. George Sontag was driven to the suburbs of Fresno, bought a ticket to Visalia and traveled home on the delayed train that had

been held up and was an interested auditor of the stories of the hold up. Evans and John drove on to Visalia and examining the contents of the sacks in the barn were disappointed to find that they had for their risk only \$500 American money, all else being Mexican or Peruvian coin.

So bold and audacious had the trio become in its operations that clues were left on this last enterprise. George Sontag's actions in Fresno planning the last had aroused suspicion. The team that had been driven was recognized in ownership. Officers called on George at Evans' home to learn whether he was not a passenger on the held up train. Sontag was detained and a return visit was made to the Evans' house, and as it was approached John was seen to enter. Evans' daughter acting on instructions informed the callers that John was not in. Evans made like reply but a portiere being pushed aside there was John, shot gun in hand. Officers drew their revolvers, Evans laid hands on a shot gun. The officers of the law were at a disadvantage, realized the fact, turned and made off. Evans pursued Deputy Sheriff Al Whitty and seriously wounded him, and the latter falling had pistol at his head but Evans did not fire as the prostrate man pleaded not to shoot as he was dying. Sontag fired at Detective George Smith but missed the mark.

The two bandits returned to the house and after taking a supply of ammunition escaped in the buggy of the officers. They returned to the Evans' house that night and again on the next afternoon because a posse surrounding the house saw them take horse and buggy out of the stable. Oscar Beaver commanded them to halt. Each side opened fire. Beaver was riddled with buck shot and killed. Sheriff Tom Cunningham of San Joaquin, one of the bravest men in the state and one of the most celebrated sheriffs, heard the fusillade and came with a posse but too late. There was a respite then in the pursuit until September 13.

Another posse with two imported Arizona Indian trailers drove up to a cabin of a man named Young, ignorant that the fugitives were concealed there, though having reason to suspect that they were in the neighborhood. As they approached the gate, posse was fired upon. Vic Wilson of El Paso, Tex., and Y. McGinnis of Modesto fell dead; George Whitty brother of the man wounded in the first encounter was shot in the neck, Constable Warren Hill's horse was killed and again the desperadoes escaped. Meanwhile George Sontag who had been detained from the first was placed on trial in Fresno for the Collis train robbery and October 29, 1892, after a hearing of four days found guilty after the jury's deliberations for ninety minutes and November 3 was sentenced to life imprisonment at Folsom.

Months elapsed before there were new developments. The bandits were in concealment in the foothills of Fresno, above Dunlap, where they were provided with provisions and kept informed as to the movements of the posses sent after them from time to time. They occupied a cabin which commanded such a wide view that they could overlook the plain before them and note the movements of pursuers hours before the latter could reach the pursued, even if they had knowledge of the place of their concealment. It was on a bend of the road on the side of the hill known as Lookout Point, and afterward and to this day as Sontag Point. And the delectable citizenry of the neighborhood was liberal in furnishing the officers with misinformation. Safe and protected as the bandits were, they might have continued there indefinitely or until the next summer but that decision was made to escape to Mexico, that other delectable land of bandits, and they would probably have been successful but that Evans insisted on a farewell visit to his family. This was not such a feat because the distance between Dunlap and Visalia is not so great, the first named being close to the Tulare County line, the roads not frequented until the plains are reached and even then travel comparatively safe by night. At any rate as afterward learned frequent visits were made to the Visalia home of Evans.

So it was that June 11, 1893, a posse of United States Marshal Gard, Deputy Sheriff Hi Rapelji of Fresno and others were in a vacant house and observed Evans and Sontag come down a hill and pass to the rear of Evans' house, which was under surveillance. Evans perceived Rapelji and opened fire. One Fred Jackson fired and wounded the bandits. The latter retreated behind a straw stack and escaped, Sontag badly wounded. On the following day E. H. Perkins from nineteen miles from the county seat came to the jail at Visalia to report that Sontag was wounded and helpless in a straw-stack, near the Perkins house. There was a race to capture him and he fell an easy victim. The day after, Sheriff William Hall and Deputies Al Whitty and Joseph Carroll arrested Evans at the Perkins house. The bandit surrendered as he was exhausted and weak from loss of blood and raving in delirium. An eye had been shot out and the right arm so shattered that it had afterward to be amputated. This affair is known as the Stone Corral battle with the bandits. Sheriff Jay Scott headed the Fresno posse. Sontag was so badly wounded that he died in jail and none came to claim his remains.

To divert in the sequence of the story, George Sontag at Folsom conspired with one Frank Williams, also a life term, to plan an escape, Williams undertaking to have smuggled in the weapons that Sontag might cause to be provided. This smuggler according to a confession that has been made was William Fredericks, who had then been released after service of a term for robbing a Mariposa stage, but later was hanged for the murder of the cashier of the San Francisco Savings Union Bank at Polk and Market Streets in an attempted daylight burglary. He it was that furnished the weapons and ammunition in the attempted jail break, leaving them in the prison quarry wrapped in blanket and on the day of the break was in a deserted stamp mill hard by with clothing to be exchanged for the convict garb. Williams was to write to Fredericks to call on Mrs. Evans, and Sontag to her also, informing her of the call and the letter was for the delivery by introduction to "Betsey" (a pistol) and to "Mr. Ballard" (a sawed off gun).

The letters were mailed by a clergyman who was taken in by the penitential professions of the fellows. Mrs. Evans declined to give the assistance. June 27 the attempt was made. Guard Lieutenant Frank Brairre was seized to be used as a shield, a desperate conflict ensued, the gatling gun was let loose, the conspirators were armed with rifles and knives, a gulch was jumped over, refuge was taken behind a rock to escape the gatling fire, surrender was signaled with show of hat at the end of a rifle barrel and waving it. The escape was completely and tragically frustrated. Sontag was badly wounded but eventually recovered though crippled for life. The bodies of the dead were used by the prisoners as a barricade in the attempted escape. A young prisoner named Thomas Schell from San Francisco came within range of the fire and was killed by a chance bullet. He was not of the escaping party. One Anthony Dalton, who lost his life, was a Harvard graduate serving a twenty-year sentence for the burglary of a San Francisco gun store. While being conveyed to Folsom, he jumped out of the car window while train was moving at full speed. Frank Williams was a life term as a stage robber, having held up twelve stages in five months and one of these twice on the same day.

November 28, 1893, the trial was begun of Evans for the murder of Wilson, the Texas man, and December 14 after deliberations for seventeen hours the verdict was guilty, the jury fixing punishment at life imprisonment. Before impanelment of the jury Sontag had confessed his crimes to Warden Aull for the reasons as he stated that Mrs. Evans had ill-treated his mother when she came to Visalia to nurse John and also had not given her any proceeds from the Collis robbery; also because crippled for life in the attempted escape he hoped by assisting the authorities to secure their aid for a pardon. Sontag testified at the trial against Evans.

Awaiting sentence, Evans was permitted while in the Fresno jail to be visited by wife and to have meals sent in to him, the restaurant waiter being one Edward Morrell, who was deluded into believing Evans to be a hero and who was himself a bidder for notoriety. On the evening of December 26, 1893, Mrs. Evans was making her prison call, Morrell came with the meal and Evans was permitted as customary to leave cell to eat the meal in the corridor, Ben Scott being the jailer. This ended, Morrell asked to be let out with the tray of dishes. As Scott opened the jail gate, he had a knife pressed to his heart with orders to hold up hands. Evans whipped out a revolver which the waiter had smuggled in. Mrs. Evans tried to seize the pistol, Evans pushed her aside, Scott opened the door and Evans and Morrell walked out, Evans declaring to Scott that the wife had nothing to do with the affair and to take good care of her.

Scott was made a forced companion of the escapes and ex-Mayor S. H. Cole involuntarily joined the party when Evans placed a pistol against his chest. At the Adventists' Church at Mariposa and N, one block from the jail, City Marshal John D. Morgan and William Wyatt, a citizen, were met. Morrell thrust a revolver into their faces and Morgan was so taken by surprise that he held up hands but when Morrell began searching his person Morgan wrapped his arms around him and he and Wyatt soon overpowered him. Morrell called to Evans for assistance, being a little behind him with his two involuntary prisoners. He hurried up and fired twice at Morgan who relinquished his hold and sank to the ground while Wyatt ran off for assistance as did the others. Morrell armed himself with the marshal's revolver and he and Evans ran to a team hitched near by, but the animals were frightened by the shooting and as soon as untied made off and the outlaws had to escape on foot. After some blocks they seized a newsboy's horse and cart and off they were.

Seen thereafter several times, they were at liberty until February 8, 1894, when a posse came upon them, shots were exchanged and they escaped. February 19 they were so emboldened that they visited Evans' home at Visalia, the information was conveyed to the sheriff's office and a cordon was placed around the house at 3 A. M. Sheriff Kay of Tulare sent a boy to the house with a note that further resistance would be useless. It was daylight and Evans could see that they were trapped, the occupants not knowing of the siege before then. Evans sent a note by his little son. It read:

"Sheriff Kay—Come to my house without arms and you will not be harmed; I want to talk to you.

"CHRIS EVANS."

Several notes were exchanged and it was agreed that Kay and William Hall enter Evans' yard unarmed. They did so. Evans and Morrell shook hands with them and surrendered unconditionally. Morrell was charged with robbery in taking the marshal's pistol and life imprisonment was his sentence. Likewise was that pronounced on Evans February 20, 1894.

In their train robberies the *modus operandi* was to conceal themselves near the engine, wear masks and after holding up the engine crew, cause the engine to be detached and run off for a distance. While one dynamited the express car, the other would hold off interference by raking the side of the train with buckshot. Evans had been a soldier in the Union Army in the Civil War, and before taking up train robbing had been a Visalia resident for twenty years.

Sontag was pardoned March 21, 1908, and took employment as "floor manager" in Tim McGrath's Barbary Coast resort on Pacific Street in San Francisco. He left this position soon, was financed in a book dealing with his past and warning others against the folly of wrong doing. He and Morrell blossomed out afterward as social reformers. Sontag and Evans made the most of efforts in the commercialization of their criminal records.

While Evans and Sontag were in concealment in the Fresno foothills aided and abetted by an unprincipled citizenship that placed every stumbling block in the way of the officers of the law, the reporter of an ultra sensational newspaper of San Francisco readily arranged through this delectable citizenry and its Fresno agents for a meeting with Evans and the publication of an interview with him as a distinguished personage. It was hailed and made much of as "a feat in journalism."

As illustrative of the efforts to commercialize the murderous deeds of the robber band, may be cited the publication one day in the *Herald of Sanger*, Fresno County, twenty-five years ago in 1893, and a decade after the bandit reign of terror of the following:

"The cabin at Stone Corral (in Tulare County) which sheltered U. S. Marshal Gard and his posse while awaiting the approach of Evans and Sontag passed through Sanger on the cars last Saturday. It has been taken to pieces and placed on the cars at Monson destined for the Grove street theater in San Francisco, the manager having paid \$100 for the structure. The cabin will be erected inside the theater and exhibited in a melodrama, 'The Train Wreckers.'"

And people at Sanger actually broke off pieces of the timber to keep as souvenirs.

## CHAPTER LII

LOCATION IN APRIL, 1872, BY THE RAILROAD OF THE TOWNSITE OF THE FUTURE FRESNO CITY. TRADITION HAS IT THAT A. J. MAASSEN WAS THE FIRST ACTUAL SETTLER. CITY CLERK WILLIAM H. RYAN WAS AT DEATH IN 1918 THE OLDEST CONTINUOUS RESIDENT. RUSSELL H. FLEMING NOW HOLDS THAT DISTINCTION. JERRY RYAN WAS A NOTABLE PERSONAGE OF THE INFANT VILLAGE. EARLY RECOLLECTIONS OF SOME FIRST COMERS NARRATED ON LATER DAY VISITS. THE POPULAR MYTH THAT FRESNO MARKS THE GEOGRAPHICAL CENTER OF THE STATE. BURIED SECTION SURVEY STAKE IS AT K AND MARIPOSA CORNER. CHOSEN TOWNSITE A MOST WOE-BEGONE LITTLE SETTLEMENT ON THE ARID AND LIMITLESS PLAINS. CONTRAST OF THE YEARS EMPHASIZED IN THE OWNERSHIP OF AUTOMOBILES.

Accepted tradition is that A. J. Maassen was the first town settler in Fresno, locating a little to the southeast of the railroad depot. He had a shanty there, a water well with trough attached and the home made sign:

### HORSE RESTAURANT

Bring Your Horse In  
One Horse By Fresh Water One Bet  
One Day Hay Water 3 Bet

The teamster pumped up the water, slaked thirst of himself and horses and the "bit" was twelve and one-half cents. The same year M. A. Schulz and Henry Roemer erected a saloon and refreshment stand, with scant sleeping accommodations on the future H (or Front Street) fronting the railroad. Otto Froelich, who was the first to desert Millerton, put up a board shanty near the corner of what is now Mariposa and H and opened a merchandise store with Julius Biehl as manager in charge. Frank Dusy was the first to ship wool from the station. Depot there was none and he loaded on the cars from the wagons. Railroad construction hands lived in tents. Original freight depot was and continued for years along the reservation between Inyo and

Kern. First hotel was the Larquier's Bros. on H Street between Mariposa and Tulare after the depot was built and facing it across the square. It was known as the Larquier's and later as the French Hotel. Preceding it perhaps, but certainly contemporaneous, was the little Railroad Hotel at the upper end of the railroad ticket office sentry box. Russell H. Fleming started the first livery stable on the ground where the Kutner-Goldstein stores were afterward located. George McCollough came along with an insurance cabin and invested in town lots. Later he was the first justice of the peace and still later with Lyman Andrews established the first water works, doing away largely with the private wells and windmills, and so long located on the south side of Fresno Street at the corner of the alley between I and J. J. W. Williams located early in 1872 the first blacksmith shop on the site of the later Grand Central Hotel at Mariposa and J Streets.

Few there were to realize March 6, 1918, when William H. Ryan, city clerk of Fresno, at the age of fifty-one years and nine months lacking only a few days, died so unexpectedly and so calmly after having romped with the children before retiring to bed for the night, that in him passed away he who was for continuous residence the oldest city inhabitant. His continuous residence was one of forty-six years.

Literally he had grown up with the town. His acquaintanceship was a wide one. Friends and acquaintances he counted by the legion. He was in youth "a mother's boy." Companions of his age there were few in his day in the wretched little village. Its population could readily be enumerated on a slip of paper. All were acquainted with each other. There was as much use for a directory as a fifth wheel to a coach. His parents were thrifty, plain people beginning life over in a rough new country after better days in Texas before the war. He was thrown much into the companionship of a good, hard working mother and so fell naturally into domestic ways and habits. It was said of him that he was a good cook and that as a cake and pie maker few excelled him. He was a graduate of St. Mary's College of the days when that institution of learning was located on the peninsula of San Francisco, far out on the old Mission Road and almost at the San Mateo County line.

His first election as city clerk was in 1905. He was the second under city charter organization. The first was Supervisor J. B. Johnson, who was also the first Postal Telegraph Company operator in Fresno City. At the time of death, William H. Ryan had completed the first year of his fourth successive term as city clerk. His elections had been practically without opposition so popular was he.

Townsite of Fresno was located in April 1872. It was platted the month after, and the special election for the removal of the county seat was not held until February 1874. The Ryans came to Fresno in December 1872 from the native state of the son, Texas, when he was six years of age. They have never severed their relations with Fresno, they have died here and are buried here. Three sons and two daughters and grandchildren are the living descendents of a family of nine children in the direct line. It is not to say that there were not men and women in the county long before the Ryans came, but they never became residents of Fresno City. Others who had preceded them in the coming did become such residents but it was after them, and others still were here at and before the time of their arrival but moved away afterwards or have long passed away.

With the death of William H. Ryan, the oldest living continuous city resident and also for age is Russell H. Fleming, who in the palmy days of Millerton was the driver of the mail stage between Stockton and Visalia, with Millerton as the most important stopping place en route. He was in the county years before the coming of the Ryans. He became one of the first permanent residents of the village county seat. Familiar with the country of the seat site even before it was platted, his stage route from Millerton to the Kings River ford or bridge-crossing took him far out of the course from the



later located railroad settlement. Direct as was the route between the points not an habitation stood, not a drop of water was to be had on the line.

Permanent residential locator at Fresno he did not become until after the coming of the Ryans as the pioneer livery stableman as one of the first established business enterprises in the village. Mr. Fleming is a remarkably well preserved man. His name is associated in after years with many of the first things in city and county.

Jerry Ryan was here with the railroad construction gang. He was the section boss over the division between Fresno and the San Joaquin River, as was Luke E. Shelley later of the other division between the railroad village and the Kings River south of it. Jerry Ryan and his father had seen better days before the war in Texas. He had come to America as a child. Father and son were engaged as railroad construction labor contractors. They employed 200 teams. They constructed the first railroad in Cuba. The civil war proved their undoing, the experience of so many others. The son looked about for a new field. Sacramento was headquarters of railroad activities in California. His former railroad affiliations aided him in his search. He cast his eye upon Oregon as a new and promising field and made a journey to look over the ground. Choice was offered him of employ at Sacramento or Fresno. He chose the latter because of the superior school facilities promised for his large and growing family, moved also by pioneering and adventurous instincts. And so the family came here before there was a town.

He located long before the vote to change the county seat. That special election day was a memorable one. Railroad carried the day for removal of the seat. All hands were rounded up to vote from the Kings on the south to the Chowchilla on the north as the county boundaries and were brought to the village precinct polling place that day. Tradition has it that whiskey was peddled that day free out of bucket in tin cups for votes for Fresno as the county seat, and the victory was with hands down. Charles C. Baley cast his first vote at that special election. His twenty-first birthday anniversary fell on the day after. He arranged under the new registration law to be qualified to vote and vote he did.

Jerry Ryan continued with the railroad a little longer than a year and launched out for himself. He opened the Star Hotel and boarding house at the corner of Tulare and H on the site today of the Olender block, later was associated there with Michael Slaven from April to September 1875 and thereafter alone in the building of C. G. Sayle known as the Court building adjoining that of Shannon & Hughes before occupied by B. S. Booker; later was associated with James Mooney, who bought him out and renamed the house, the Morning Star. During that association he bought the present Hughes Hotel corner at Tulare and I Streets, and erected a house to occupy it as the Washington Hotel. This was in May 1876. One of the disastrous fires of the early days wiped him out there. Undeterred by this loss, he resolved in August to erect the two story brick hotel building at the corner of Mariposa and I Streets, one of the early larger structures and a notable one also. Here he conducted the United States Hotel popular as an eating house. Here he continued until he leased the place to Sam Toombs, saddler and harness man, for whom afterward was named the large brick structure at J and Merced Streets known as Toombs Hotel and still standing.

Ryan moved in 1883 and next as a Boniface he was on J Street between Mariposa and Tulare, facing the courthouse square. This was the California Hotel. In 1886 he was in the Arlington House at Inyo and J, a three story brick building and a notable one in that section. At one time, he had also erected a family residence in the select section at Inyo and K. Ryan was a man who was ever retiring from the active pursuits of busy life, but so restless that he invariably returned to them after brief intervals, accounting for the oft changes and locations. Twice during his Fresno career he took up long residences in Oakland and San Francisco, though he always retained

his property interests here. He could not remain away from Fresno. His last return was to make his home at the Arlington surrounded by most of his grown children and there died and the wife before him. Ryan invested wisely in real estate and died a well to do man, to the last plain and unassuming in style and living. He was one of the best known local characters of the village and the later town.

As a young man in the Civil War, he served in the Seventh Texas Cavalry and was taken a prisoner. And thereby hangs a tale. While such prisoner at Rock Island, he became the prison hero for beating to his knees in a pugilistic set-to, both combatants stripped to the waist, a fellow, who according to the varied versions had either affronted him or was a bully who had lorded it over every one until it was no longer to be borne with. Conditions in the prison were at the time not the pleasantest because of the retaliatory measures pursued for the cruel treatment of Union prisoners at Andersonville. At any rate, it was a ring fight to a finish and Ryan was crowned the victor. Years after at Fresno, J. D. Collins and Major T. P. Nelson were in town one day from Academy and entered the United States Hotel for the noon day meal. Collins had also been a war prisoner at Rock Island, having been taken with a Tennessee cavalry command in Pegram's brigade after a defeat in the Cumberland Mountains. While paying the score, Collins thought he recognized the voice of the man who was receiving his money. A question or two sufficed to establish his identity as the prize fighting hero at Rock Island. A comradeship sprung up between the Confederate veterans that was broken only by the death of the erstwhile Lone Star state trooper. Both had been exchanged and set at liberty before the close of the war. The meeting under the circumstances was a pathetic one.

The most valuable realty asset of the Ryan estate, the landmark at the corner of Mariposa and J streets, 125x50, popularly known as "Degen's Corner" for William Degen, who conducted a corner saloon for eighteen years there, was reported July 1, 1919, to have been sold for \$125,000, or \$1,250 a front foot.

In November 1917 lived at Porterville in Tulare County Mrs. Mary Haskell, pioneer of that district and also of Fresno before the coming of the Ryans and the days of earliest beginnings.

"Henry Glass would sure have a time job on his hands if he had to take care of this year's raisin crop alone," she remarked after noting the figures of the estimated Fresno district raisin yield for that year. "Glass said back in the seventies he could eat the whole crop. Away back then, when I lived in Fresno and when all the country round there was a barren plain there was talk of taking water from the San Joaquin and irrigating the land on the plains for raising grapes and fruit. Glass was a lumberman and lived over Millerton way, and he said he could eat all the raisins they could ever raise on the plains."

Mrs. Haskell and husband who died years before came to Fresno from the east in July 1872. There were then according to her recollection two buildings in Fresno. One was the railroad station, a story and a half box with office, dining room and kitchen below. The upper half had two small bedrooms, partitioned off at one end and the remainder was one large bunk-room. Mr. Haskell worked for the railroad then in course of construction south to Visalia and she managed the dining room in the depot building. The other structure was a little one-room box called an "Irish shanty" in which Otto Froelich conducted a merchandise store. It stood a little to the northeast of the depot site (Mariposa and H). War time prices prevailed yet, potatoes as high as five cents a pound and sugar from twelve and one-half cents to fourteen cents a pound.

Drinking water was brought in railroad tank cars. A man put down a deep well a little southeast of the depot and in the summer made money selling water to teamsters. He sold water for a "bit" (12½ cents) a bucket,

buyer hauling bucket up by windlass, so by the time his horses were watered he had spent several "bits" and money not plentiful. This man was the same one that perceived and seized the opportunity for commercializing the Fresno heat. Mrs. Haskell told of Maassen's "underground garden," dug to a depth that made it cool all the time. This resort so pleasurably remembered by surviving early settlers was covered over and filled in in the erection of the Ogle House by the Blasingames in later years, and uncovered in part nearly forty years after where not filled in, in the demolition of the Ogle for the building of the Collins Hotel, the foundations of the first named having sunk for lack of proper support in the unfilled excavation and throwing the old building out of plumb.

To recall another phase of those first days of Fresno was the visit in April 1910 of Mrs. Martha Patten Owen, first woman teacher, and widow of J. J. Owen, founder of the San Jose Mercury. She was still a school girl attending the State Normal School at San Jose when Professor Allen, the principal, called her into his office one day and asked her whether she would like a little experience in teaching before finishing her course. If so, the opportunity presented itself in a request for an assistant at Fresno. The offer was accepted and homesick she was after entering upon the journey at thought of going among strangers, so far from home, inexperienced and in a new and rough community. Her fears vanished, said she, in the warm welcome received.

"It was scarcely more than a little settlement at that time but the lack in size and people was made up in the character of those few who were the founders of the city of today. The weeks and months passed so rapidly and joyously that Fresno has ever since been a charmed picture for me and among the cherished recollections in my memory are the dear delightful days passed in Fresno. It was to the kindly and helpful suggestions of the principal of the school, R. H. Bramlet, that I owe what success attended my early educational efforts. My home was with Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Ferguson and from this association a warm friendship sprang up," narrated the lady.

The school term ended, Miss Patten returned to the Normal to complete her studies. Upon graduation, she took a position in San Jose, later becoming principal of the school and resigned to marry Mr. Owen. She is the author of "A Portrait Gallery of American Women," telling of noted American women in American history.

Yet another interesting and semi-historical visitor to Fresno in May 1910 was R. M. Brereton, M. I., C. E., who pioneered irrigation in this state forty years ago and at the time of visit at the age of eighty years was pioneering pump irrigation. He has been referred to as "The Father of Irrigation" and on that visit was leisurely making a tour of California, proud of "his child," as he remarked. Included in his itinerary was a trip to Coalinga to behold the famous Mohawk oil gusher of the day.

After building railroads in India, Brereton came to California in the late 60's and later interested W. C. Ralston of the Bank of California in irrigation in this state and also presented the subject to President U. S. Grant and Secretary of State J. G. Blaine. One result of his early recognition of the possibilities of utilizing the snow of the Sierras on the parched and waterless plains was the present reclamation system of the United States. Of those who then made a report on irrigation in California in 1872 were living in 1910, Mr. Brereton and Prof. George Davidson of the Coast and Geodetic Survey (since deceased).

Mr. Brereton surveyed this valley for a comprehensive system of irrigation in the early 70's and built the West Side Canal from Firebaugh to Los Banos. This system is worth thousands today to Miller & Lux. Ralston and others were the financial backers and to evidence his own faith in the project, Brereton invested all his money in the ditch amounting to \$40,000. Then the bank collapsed one day and Ralston found surcease in the waters of San

Francisco bay at North Beach, off Selby's smelting works east of Black Point, now Fort McDowell. In the smash up, Brereton sought to recover his money or some portion of it out of the ditch. He approached Charles Lux on the subject. The latter would only offer \$1,000. It was that or nothing. The ditch proved such a profitable enterprise that it was one of the assets that helped to reestablish the bank through its large land investments.

The M. J. Church system of irrigation in this county followed the plans of Brereton but it was for others to reap the financial profits. In the early irrigation days Brereton knew well the late M. Theo. Kearney as a clerk in San Francisco with W. S. Chapman, land speculator. He induced Kearney to come to Fresno and settle on the FruitVale Estate. Later in London this early acquaintanceship was renewed but Kearney was to him the man of mystery as he was with every one. Brereton last made his home at Portland, Ore., and was the author of a paper on "Well Irrigation for Small Farms," having particular reference to the great valleys of California and Oregon.

In May 1872 it was, as stated, that the Contract and Finance Company as a subsidiary of the Central Pacific Railroad surveyed and staked out the ground on which the town of Fresno was located. The lots were 50x150. Water was no nearer than the San Joaquin and the Kings Rivers. A more desolate, discouraging spot could not elsewhere have been found. It is tradition that Capt. A. Y. Easterby and Moses J. Church were anxiously consulted by the railroad builders and they gave solemn assurances that water would be conveyed to the new town in time. Water was a necessity. The town to be inhabitable must have drinking water supply, being then served by car tanks. It was essential for irrigation in the reclamation of the soil as a supporting and sustaining background for the projected city. Of the possibility of the soil located near water, or as the result of copious winter rains, or where water had been conveyed to it in the few and notable experiments that had been made no doubt was entertained, and raisins and fruit not thought of yet. Upon the water problem hung the future of the town. Its railroad founders staked their all on water to make Fresno the produce shipping point of the great interior valley.

The arid aspect of the plains was not to be wondered at. The sandy parched and dry soil, the relentless sun beating down on them, the remoteness from water and streams made people honestly dubious as to the agricultural future of these plains, and the city planted on that desert plain. Early settlers dug wells to depths of forty, sixty, and 100 feet to tap the drinkable water strata. One of the first notable wells was at Fleming's stableyard at Mariposa and H. It was the gauge for years for noting the rise of the water level with the bringing of irrigation water to saturate the soil. Water in that well tapped at forty feet or more rose to fifteen feet from the surface as the result of irrigation. This was the experience also in the country surrounding the city to which ditches were run.

This irrigation which was the agency in the reclamation of the desert land to make it wondrously prolific has also been the means of ruining acres of the most fertile cultivated land. Show places of the days of yore are today abandoned to Bermuda and salt grass and will grow naught else, because impregnated with the alkali that an overabundance of water and the raising of the levels brought to the surface. A problem is to reclaim once more this land and make it again cultivable and profitable. Equally as important the regulation and control of the subterranean levels against return to the desert and profitless wastes.

About 1910, the Chamber of Commerce and kindred bodies began an agitation for a canal to drain through Selma, Fowler, Fresno, Kerman and all the land on to the slough on the west side of county miles away. The dire consequences of raised water levels were pointed out. It was predicted by experts and observers that the country about Fresno would become a

swamp unless the drainage canal were built. The country faced then a drought. There had been seasons with only about six inches of rain—no saturation of soil and no deposit and packing down of snow for the irrigation season. Irrigation water was not overplenty. The dry season brought about the installation of pumps operated by electric, steam and wind power. Each season added to the number of pumps installed to be independent of the seasonal variations. Population was ever increasing. Canal company water supply was irregular when water was most in demand. Canal company sold more water rights than it could serve. Aside from the agricultural demands, city water systems pumped an ever increasing home and municipal supply. In 1908 Fresno City cellars deeper than six feet were necessarily cemented to keep water out.

When the subway on Fresno street was built across the railroad reservation for traffic to the western side of the city because of the railroad's blocking of the nearest other street crossings from the city's commercial center, the contractors described it as a great concrete ship floating in an underground sea. It was literally true. The water table was lowered at least fifteen feet. In West Park, ten miles from the city, the table, except in the vicinity of the city sewer farm, lowered from four to ten feet. In the Kerman district standing at four feet in many places, it lowered twelve to twenty. George C. Roeding installed tile drain system on his east of Fresno farm and will never have need of it with the lowering of the table. Billions of cubic feet of water once in the soil about Fresno have disappeared wafted into the air. Acreage of irrigated land has doubled in a decade. There is no more irrigation water now than there was then. But the ground water has been drawn up, spread on the surface, taken up by the plants and verdure and dissipated.

Estimated it is that it takes 500 to 800 pounds of water to make a pound of dry matter as hay or corn, raisins or a crop of watermelons. An acre of alfalfa producing ten tons of hay would, if it could reach all the surface water it needs in the production of that hay, reduce the water level from fifty to sixty feet, taking all the soil water that could be contained in fifty feet of soil under 160 rods in the production of those ten tons. These figures illustrate what would result with this soil water with no application to the surface and no underground flow. Before irrigation in the county the water table was forty to 100 feet from the surface. Pump irrigation was considered impractical. In the Dos Palos district, Miller & Lux forbade pumping water for irrigation for the reason that the water in the soil was placed there by them and to take it up was to infringe upon their rights. In the foothill orange districts wells that started at twenty-five feet are as low as 200. A test well in the Kerman district to gauge pumping possibilities lowered the table for a half mile around as determined by small test wells. After several weeks of operation of this pump the table in the vicinity was drawn down from four to seventeen feet, the depth decreasing gradually over the radius of half a mile.

Increased cost of water must result from a lowering of water in the wells in the increased cost of sinking them and of lifting the water. Increased irrigation cost lowers the land value and decreases the profits. The solution offered is in storage of flood water with drainage canal to offset the land depreciation and reduced crop production with decreased profits. The practical operation of such a drain was one of the arguments in favor of the connecting canal between Fresno and the river in the agitation for the opening to navigation of the San Joaquin to give Fresno water transportation to compete with a reduction of freight rates against the discriminating terminal point charge. It is one of the strong arguments being made in support of the Pine Flat and other flood water impounding projects.

A popularly entertained belief going back to early days and strengthened by so oft repetition in Chamber of Commerce and other boom literature that it has been accepted as a fact is that Fresno County is the geographical center

of the state and Fresno the center of that center because the center stone is there within her limits in a surveyor's monument in Russiantown, across the track, in the alley between C and D, just south of Kern, and not far from the Japanese Buddhist mission building. This block of stone has been the subject of conjecture and discussion for years. The markings on the stone disclose its purpose. On the top is the chiseled legend:

#### LONGITUDE AND LATITUDE MARK

U. S. Geographical Survey  
West of the 100th Meridian  
War Dept.

An "S" (South) on one side and an "N" (North) on the other mark the bearings of the stone. It may mark the geographical center of the state. It it does not, no need of splitting hairs from an engineer's or surveyor's view point. It comes very nearly marking that center and the monument has been accepted as the state's center stone. It has been so regarded as far back as 1876 and who will gainsay it today and shatter a popularly accepted myth?

The townsite's streets were laid parallel with or at right angles with the railroad running on a due line northwest and southeast. The section corner which is the accepted basis for all surveys is reputed to be in the center of K Street, a few feet north of what would be the present property line on Mariposa Street extended across to the courthouse park. At any rate there was there once upon a time a post set in charcoal to preserve it from the rotting in the soil's moisture, but post was splintered and ground down by traffic. Charles C. Baley is authority for the statement that he and Gus Whitthouse carried a broken iron axle from Simon W. Henry's smithy at Tulare and J to the spot, set it up in place in the charcoal with top showing a few inches above the surface, rammed back the wooden post to steady it and that later when streets were graded and hollows filled in the section axle mark was buried under several feet of surface soil. The point is the common corner of north Sections 3 and 4 and south Sections 9 and 10, 14 S., 20 E., M. D. M. The line between Sections 9 and 10 were it run from Blackstone Avenue on would come to the corner; carried on would bisect the Bank of Italy building at Tulare and J Streets and continued across town would strike the line of Elm Avenue to the south.

There was an extensive depression in this vicinity, running clear across the Fresno Street side of the courthouse reservation and so low that in rainy season a large pond of rain water formed, and it is recalled that the small boy, who was in existence even in that day, navigated the pond on rafts and in punts.

At the northeast corner of the property at Stanislaus and J stands a plain granite monument with elevation above the sea level. It is the guide for establishing official street grades and sewer levels of the city. The elevation at this point is 292.50 above sea level. Tradition is that presumably the Coast and Geodetic Survey placed other such bench marks about town, but that this is the only known one now.

Fresno City in its early days, and for years after for that matter, was admittedly the sorriest and most woe-begone little settlement on the map. Town was located on and a pretense of cross streets was made on the ground as it was when a vast prairie, with all the natural water courses left intact and no effort to grade or level humps, bumps or hog wallows that the sweep of the wind over the limitless plain had raised or scooped out. Mariposa Street, the main artery, was a rough depression, billowy, dusty in dry weather and in winter a mud hole for its three blocks to the railroad station.





GEOGRAPHICAL CENTER OF CALIFORNIA



Mariposa and J was a deep depression and there the Grand Central was afterward located. It has today a full basement underground. The depression stretched across the block to the Ferguson print shop in the hollow at J and Tulare, said shop on stilts to bring it four or five feet to the surrounding level and then with steps entrance.

Mariposa and H was another large depressed area with the railroad reservation block, now a park, a great hole in which winter rains were impounded. Eventually it was filled in with coal clinkers and general scraps and refuse. The wonder is that anything will grow in that park with the thin soil surface. This reservation block was such a pitfall that after night no one dared traverse its footpaths, even only to go to the hotels facing it on H Street, without being lantern lighted. Near the townsite to the north was the sink on the plains of the waters of Dry Creek. Along Mariposa Street property owners set up on stilts and props lumber or packing box walk-paths. These were at levels according to the original conformation of the ground. A promenade along these walks was a continuous stepping up and down, according to whether walk was in depression or on bump. Off the four or five main blocks, there was not even the semblance of these makeshifts. It was a beautiful vista of flat land and space. There was so little to obstruct the vision beyond the clustering shacks nearest the railroad station that the small boy played hide-and-seek in the close by first cemetery to take advantage of the few graves as places of concealment. Horses and cows but especially canines and hogs roamed the village at will.

In August, 1872, there was no postoffice in Fresno. Mail was brought sixteen miles. Russell J. Fleming was appointed the first postmaster in September and located the office in livery stable at Mariposa and H, where the Kutner & Goldstein stores were afterward built. In November the town had four hotels and eating houses (all presumably with bars attached), three livery stables, three saloons and two stores. The railroad construction gang of track graders and track layers was housed in tents along its work. The freight depot platform was located along the reservation between Kern and Inyo. In July, 1874, there were fifty-five buildings of all kinds in the village, including the Expositor shop which had been moved from Millerton.

Contrast that Fresno of 1872 with the city of 1918 and recall what the traveling salesman said:

"I have been in the merchandising business for twenty years as a general sales manager and have traveled all over the United States, Canada and Central America. I cannot recall a city anywhere in the United States that has made the rapid and substantial growth that Fresno has. I do not know of a city anywhere with the same population that is as clean and as up-to-date. This growth has been caused by the prosperity of the people and in turn this prosperity has been due to the fact that people have organized and put their business on a solid footing with something back of it. A stranger within the city for the first time has not to ask whether business is good in Fresno. All he has to do is to look up and down the streets and note the hundreds of automobiles parked on either side, then look at the parking space around the courthouse square. Note also the character of the cars parked there. By far the greater number of them are 'automobiles,' few 'flivvers.' All of this denotes prosperity."

According to the state motor vehicle department the registration figures show Fresno County to stand fourth in automobile registration. Considering its population this is an encouraging report on the wealth and prosperity of the residents. Los Angeles County with its many beaches, ten times the county's population, millionaire colonies and boulevards leads with triple the number of its nearest competitor San Francisco, Alameda County with its bay cities to draw from is third and Fresno in the valley and distant the

greater part of a day's journey from the bay is fourth. Here are the official figures:

Los Angeles County.....	91,731
San Francisco County.....	30,568
Alameda County.....	20,658
Fresno County.....	15,641
Butte County.....	13,076
San Diego County.....	10,725
Santa Clara County.....	10,164
Total Automobiles in California, in 1918.....	311,634.

## CHAPTER LIII

FIRST BEGINNINGS IN THE BUILDING UP OF FRESNO CITY. ITS GROWTH FOR TEN YEAR PERIOD WAS A SLOW ONE. LIVERY STABLE AND SALOON PERIODS IN THE VILLAGE. ACTIVITIES ALL CENTERED ON THE COMING OF THE RAILROAD. FIRST WRITE UP OF THE NEW STATION. FIRST LOCOMOTIVE CROSSES SAN JOAQUIN MARCH 23, 1872. RENEWAL OF COUNTY SEAT REMOVAL AGITATION. RAILROAD FREIGHT SHIPMENTS ASTONISHINGLY LARGE. FIRST PERMANENT IMPROVEMENTS IN TOWN. PRACTICAL DEMONSTRATIONS IN IRRIGATION. APPEAL MADE TO PLANT SHADE TREES.

The first Republican convention in the county, of which there is public record, is the one that assembled at the Millerton courthouse Saturday April 13, 1872, to chose two delegates to the state convention and a county committee to serve for two years. Russell H. Fleming called the meeting to order, E. Miles was the chairman and Frank Dusy the secretary. M. J. Church and Fleming were chosen as the delegates and the committeemen were the following named: Thomas Seymour, Otto Froelich, Russell Fleming of Millerton, Frank Dusy, F. Jensen of Big Dry Creek, E. St. John of Kingston, Jeff Donahoo of Yancey's, J. Minturn of Buchanan, E. A. Morse of New Idria, M. J. Church of Centerville. Seven were in attendance. The names are of historical interest as identifying acknowledged Republicans in the county who dared make known their affiliations.

Considered in the light of events that have come to pass, it was well that on March 23, 1874, the people voted for Fresno as the future county seat. It was about the time that Merced changed its county seat from Snelling to Merced, another new town on the railroad, and that Kern swapped Havilah for Bakersfield, also a new town on the road, though the latter did not come through with bonus and the railroad sought to strangle it at birth, set up Sumner as the railroad station and division point as a rival, but failed dismally in the strangling process.

Fresno was not without rivals. Their claims and pretensions were amusing in the light of the present day. True, Fresno had nothing more substantial to offer than they. It had, however, distinct superiority in two things. It was on the railroad and geographically it was central in the county, though possibly not at the time because the population was in the western foothills and mountains, on the San Joaquin on both sides tributary to Millerton, and along the Kings from Kingston to Centerville. Had not Fresno been chosen when it was, it goes without saying that the county seat located anywhere else would have had to be relocated later. The advent of the railroad was the turning over of a page to take up a new chapter. The old timers were disposed to linger longer over the old chapter and disinclined to turn leaf.

And as to Fresno's claims, Sycamore or Herndon on the San Joaquin, also projected settlements, could maintain them equally. The railroad and the residents in that part of the county north of the river to the Chowchilla were for a county seat on the river and both boomed it for a time. But it is also history that the north-of-the-river never did agree on anything with the south-of-the-river until they chose to cut loose as Madera County and of this act they afterward also repented.

The growth of Fresno during its first ten years was slow. It required a boom to arouse it. That boom of 1887 was conceived by the new comers. The first decade in the city's history may be described as the livery stable period, when the "long, low, rakish building that was a stable below and a hayloft above," never complete without outside a weather vane—galloping horse with streaming mane and flowing tail—and inside ill smelling billy-goat at large, was in foremost locations on main streets, when the livery man was the village nabob and law giver, the stable the fountain source of the latest gossip and news transmitted by the stage driver and the barn crowds were the politicians of the day, the statesmen and the sages of the village. As a writer has described this democratic forum:

"The livery stable was the last remnant of the stage coach period. It preserved for three-quarters of a century in the United States the traditions of the inn. In the village and smaller town it was the resort of the masculine gossip and the small politician. To be received into the 'barn crowd' was a distinction; to be able to maintain one's place in it was to be able to be considered some day for something in the county convention. The livery stable was the center of democracy. Every man of any consequence dropped into it and left his opinion with the livery man, or with one of the hostlers, or with one or more of the regular patrons or sitters at least once in a week. There was no better place in any neighborhood or small community a few years ago for gauging the trend of popular opinion than the livery stable. In the winter time the livery stable office with its hospitable drum or straight draft stove would hold the company until the livery man arose, yawned and said he guessed he'd make for home.

"In its place," this writer recalls, "we have the garage instead of the odor of hay; there is the smell of gasoline; instead of the hostler there is the chauffeur; instead of the family carriage there is the automobile. There is nothing in the garage to invite sitters or to hold a group of gossipers or politicians. The atmosphere of hospitality, so characteristic of the livery stable, is absent; the garage is no more inviting as an evening resort than a machine shop. One misses the scent of leather, the clanking of bits, the straining at halters, the sound of restless hoofs on the floor, the soothing voice of the hostler and the whinny of his favorite horse."

Fresno's first days also were to live through the livery stable era. No-where was that period more typical of a region than in the west. Here the pony express, then the stage passenger, mail and mine bullion coach era with all its western romance made the last stands against the on coming railroad and the later automobile. But neither livery stable nor village inn of the eastern states filled a part in the community life as the barroom—the saloon of the west, truthfully and aptly described as "the poor man's club." No institution more typical of the rough and romantic early days than the saloon, none more hospitable. It was the common meeting place.

Millerton and Fresno had their livery stables as popular forums, but both were long on saloons as to number. The Expositor so long the only newspaper in the county was the official organ of them. No activity which the war of 1918 has classed as a "non essential" was so largely advertised and no class received more publicity in the scantily recorded events of the times than the barkeeper. First business activity in newly founded western camp, hamlet or village was always the saloon. Little wonder perhaps that it was classed as "the harbinger of civilizing influences." The early experi-

ences in the west in the building up of communities with and around the saloon have been repeated time and again since the Days of '49, with every mining rush, in Alaska, on the Klondike, in Nevada, in Arizona, in every western state and territory.

In a May, 1872, issue of the *Expositor*, county official paper, appeared the squib:

"Fresno now has fifteen public bars! 'Whar's' the temperance orator?"

The reference was evidently to the county. At any rate, seven of these "public bars" were carrying their ads in that same weekly issue. At Miller-ton as at Fresno, the *Expositor* was county official organ as well as of the saloon. The saloonmen were steady advertising patrons and the bulk of local news in many an issue was in personal mention of the saloonmen, or return of thanks with fulsome personal flattery for cool beverage gift on a sweltering day, or donation on any other day of sample of newly received drinkable stock. Such was the journalism of the day. Yet the pioneers were making history in every nook and corner, in every gulch and canyon, on plains and in mountains, on creeks and rivers. Seldom a word about these doings in the local paper. The art of news reporting had not yet been discovered; the newspaper reporter had not yet been evolved. The editor proprietor published a weekly paper as a side issue to his job printery to accommodate the county printing and official advertising. That was his mission in life, with the added self appointed task of giving free advice on how to run the government and to claim free pass to everything under the sun as a special privilege.

The truthful and observant western historian cannot ignore the influence of the advancing railroad and the tagging after saloon in the early western settlements. It was no different in Fresno than elsewhere. It was typical not only of the region but of the times and of the day. Much of that history of first beginnings as related to Fresno City has been overlooked. It is interesting in contrast in measuring the splendid achievement in the city of the valley, which had its rise and progress from such humble and uninviting beginnings. That record begins with the coming of the railroad piercing its way in direct line through the magnificent valley, steel track the connecting link to unite south, future center of population and commercial activities, with San Francisco, central of the state as distributor with one of the world's greatest seaports, while tapping the valley, its granary and wealth producer, and locating there in its lap what is to be one of the largest and most important cities of the state, the Fresno of wonders, of the smallest beginnings, the front and center as it is already. Few conceived in their mind's eye even the Fresno of 1918 in the following beginnings:

—1872—

February 7—Arthur Brown, superintendent of bridges of the Central Pacific Company, is preparing for the erection of the San Joaquin River bridge with a large force of men. . . . The truss bridge is framed and ready for shipment at the company's yard at Oakland as soon as the railroad reaches the stream. . . . The graders are preparing the road bed in the county and weather favoring the grade will be completed as far as the San Joaquin by the middle of March. Surprise was expressed if the cars were not running by the first week in June.

February 14—The *Snelling Argus* reports that the Visalia division of the Central Pacific is advancing southward and was then completed to a point near the Chowchilla, southern boundary of the county of Merced. At the mile rate a day of progress, the road to Visalia would be completed about the last of May.

February 28—Pile drivers are at work on the bridge across the Fresno and graders on both sides of the stream preparing the road bed. Track is



laid, construction trains running to the south side of Ash Slough, six miles south of the Chowchilla, and progress being made at the rate of a mile a day. The Chowchilla bridge is a temporary one. The Expositor was informed that at least 2,000 laborers, white and Chinese, are constructing the road in the county, and prophesied that "the iron horse will be snorting and panting on the banks of the San Joaquin before the end of the month."

March 6—It is stated that the rails of the San Joaquin Valley branch of the Southern Pacific will be completed to the San Joaquin within two weeks. . . . It is learned that the railroad has bought two sections of land immediately south of the river for a townsite there and there is talk among Millerton business men of moving to it.

March 8—Road completed to a point within four miles from the San Joaquin.

March 13—Track completed to the Fresno on the 11th, and bridge also. A switch will be put in south of the Fresno for freight cars and goods may be hauled to that point from Merced. Mule teams are hauling the river bridge timbers from the end of the road. "The traveling is horrible and twenty-four mules were attached to a timber hauling wagon."

March 27—Locomotive crossed the San Joaquin on Saturday the 23rd and track laying south of it is begun. The grade is finished to near Dry Creek. Work on the permanent river bridge is pushed vigorously to be completed in six weeks. Switch and station south of the river will be about five miles from the river. Report was that the railroad would build a hotel there.

April 6—Grade is completed to fourteen miles south of river and track laid for six miles. It looked as though the road would be at Visalia by May 1.

April 10—Otto Froelich erected warehouse to forward wool or other freights from the railroad station on the San Joaquin south side, Julius Biehl in charge. . . . The first wool shipment from county by rail and the first in anywise this season was one day last week, Louis Studer consignor. It was loaded at the station on the cars on the south side of the river. (Wool was fifty cents a pound; sheep five dollars a head.)

April 24—Track is completed sixteen miles south of the river and grade nearly to the Kings River. During the week workmen built side tracks, and turn tables at the station on Dry Creek (Fresno). . . . The Millerton Expositor noted that Mr. Hoff, right of way and local agent of the San Joaquin Valley Railroad Company has located a town near Dry Creek to bear the name of "Fresno." Engineers are preparing grounds for side tracks, turning tables and other conveniences generally provided at located towns. The Expositor had not seen the spot yet was advised "it is a desirable location and not exceeding six miles from the center of Fresno County."

May 1—The first write up of Fresno appeared in the following:

"We learn that business is very lively in the railroad station on the San Joaquin River. Immense quantities of freight for different parts of the San Joaquin, Tulare and Kern valleys. Wood is pouring in at a lively rate and the number of teams which arrive and depart daily reminds one of the palmy days of teaming Stockton used to enjoy. The station is a railroad town in the strictest sense of the word. It abounds in tents, 'rot gut' and roughs."

May 8—The Expositor breaks out in one of its periodical editorials on the removal of the county seat and says:

"The most prominent candidate for the honor at present is the embryo railroad town near the sinks of Big Dry Creek, dubbed 'Fresno City.' The location of this proposed town is the center of the finest agricultural land in the county, most of which is susceptible of irrigation from one of the branches of the Fresno Canal and Irrigation Company's ditch, besides being

the outlet for the Dry Creek Valley, one of our most prosperous farming regions."

... News travelled slowly in those days. Foreman K. Maher of the advance grading gang reported that on the 29th of the month before twenty-five teams were at work in the advance six miles from Kings River and eighteen from Sycamore Station, the then terminus. Good water was struck at twelve feet.

May 15—The permanent bridge across the San Joaquin is completed and the track is being laid. As soon as cars are running, the road will be opened to "Fresno" and run on schedule, it was promised. Passengers were then being carried as far as Kings River by special train. On the 14th Bennett's stages commenced connecting with the cars at Fresno from Millerton and the trip was shortened one hour at least each way than when the connection was with Sycamore Station.

May 22—E. H. Mix, civil engineer, in charge of the work platting the town of Fresno visits Millerton. He reports that the field work will be completed in a fortnight. . . . The courthouse square is located "on one side of the townsite upon a knoll which gives a commanding view of the balance of the town." Lots will be probably offered for sale in the course of three or four weeks. . . . Otto Froelich merchandising in the new place has been appointed agent of Wells, Fargo & Company and opened a branch office. A daily express is run between Millerton and Fresno.

May 29—The telegraph office at Sycamore was moved Sunday the 26th to Fresno and henceforth passenger trains will run through to that point regularly. . . . Stages from Millerton changed schedule to connect with Fresno cars at three A. M., and passengers from "below" will arrive at midnight and be conveyed direct to Millerton. . . . Notices of publication for new roads from the town of Fresno to other settlements in the county are being made. It is stated that "Fresno seems to be the grand center to which all eyes are turned."

June 5—Another editorial in Expositor urges reasons for the removal of the county seat, petitions for which to the supervisors were being circulated to be presented in July and the election call mandatory on 243 signatures. One of the arguments for a removal was that the county had no quarters for its officers and business, and it was cited that the Ridgway murder jury had to be removed to the county hospital as a place for deliberations and to permit the district court to proceed with its business and that it would be folly to expend more money on county buildings in Millerton for there are none to deny that the county seat must be moved sooner or later. . . . The Expositor experiences a change of heart and having conversed "with several gentlemen" reports them as saying that they were highly pleased with the new townsite. The land for miles around is excellent, is as level as a floor, it is capable of being irrigated, water can be flown through the streets, used for irrigating, ensuring the decoration of the town with handsome trees, shrubs and flowers and making it delightful and attractive. . . . The railroad is putting up an immense depot 60x120 feet. Fresno will be the depot for Dry Creek, Millerton and Centerville. There is no question that it will soon be the most flourishing locality in the county.

June 12—Jefferson M. Shannon appointed agent for the Central Pacific at Fresno. . . . Again an editorial urging action on the county seat removal, agitated and debated upon for years. Constant agitation prevents anything being done to improve Millerton. Removal should not be to a corner of the county. . . . Effort being made to dedicate the freight depot at Fresno by a "grand ball" as soon as the "edifice" is completed, running an excursion to Stockton and way stations and building "sufficiently large to accommodate a host of dancers."

June 19—The Millerton-Fresno mail stage goes via Big Creek twice a week. "This seems something like going back to first principles" and "to be within twenty miles of daily communication with the outside world, yet literally to communicate with it but twice a week seems hard."

July 3—Two column letter from "the pen of one of our heaviest taxpayers" with editorial comment published. The writer made argument in favor of Centerville as against Fresno for the county seat. This false prophet said "Fresno Station has no claims on our people for making it the county seat, neither can it advocate a situation that promises to be permanent. On the west side of the track you find a barren desert, extending to Hawthorne station; on the north side of said station towards the San Joaquin distance of fifteen miles is equally unproductive, while on the south side toward Kings River the entire route being dotted with drifted sand hills resembling India sands, not a settlement to be seen in either of the above directions, and if an experience of thirteen years residence in this region is of any benefit to predict the future I predict that said deserts are likely so to remain—then what is there that entitles said station as making it the capital city of our county? Why distance the county seat in an open prairie without a tree nearer than twenty miles—depending on transported fuel and trusting to a soulless corporation to bring to the settlers many delicacies that are now grown on our rich bottom lands?" . . . All county removal petitions have not been filed hence the application before the supervisors went over to the August term. . . . Superintendent Lohse of the Easterby rancho contracted with the railroad to transport 100 tons of wheat to San Francisco. . . . The first grain ever exported from the county to the San Francisco market was last week from the A. Y. Easterby rancho on Fancher Creek. . . . Also from Berenda copper ore, a lot of thirty-five tons, from the Baltimore mine at Buchanan at five dollars and fifty cents a ton. . . . June 25 lots in Fresno were sold at private sale. Prices ranged from \$250 to sixty dollars, the first for choice corner lots. The sale was not what it was expected it would be, but "as it was not announced no one outside of the town knew of the sale until after it had transpired."

July 10—Thomas Whitlock is first in Millerton to announce intention to move to Fresno to go in the carpenter business. . . . Agitation begun in Fresno for a school house. . . . Building operations are so brisk "that within a few months' time Fresno will be the largest town in the county." . . . One stable is completed, Russell H. Fleming and J. T. Wyatt were to erect another, French of Centerville was to build a butcher shop, M. A. Schultz a large building and Otto Froelich a store, and a hotel has been completed. "Water, very good at that, can be obtained at forty feet." . . . There has been much talk about the sand hills and the dust and the desert like appearance, but the Expositor editor "was unable to see these horrors" notwithstanding that, as he says, it was his business to do so. . . . At the Easterby rancho with Charles S. Lohse as superintendent, three headers, a steam thresher and upwards of fifty hands had harvested the crop and there were yet three weeks of work ahead. Forty tons of wheat were being shipped daily by rail to San Francisco—the product of this farm and 1,000 tons between then and the 1st of August. There were twelve acres of corn standing ten feet high and melons and pumpkins in abundance. "This 'piece' compares favorably with the balance of the 'sand heap' (Fresno) which stretches over a scope of country of about thirty miles one way and fifty the other. It is certainly not so good as a large area of the country in the vicinity is."

July 12—First reported fire in Fresno; bag of mail destroyed; originated from engine spark.

July 26—H. B. Underhill, the town lot agent, visited Fresno and ordered off all settlers on the railroad reservation who had not purchased lots and instructed those who had purchased to pay up. All the "railroad traders"

who go forward with the railroad folded tents and departed, leaving none behind but actual settlers, in consequence of which the town looks and is deserted. Whatever progress it now makes will be permanent. . . . School apportionment for fifty-three children eighty-one dollars and fifty-eight cents, number in county 812, per child one dollar and fifty-three and nine-tenths cents.

August 7—Wheat yield of Easterby Rancho, 1,783,117 pounds shipped; 20,000 sacks still on the ground; 4,000,000 total yield in pounds. With a reduction in shipping rates 12,000 acres would be put into wheat next season.

August 10—Large land owners from San Francisco were met by M. J. Church and taken on tour of inspection of the canal of the Fresno Irrigation Company. A. Y. Easterby and W. S. Chapman were in the party.

August 14—M. A. Schultz commences erection of large two-story house. . . . Otto Froelich's new store will be ready for occupancy in two weeks—"a fine structure." . . . Dancing party at the passenger depot on 10th. It was an impromptu affair by pleasure seekers from the Kings River. . . . Fresno and neighborhood want a postoffice. Nearest postoffice is sixteen miles distant and yet all mails have to pass through the town.

September 4—The Millerton-Fresno stage has been made a tri-weekly affair running Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

September 18—Dancing party announced by P. J. Larquier for the 23rd at the County Seat Hotel. . . . Postoffice at Fresno established with Russell H. Fleming as postmaster. Office at Leroy Dennis' Fresno Station on the Fresno River discontinued.

September 25—City children of school age, forty-six boys and thirty-four girls, total ninety; in county 473, and 452, total 925—a gain of 113. . . . Postoffice established at Sycamore on the Central Pacific Railroad, Charles E. Strivens postmaster.

October 5—First political meeting held at Fresno at passenger depot. William Faymonville chairman, A. W. Roysdon of Stockton spoke, as did Judge Robertson and Russ Ward of Snelling and Attorney General Jo Hamilton, he for an hour and paying a "beautiful tribute to Fresno, the banner county of Democracy in California."

October 10—Ball at Larquier's was "well attended" and "the supper was excellent." A bibulous Mexican became enraged because "a young lady" refused to dance with him and because at supper he was denied drink. He was induced to surrender knife and pistol but in the handling of the latter it was discharged and there was a promiscuous stampede. Some twenty shots were fired but only one took effect in the fleshy part of a greaser's leg.

October 25—There are three patients at the Millerton County hospital and one prisoner at the county jail. . . . The immense amount of wool being shipped to the railroad station is astonishing, even to the "oldest residenter." The cotton field of C. D. Fields near Centerville "presents the appearance of snow banks."

November 6—The first Fresno business "ad" in the Millerton Expositor is that of B. S. Booker & Company, grocers and general produce and provisions at Tulare and Front.

November 13—John T. Wyatt starts feed and livery stable in Fresno. His is the second Fresno "ad."

November 18—Otto Froelich contracted to carry the mail from Fresno to Millerton thrice a week.

November 27—Fresno residents will petition for a public road to Millerton. . . . The town is "still improving" and contains "two stores, four hotels and eating houses and three whiskey mills." . . . Complaint made that lots have been sold to Chinese in the center of town; they might be kept on the southwest side of the railway track.

December 3—Water is flowing in the big San Joaquin and Kings River canal. "It looks like a huge river." . . . For the first time in many years

water is running in the Fresno River within about three miles of the Monte Redondo. . . . E. Jacob of Centerville announces the erection of "a large and substantial store" at Fresno. . . . Miller & Lux are fencing their land near Firebaugh's Ferry with lumber from steamers that ran up the river during high water. They had up one string of fence, five boards high, for upwards of thirty miles. . . . The San Joaquin and Kings' River Canal Company leased for five years from Miller & Lux 5,000 acres of fenced in land to be put into grain the first year. At the end of the first 1,500 will be put into alfalfa and revert to owners. At the end of the five, the remainder was to be similarly seeded. . . . Report is that the plain on both sides of the railroad from Fresno "is alive with new settlers." Houses are going up in all directions and general preparations are being made for land farming. Many are being assisted by large land owners; others are locating on government land of which there is considerable unoccupied. "Verily Fresno County is coming out." . . . Business is reported brisk "down at Fresno." Besides being "the debouching point for a large portion of the county," local trade has sprung up with "the large number of new settlers." B. S. Booker & Company bought and shipped to San Francisco fully 1,000 turkeys. . . . Land transactions are so many that the Expositor began the periodical publication of "Real Estate Transactions," unheard of before thing in the county. . . . First newspaper published notice of a birth in the new town was of the following, nearly one month belated:

"At Fresno, November 9th, 1872, the wife of John T. Wyatt, of a son." Coincidentally was a Stockton "ad" announcing "baby carriages, perambulators" . . . There was agitation at this time in favor of a movement originating in Stockton for "a second railroad down this valley," a narrow gauge line to serve the county east of the Central Pacific because "the business of this valley demands its construction," with Stockton as the natural market and outlet. The project reached the point later of two route surveys.

December 11—Appeal made to plant shade trees in the new town. . . . E. C. Winchell announced for sale at his ranch one mile east of Millerton "5,000 cottonwood shade trees, straight, tall and thrifty and of all sizes."

December 18—The editor of the Expositor rambles in Fresno and notes Fleming's livery and stage stable, also that he has completed a dwelling 24x16, kitchen 12x16, also barn 52x40. John T. Wyatt has completed his 58x40 stable and also a dwelling. B. S. Booker had finished a 42x18, one and a half story building with merchandising store room 30x18, and sinking a well nearly in front of the house for public use. M. A. Schultz is completing a 44x24 two-story hotel with large kitchen in rear. These are only a few of the "many improvements now being made at this place" and "business of all kinds appears to be increasing" and it "must soon become the center of trade for Fresno County." . . . Discovery made of what appeared to be "a dead man hung by the neck to a telegraph wire." A coroner's jury was summoned before the practical joke was revealed. . . . M. A. Schultz will dedicate his hotel about January 1. . . . Martin McNully starts a blacksmith shop. . . . Otto Froelich announces himself as a general merchant at Fresno, with Julius Biehl as manager. . . . A party was given on the 11th at Booker's store with supper at Larquier's. . . . Booker shipped 1,000 pounds of old rags to San Francisco. This is "a new business." . . . School apportionment for Fresno is \$122.50. . . . Augustus Weihe on the line of the canal near town is putting in a section of land to grain and 100 acres to cotton and corn. He has built house and barn and dug well. (The section is now covered by one of the finest residential parts of Fresno.) . . . Drought threatened, there having been during the season "nothing wetter than a heavy dew." A five-inch rain storm visited the section Sunday the 22nd as the season's first, rain again on the 24th and on Christmas day.

## CHAPTER LIV

IRRIGATION AND THE TREES ARE ATTRACTING BIRD LIFE. AGITATION IS ON FOR RAILROAD COMPETITION. SCHOOL DISTRICT IS ESTABLISHED. GRAIN GROWING ACREAGE EXTENDING. SETTLERS' CABINS ARE SPRINGING UP ON GOVERNMENT LAND. TOWN IMPROVEMENTS ARE BRISK BUT NOT STABLE. FIRST FOURTH OF JULY CELEBRATION IN NEW TOWN. TWENTY-FOUR INDIVIDUALS HOLD OVER 681,000 ACRES OF LAND IN COUNTY. CANDIDATES TO THE FORT FOR THE COUNTY SEAT. FRESNO'S DOMINANT INDUSTRY IS IN THE BAR ROOM.

Not all the changes that were taking place were of man's origin. Bird life began to invade man's newly appropriated domain. So inhospitable had been the place where the town was located that the twitter of the bird was unknown. As a phenomenon was hailed the town visit on Sunday, September 12, 1874, of myriads of field or meadow larks. They appeared to have come from a distance. Their appearance was so unusual that the Expositor consulted "Ye Oldest Inhabitant," Johnnie Hoxie, and he sagely declared that the appearance of the birds betokened an early and heavy winter. As another marvelous change that had come over the country, it was noted by the Expositor April 26, 1876, that three years before the only birds in the neighborhood were ground owls and a few predatory birds, except in the winter and spring when aqueous fowl abounded. Since the irrigating ditches were excavated and trees and shrubbery planted, twenty or more varieties of birds had made their appearance as permanent settlers.

## —1873—

January 1—Because of the rains M. A. Schultz postponed the "grand ball" at his hotel to Wednesday the 8th, anniversary of the Battle of New Orleans. . . . Silver cup received as a Christmas present from Gov. Leland Stanford by the youngest son of Jefferson M. Shannon, born July 4, 1871, and christened at the Stockton Presbyterian Church, April 22, 1872, Leland Stanford Gillum Shannon. . . . All communication with northern part of county cut off. Ferry at Jones' store (below Millerton now Friant) not operating and Charles Hahn's (formerly the Millerton Ferry three-fourths of a mile below town) having parted new cable the Sunday before. The nearest crossing of the San Joaquin was at the railroad. . . . Well attended dance on New Year's eve in Booker's new building—"a rather impromptu affair gotten up on twenty-four hours' notice." One night's dancing was not enough, so another dance was had on New Year's night with "ad" announcing Washington's Birthday ball at Booker hall February 21, tickets including supper three dollars. . . . The new Sunday law is in effect. Nervous system of many Millertonites shattered. James E. Faber of Fresno has the Expositor's thanks for a bottle labelled "Kentucky Favorite." The print shop at Millerton "never had so many friendly visits before in a day." Mr. F. had just completed and opened a saloon at the town of Fresno. It was the Senate and "The 'smiling' public is invited to call around," according to the "ad" in the official organ. . . . Over 200 shares taken in the county for the narrow gauge railroad. . . .

January 15—The supper at Schultz's Hotel opening was according to the editor "one of the best we have ever sat down to in this county." . . . Water was "a scarce article" the summer before in Fresno. Then it was that a German located there, sunk a well, put up a shed, bought hay and



started a stable and "Horse Restaurant." . . . First published Fresno death notice: "At Fresno City, January 8th, 1873, Adam Nievling, a native of Ohio, aged sixty-eight years."

The local account had it that he had "a singular accident." Having indulged too freely, he was put to bed at Schultz's Fresno hotel. It is supposed he fell out of bed, for when found on the floor "his head was doubled under the body, the face pressing against the pit of the stomach," neck was either dislocated, or he was stunned and suffocated. The body when found was cold. . . . Report is that "Fresno is a live town even if it is situated on Stanford's railroad" and "everybody seems to be doing well." Johnny Wyatt has his stable going ahead at full tilt. Russell Fleming is in the same line. Larquier Bros. is the pioneer stable. Faber's Senate is opposite Wyatt's. Froelich's store "is one of the most substantial buildings in town" (at Mariposa and H, also called Front). Booker has a large two-story building and doing a good business. Schultz's hotel is "an excellently finished building." Barroom handsome and bar well stocked. P. J. Larquier's County Seat Hotel fronting the railroad depot "a good house, most excellent rooms and beds." Fresno "is a pleasant place to visit" and "we shall go again soon." . . . Millerton has subscribed 4,700 \$100 shares to the narrow gauge road.

January 22—J. W. Pearson of San Francisco advertises 60,000 acres in Fresno to sell or lease for cash or on shares at twelve and one-half cents an acre per annum or sheep owner to put sheep thereon and the net proceeds of three or five years transaction to be equally divided between sheep and land owners. . . . J. R. Heinlein on the 8th rafted 10,000 feet of lumber in two lots from the railroad crossing on the Kings to his ranch on Tulare Lake, the first time that this method of transporting lumber on the lower Kings has been tried. . . . The Expositor does not recall a livelier day than the Sunday before, at Millerton, so well worked the Sunday law. The Saturday night before everyone that could "provided himself with a bottle of his favorite 'pizen,' all the horses in the vicinity were brought out and Sunday was spent in horse racing. Never did the street present a livelier appearance."

January 29—Robert Simpson is building butcher shop at Fresno. . . . R. H. Fleming and others are ready to apply to the supervisors for a school district contiguous to the town, taking in portions of Dry Creek and Millerton districts.

February 5—Meeting was held to locate suitable point for school house. The railroad donated a block for the purpose. . . . Schultz and the Larquiers talk of additions to their hotels to meet demands. . . . On the other hand the Expositor noted: "It has been horribly dull in Millerton during the past week. A stranger was a curiosity not seen in that time."

February 12—Application of J. G. James and others to abandon the "Old Overland Stage Road" between Watson's Ferry and Hawthorne Station pending for many months was after a hearing lasting three days granted by the supervisors. . . . So dull are things at Millerton that the Expositor gives a three-inch review of its San Francisco advertisements—five in number—one of a tobacco and cigar house and three of "drink emporiums." . . . The Ne Plus Ultra Copper Mining Company at Buchanan shipped twenty tons of ore to the city. After paying expenses of taking out the ore and twelve dollars for freight shipment returned nine dollars and fifty cents a ton. Mine is twelve miles from the railroad. . . . Fresno City School District established. . . . Salary of county school superintendent raised from \$300 to \$900, there being eighteen districts with 925 census enrolled children, Millerton leading with 126, New Idria ninety-four, Fresno eighty and Dry Creek seventy-two as the largest.

March 5—Contract and Finance Company sells lot to B. S. Booker in Fresno for \$250 (at Tulare and Front or H).

March 12—The renovated Railroad House located on the reservation at the upper end near the little ticket station comes under the management

of R. Daley. He died, the widow Louisa Daley married M. A. Schultz, and when he died she married C. E. Brimson who had been railroad station agent. . . . August Weihe is planting 120 acres to grain four miles from Fresno, also 100 to alfalfa, sowing barley with it, also 100 of Tahiti cotton, also planting 7,000 almond and gums to form a row around 100 acres. H. Voorman puts in 950 to wheat and George H. Eggers 1,280 six miles from town which with the acreage of the Gould, Easterby and the 1,000 of B. C. Libby "will sum up very handsomely for the section around Fresno." C. G. Frash and F. T. Eisen, the first named in charge before of the Groezinger Napa vineyard and the latter of the San Francisco Pioneer Mills are located four miles east of town and had 1,280 acres. They had 200,000 grape cuttings of foreign varieties and were to plant 100 acres to cotton with corn and grain enough for their own consumption.

March 19—Settlers' cabins are springing up on unoccupied government land in the county like mushrooms. . . . The Larquiers will make addition 32x42, two stories to the County Seat Hotel, to occupy the bar room site. . . . The price of land that three years ago went begging at three to five dollars an acre finds ready purchasers at three times that.

April 2—Clerk J. W. Williams, B. S. Booker and R. Daley of the district call an election at the railroad depot for April 16 to vote a tax of \$3,000 to build a school house. . . . Rumor is that the Central Pacific will "commence the erection of a large hotel at Fresno City." . . . County removal petitions are in circulation in the Coast Range and on the west side of the county. . . .

April 16—E. C. Winchell announces for sale four-eighteenths share in Ne Plus Ultra copper mine, also his 320-acre possessory tract ranch and residence in the foothills one mile east of Millerton and half mile south of Fort Miller, "perfect title against all the world except the United States government." . . . Fresno City school opened on 14th, Miss Mary J. McKenzie as teacher. . . . Building goes on despite the hard times. Dr. H. C. Coley of Merced was building drug store adjoining the Fresno Hotel and a new store was going in south of Booker's saloon. . . . Surveyors for the narrow gauge road were in the field expecting to be at the San Joaquin in a month. . . . William Helm shipped his spring clip of wool amounting to 45,200 pounds. Freight to San Francisco by rail is seventy-nine dollars by carload and one dollar and forty-nine cents per hundred for less quantities.

April 30—No opposition developed to the \$3,000 school building tax. . . . The Larquiers will open their new hotel June 17 with a "grand ball"—it was to be the "largest and finest private building in the county." . . . William C. Caldwell died at Centerville. He came to California at twenty by the southern route arriving in Mariposa County in the fall of 1852, returning across the plains to Arkansas one year later and coming back to Mariposa in the spring of 1855 by the northern route with a band of cattle. He continued in the stock business until the spring of 1857, sold out, went to Los Angeles, returned with cattle which he drove to the Kings River and there lived until his death. In November, 1864, he and wife (Pelina Glenn, sister of Richard and William Glenn) opened the Falcon Hotel on the south side of the river, in 1865 moved into the bottom on the south side and opened hotel which was swept away in the flood of January, 1867. This led to the settlement of Centerville where the Calderwoods were hotel keepers. . . . News comes of the shooting of Jerry P. Ridgeway at Cerbat, Mojave County, A. T., "killed with buckshot from a gun, four of them passing clear through his head, killing him as dead as ever man was with that kind of arm." Ridgeway had been indicted for killing B. R. Andrews on the Kings River three years before, after later arrest escaped from the Millerton jail January 13, 1872, and state and county rewards of \$500 each were offered for his arrest. He was brought back from Arizona for trial at Millerton, escaped justice as was too common in those days and returned to former haunts. He was killed

April 11 by a "mere boy of a man" whom he had seized by the collar and with six-shooter in hand threatened to kill him in less than thirty minutes. Thus ended a notorious bully. . . . A new Fresno railroad time table is announced. Instead of leaving at four A. M., the hour is two and on Sunday a train was put on leaving at four fifty A. M.

May 8—T. J. Payne, one of the oldest residents of the county, was killed by John Williams, a colored teamster and charcoal burner. The homicide was at Tripp & Payne's store on the Toll road leading to Humphrey & Mock's sawmill, twenty-eight miles from Fresno. Payne was shot in the right leg below the knee and bled to death, the bullet from a Henry rifle passing through open door after piercing the house outer wall. Williams claimed the shooting was accidental after words while he was at mark shooting with George R. Tripp. Williams rode off on Payne's horse after Tripp had advised him to escape from the county and refusing to stop John Morrow and Riley Anderson arming themselves as Morrow's life had been threatened both shot at him, killing horse and Williams having a finger blown off. Morrow sprang on the negro as he was about to shoot and bound him and the arrival of deputy sheriff probably prevented a lynching. Payne was buried at Fort Miller. Williams was sentenced in October to two years imprisonment for manslaughter. . . . Rooms and horses are engaged for the engineers from Washington to make survey and report to Congress on the practicability of turning the waters of various streams out upon the San Joaquin Valley, visiting the head of the Kings at Centerville, thence down to Kingston and Tulare Lake, then on the west side of the San Joaquin on the proposed great canal to Antioch. . . . Millerton has daily stage communication with Fresno. . . . Schultz of the hotel is digging a well and was sixty feet in the earth and no water.

May 28—Narrow gauge railroad surveyors are between the Fresno and Chowchilla Rivers.

June 4—The Larquiers' Hotel dedication ball was postponed until July 4. Engineers surveying the San Joaquin and Tulare Valley Narrow Gauge Railroad encamp on the northwest bank of the San Joaquin five miles below Millerton. The heaviest piece of work discovered is the crossing of the stream.

June 11—The first Fresno City medical man in Fresno to insert advertising card is Dr. H. C. Coley with office next door to Schultz's Hotel, besides engaged in grocery, provision, general merchandising, drugs and medicines hard by on Front Street. . . . Announcement made of the first 4th of July celebration on that Friday in an afternoon "Social Festival" in aid of the public school by the ladies of Fresno (admission fifty cents), and "A Social Party" at night at the Larquier's new hotel (tickets three dollars). Committee on Festival: Mesdames B. S. Booker, H. C. Coley, Miss Mary J. McKenzie, Mesdames R. Daly, George McCollough and E. C. Blackburn. Floor Managers at the ball were to be: W. J. Lawrenson, C. E. Blackburn, B. S. Boutwell and W. E. Williams, while Russell H. Fleming was to be the dance prompter.

June 18—The railroad tariff on grain is \$140 a car; seventy dollars on special contracts.

June 25—The irrigation commissioners have gone to the Sacramento Valley, "and if they do no more in that region than they have in this, it would be nearly as well they had never been appointed." They did not examine the San Joaquin above Watson's Ferry and as far as was learned went hurriedly in a company conveyance over the surveyed lines of the great San Joaquin and Kings River Canal and Irrigation Company which had applied for government subsidy at the previous session of Congress, the company's chief engineer acting as guide. . . . The estimate is that 60,000 sheep have been driven from other counties into the mountains of Fresno by those who

pay no taxes in the county and whose sheep eat up the range from those that do.

July 2—Davis & Sons are building a new store. . . . George Zeis and J. Weber have opened a boot and shoe store. . . . A man named Maassen has been "constructing a cellar of gigantic dimensions for the purpose of keeping a beer cellar." A Chinaman engaged on the excavating broke a leg and was bruised by the ground caving in on him. . . . Thomas Whitlock announces himself as a contractor and builder "in any part of the county."

July 4—The celebration was "a grand success." George Zeis was marshal of the parade which disbanded at the railroad freight depot for the literary program. The Glee Club of Messrs. Williams and Son, W. T. Rumble, and George Zeis, Miss Mary J. McKenzie, Mrs. Whiteside and the Misses Melissa and L. Gilkey sang a "patriotic ballad." Rev. T. O. Ellis Sr. made the invocation. The choir sang again and J. W. Ferguson read the Declaration of Independence. More singing and the poet of the day read "An Invocation to Liberty," Miss Lizzie Gilkey impersonating the Goddess of Liberty. More singing and J. D. Collins, the teacher of the Academy school, delivered the oration of the day, introduced by B. S. Booker as President of the Day. Then followed a song of patriotic nature and the benediction. Then the festival in aid of the school with "grab bags, ice cream stands, fruit stands, ring cakes and 'sich like'" and "the whole affair passed off without a single thing to mar it." Ball in the evening was "a grand affair." About fifty couples attended and "the supper was strictly first class as was indeed the whole affair," with general good feeling prevailing.

July 9—The new hotel of P. and J. Larquier is declared to be "without doubt the most elegant building in Fresno County." It is described as "a main building 32x42 and two stories in height," containing nine rooms upstairs, and a parlor, dining room and two small rooms down stairs, "hard finished throughout and is elegantly furnished." . . . George Sutherland and W. E. Williams open a meat market in rear of Booker's store. . . . In the absence of a district convention, the Republican County Committee meeting at Fresno, Russell Fleming as chairman and T. Seymour as secretary, endorsed Alex Deering of Mariposa as judge of the thirteenth district.

July 23—Rumor circulated that Republicans would bring out candidates for county clerk and treasurer—just to show that there were some of that faith in the county. . . . Of the county Democratic delegation to the district convention at Visalia, John Barton and N. L. Bachman as proxies and H. C. Daulton withdrew and the remaining nine indorsed Thomas Fowler for the senate, though an avowed opponent of the No-fence law. But for Fresno's Fowler pledged delegates, J. D. Collins of Fresno might have been nominated on the first ballot. . . . Republican special county committee named M. J. Church and Otto Froelich delegates to the district convention. . . . Centerville connected with the outside world by telegraph at Elias Jacob & Company's store.

August 6—L. Davis of Snelling opens grocery, clothing and variety store. . . . W. H. Sullivan, fruit store keeper, appointed Fresno City agent of the Expositor. . . . Twenty votes in convention and eleven necessary for a choice on first ballot, A. C. Bradford of Fresno received four votes, each of the four counties in the joint judicial district conventions voting for its man. Upwards of thirty ballots were cast before there were changes until the fifty-eighth when Bradford received the necessary eleven and the Democratic organ said that "during the entire session the best feeling prevailed."

August 13—Conklin's Great United States Circus exhibited at Fresno on the 14th, at Centerville on the 15th and on the day after at Millerton. The first Fresno circus lot was at the northern end of the railroad depot. Among the novelties that the circus advertised was "the handsomest lady gymnast in the world," and John Conklin "the Modern Milo." . . . John T. Wyatt died April 30 aged thirty-four. George Sutherland followed in busi-

ness at his stand. . . . The narrow gauge surveyors were at the Chowchilla with the second line of survey. . . . The Buchanan copper mine closed, the prohibitive freight rates making it impossible to ship any save the best grade ores at a profit. . . . Over 5,000 head of loose stock is ranging in the vicinity of the Alabama Settlement and a constant watch has to be maintained "to prevent destroying all the farms in that section." . . . The county shows a greater increase in taxable property than any other in the state. Increase for the year was \$1,291,412 or \$814,972 more than any other one county in the state and more property than Tulare and Kern combined, no bonded and a small floating debt. . . . The Mutual Land Benefit Association has a tract of 10,000 acres near Sycamore Station on the San Joaquin Valley Railroad, in tracts of eighty, 160 and 320 acres offered to settlers at ten dollars an acre in currency with a lot in Vinland town in the center of the tract, four years with interest to pay two-thirds balance. . . . O. P. Maddock appointed constable at Fresno City.

August 20—L. Davis, late of Davis & Sons of Merced and Snelling, opens general merchandise store on Front Street to "sell at small profit." . . . Among the new accessions to Kingston's population is Louis Einstein of E. Jacob & Company of Visalia.

August 27—Russell H. Fleming accedes to request of citizens as the first Republican to announce himself in county for supervisor of the second district. . . . The narrow gauge survey has been completed. The new line crosses the San Joaquin six miles below the first surveyed and ten below Millerton. Estimate is that the road can be completed and equipped for \$10,000 a mile. . . . E. C. Winchell announces public auction of Millerton ranch September 20.

September 3—It was expected that the water would be running into Fresno in a few weeks. . . . Maassen is erecting a building for another saloon. . . . The term "Fresnoite" appears for the first time in print.

September 24—J. W. Ferguson editor of the *Expositor*, having been elected to the assembly the next plunge into publicity was the following: "At the residence of the bride's father near San Jose, September 10th, by Rev. J. C. Simmons, John W. Ferguson to Miss Agnes L. Ralls." . . . C. R. Tuffrell reports that during the two months of his railroad agency in Fresno shipments were eighty cars of wheat, thirty of cattle and hogs, and 100 of merchandise received. Seventy-five cars of wool were to be shipped.

October 1—Robert Simpson emancipates his seventeen-year-old son, John Duncan, to do business under own name and for himself and holding himself no longer responsible for any contracts made by him. . . . The Winchell auction was indefinitely postponed, "owing to the slim attendance of bidders."

October 9—At the Stockton meeting of the narrow gauge railroad directors, report was made that the 175 81-100 miles from Stockton to Visalia according to the first survey could be built for an average of \$11,122.23 and according to the second 164 miles for \$11,147.66. There was less than \$300,000 subscribed, the agreement being that no further percentage call would be made until \$500,000 stock is taken, there was no other alternative than to make another canvass for stock subscriptions and a majority that control of the road might not be lost on mortgaged bonds. . . . Word came from Firebaugh of the finding of an unknown dead man, American or English, of thirst on the Cantua road about September 28. He was supposed to be afoot as his blanket was lying near. He was about sixty yards from the water and his struggles must have been fearful as the ground was torn up with his hands trying to dig for water.

October 22—Notice published of the marriage at the home of C. A. Hart at Fort Miller by Judge Gillum Baley October 13 of Dr. Lewis Leach and Mrs. Mathilda Converse, both of Millerton. . . . C. A. Heaton and J. W. Ferguson dissolve partnership in the publication of the *Millerton Expositor*.

November 5—The assessor's books show that twenty-four persons own in the county 681,320 acres. The largest area owned by any one of the twenty-four was Miller & Lux's 128,649 acres; the smallest 10,000. Among these larger were Edward Applegarth 49,146, Cuthbert Burrell 23,403, W. S. Chapman 35,712, W. S. Chapman & Company 69,886, H. C. Daulton 14,834, James, Selig & Company 26,664, G. W. Kidd 10,755, M. T. Kearney 9,596, Morton and others 11,860, J. M. Montgomery 12,700, Henry Voorman 9,521, J. O. Earl 22,209, Isaac Friedlander 47,450, J. H. Goodman 19,111, William Helm 17,924, Gus Herminghaus 10,356, W. F. Hale 12,525, W. Pierce and others 25,765, N. B. Stoneroad 10,787, E. and A. St. John 41,720, J. Sutherland 12,167, E. J. Smith 10,745, W. D. Tullock 12,450. There were in this list four farms of 20,000 acres, four of between 40,000 and 50,000 and one of over double that acreage. Twenty-four farms of 10,000 acres and upwards in one county was said to be without parallel in the United States outside of California. This was at a time when the land was used as yet principally for grazing, and two dozen persons owning the extent of the county for cattle to roam over at will. Fresno and Kern statistics were cited as a complete answer to the question, "Why does not California increase more rapidly in population?"

November 12—The town of Borden, the site of which was owned by John Burcham, was surveyed and located. The Borden saloon of Bowman & Company placed its first "ad" this day also.

November 26—Charles W. De Long appointed postmaster of Fresno City, vice Russell H. Fleming resigned. . . . A visit records that the "town is gradually building up," but buildings "are not of a very stable character." Business "appears good," many strangers noticed in town. People looking anxiously forward to the time for voting on the county seat removal question. . . . The proposition of building a school abandoned. School tax voted was levied illegally, there was no money to build and the hard times were against a special tax. Another election will have to be called. . . . Only half a dozen drunken men were noticed about town, hence "the moral tone of the place must be improving." Effort is on foot to form a temperance society in town.

November 26—County seat removal discussed. Candidates are Centerville, Big Dry Creek, King's River, Borden and Sycamore. While they are claiming, Fresno is not asleep but had a man out at three dollars a day on a horse signing up the petition to the supervisors.

December 18—Married. At Millerton Mr. John Clark Hoxie to Miss Mary Jane McKenzie. . . . In the assembly at Sacramento, J. W. Ferguson of Fresno and the Expositor introduces his bill to protect agriculture and to prevent the trespassing of animals upon private property in the counties of Fresno, Tulare and Kern—the No-fence Law.



## CHAPTER LV

THE YEAR 1874 SAW THE END OF PIONEER MILLERTON. EVERYTHING WAS MOVED OR CARTED OFF TO FRESNO. OLD COUNTY SEAT IS LEFT DESERTED. BIDS INVITED FOR A NEW COURTHOUSE. BIG DEFALCATION DISCOVERED IN THE TREASURY. NOT A VACANT HOUSE IS REPORTED IN TOWN. LOTS ARE SELLING FAST. INCREASE IN POPULATION AND WEALTH OF COUNTY. ANTI-CHINESE AGITATION ACUTE. FIRST BRICK BUILDING ERECTED. COURTHOUSE CORNERSTONE LAYING. FIRST BANK IN COUNTY OPENED.

The year 1874 witnessed the end of Millerton. The last arguments on county seat removal were made in February. The decision to remove the seat was made at the election in March. The legal change was authorized by legislature for October 1. Fresno boomed, town lots sold briskly and business and residence locators were numerous. The exodus from Millerton began in August, was at its height in September and was ended in October, with none remaining save the prisoners in jail. Millerton was a deserted village. Its obituary was on the birthday anniversary of the state, in the following words:

September 9, '74—The glories of Millerton have departed and in a few more days it will live only in name. One by one the buildings are being torn down and moved to Fresno. Last week Faymonville's and Dr. Leach's offices were torn down and Judge Sayle's residence and office is following suit. Dixon's residence will soon go the way of the rest. Henry's blacksmith shop, stable and portions of his old hotel are already here, and who knows where the end will be? Over two years ago Otto Froelich led the van by tearing down his store, and last spring the Expositor office followed suit, and during the last month the great exodus commenced. The last harvest of the town is being gathered this week and the next, and but few husbandmen are left to gather the crop. The grand jury, which met this week Monday, and the trial jury, which gives the hospitalities of the town trial next week, will have evidently to rustle to secure accommodations as only one hotel is left to minister to their wants. Farewell, poor Millerton!

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September 16, 1874—Freighter Sam Brown is arriving in town every day or two with the remains of poor Millerton. He says that he has made arrangements to remove the county offices and will soon have the county treasury safely located here. Alas! Poor Yorick!

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Saturday, October 4, 1874—The patients in the county hospital were transferred by Dr. Lewis Leach in Fleming's stages from Millerton to Fresno. The day was cool and pleasant. They reached the county seat at five o'clock. The county physician with his family arrived at about the same time, finishing the exodus of county officials from the late county seat. The last business of importance transacted in the now deserted old courthouse was by the Ne Plus Ultra Copper Mining Company at noon in the district courtroom, thirty-three out of the thirty-six shareholders attending, with H. C. Daulton presiding. Resolution was adopted transferring business headquarters to Fresno and the old officers were reelected. The mine is now

paying a small dividend and last month shipped 130 tons of ore to San Francisco. "Thus was completed the last transfer to Fresno of the last of the organizations having their headquarters and office at Millerton. After the company had adjourned, they reassembled at the 'Salon de Garlande' near the postoffice where awaited them a cup of 'the nectar that Jupiter sips.'" All the attachments of the county seat are now in Fresno, excepting the jail birds and they remained at Millerton for the present with Charles J. Garland, the postmaster and Courthouse Exchange saloonkeeper, as their guard. His was the last running advertisement of any thing left at deserted Millerton.

#### —1874—

January 11—Religious services held at school room by H. H. Brooks, an Episcopalian missionary. House well filled, though it was chilly and rain threatened. Sabbath school organized with A. C. Nixon superintendent, John Fuller secretary and Otto Froelich treasurer and librarian. . . . John Fuller of Centerville opens butcher shop. . . . William Helm received 6,000 almond trees to plant on his ranch, six miles north of town. . . . Levy & Brother from San Francisco open merchandise store.

January 25—Trinity Mission of Fresno as a branch of the Diocese of California, Right Rev. William Ingram Kip, Bishop, organized and H. H. Brooks invited to become pastor. . . . First lithographic map of the county published.

February 4—W. W. Hill, county treasurer, died at Fort Miller on the third. Was treasurer since 1867. . . . L. Farrar proposes to build at Fresno a two-story building, upper story to be used as lodge and public hall and lower as a saloon. This was Magnolia Hall on Front Street. . . . Firewood commands a price of twelve dollars per cord in town.

February 10—County seat removal petition presented and granted on the 12th, with election set for March 23d. . . . Ira McCray was on the 14th at Millerton sold out by the sheriff on execution and Jesse Morrow was the purchaser; Oak Hotel, lot and stable \$250, blacksmith shop fifty dollars, Joe Royal storehouse fifteen dollars, Negro Jane house and lot thirteen dollars.

February 25—Discussions and meetings on county seat locations and advertised offers of sites begin. Fresno announces:

#### "To the Voters of Fresno County

"Notice is hereby given that WE the citizens of FRESNO CITY will run this place for the County Seat at the Election March 23rd. Ample ground will be donated for all Public Buildings.

#### "CITIZENS OF FRESNO CITY."

March 11—First lawyer to locate in Fresno City is A. C. Bradford.

March 23—Fresno carries the election and "now we can have telegraphic and railroad communication with the world at large and can enjoy some of the comforts of civilization." . . . Tariff on wool from Fresno to San Francisco reduced from \$140 to \$100 a carload; rates on cattle and sheep reduced to fifty-four dollars and forty-six dollars.

April 1—Since the election, the town has been "extremely lively." All appear anxious to secure as many lots as possible. . . . One hundred were sold in one day.

April 15—Last number of the Expositor (No. 52, Volume 4) published in Millerton. . . . Gov. Newton Booth, March 30, approves county seat removal bill, location change October 1, 1874; or before if necessary and advisable. . . . Hotels so crowded that when sleeping quarters are desired application must be made a day in advance. "Whiskey flows rapidly and steadily and 'drunks' are plentiful. In two days last week a square half dozen fights and 'knock downs' occurred and those were dull days." . . . Lumber is worth thirty-five dollars to fifty dollars per M. This makes building costly.

April 22—First issue of the *Expositor* at Fresno. . . . Supervisors accept the plans of A. A. Bennett, state architect, for a courthouse and advertise for bids. The plans are the same as for the Merced courthouse which was let for \$55,970.

April 29—Deed presented to county for four blocks of land for courthouse grounds and accepted. . . . Supervisors declare that there is a deficit in the sum of \$56,313.20 in the accounts of W. W. Hill as county treasurer. . . . April 26 Sheriff Leroy Dennis died at Millerton from bronchitis and consumption, leaving sick wife and five children destitute. . . . On the same day the supervisors located the courthouse site on Mariposa Street, where the alley through blocks 104 and 105 intersects it, "the ground at this point being elevated and affording a commanding view of the entire town." . . . There is not a vacant building in the town and they would all be occupied "if there were as many more as there is. The most ordinary shanty brings from eight to twelve dollars a month rent."

May 6—Anton Joseph Maassen announces the International Hotel fronting the railroad depot "with the coolest and best place to keep the beer well." This was the three story basement cellar, the lower of which was forty-eight feet under the surface "and as cool as an ice house" for beer drinking patrons. . . . The August Weihe farm, four miles east from town, and of which J. D. Forthkamp was the superintendent, was one of the show places of the day. . . . Kutner & Goldstein will erect 60x100 warehouse for wool and grain on the reservation. . . . Movement on foot to organize a Masonic lodge, with first meeting at Farrar's hall on the afternoon of May 22.

May 20—A. W. Burrell builder of the courthouse asks for bids for 400 cords of wood suitable for burning brick for the building. His bid was \$56,370.

May 27—Agent H. B. Underhill was besieged on his visit by applicants for lots. . . . S. W. Henry of Millerton proposes to build blacksmith shop, stable and hotel at J and Tulare, so also near there a blacksmith shop by one Conner from Knight's Ferry. . . . About 10,000 sheep were sheared this season and the wool shipped from Watson's Ferry by steamer to San Francisco.

June 3—A. J. Maassen is out also for 400 cords of wood for burning brick for proposed building. . . . Opening of Magnolia Hall with ball on the 12th. It can accommodate ten sets of dancers. . . . W. W. Phillips is about to build a dwelling house on J between Fresno and Mariposa.

June 10—A. C. Bradford and E. C. Winchell constitute the first law partnership. . . . Meeting held June 5 to consider town incorporation. Warren Spencer of the Magnolia Saloon chairman and A. Y. Betts secretary. Russell Fleming, M. A. Schultz and Dr. H. C. Coley named to canvass the town. . . . Otto Froelich retiring from business sells out to Elias Jacobs & Co. of Visalia, H. D. Silverman from the branch at Centerville to be in charge. Froelich was at Mariposa and H. . . . Chinatown is building up. . . . Western Union about to open telegraph office.

June 17—Townsite Agent Underhill reports that every lot in Blocks sixty-one and sixty-two, seventy-one and seventy-two, eighty-three and eighty-four has been sold, in adjoining blocks more than half and others in other portions of the town. . . . Woodward and Turton of Sacramento, brick work contractors on the Merced and Fresno courthouses are burning the locally needed brick.

July 1—Sixty thousand brick have been moulded for the courthouse kiln. Chinese are employed in running the mud mills in the brick moulding. . . . Wheat freight rate reduced to five dollars a ton or fifty dollars a carload. . . . Maassen was moulding 7,000 brick a day and in a month expected to have 100,000 on the market. . . . Otto Froelich and J. W. Ferguson elected school trustees vice R. H. Fleming and J. W. Williams, terms expired.

July 4—The national holiday was ushered in with anvil salute, fired again at noon and at sundown. A short parade was marshaled by Thomas Pryce and at the freight room of the depot the exercises were held with the aid of the Lewis Bros.' troupe that was in town and on the Saturday and Monday before showed thrice at the depot and at night at Maassen's Hall. Harry S. Dixon was the president of the day. Joseph Meyers the singer, J. W. Ferguson the reader of the Declaration. Mrs. J. L. Smith read Drake's Address to the Flag, E. C. Winchell made the four-column published oration and tableaux were presented by little girls and arranged by the show people. In the afternoon the Calithumpians gave mock parade and exercises at the depot. At night seventy couples danced at Magnolia hall and "one of the best suppers ever spread before the public of Fresno," prepared by Mrs. Lord, was served to the dancers at Velguth's new building on I Street. As with every public function in Fresno, as if there should have been riot or uprising, the sententious observation was that "throughout the day and the evening everybody demeaned themselves well and not a single harsh word was passed to mar the harmony and good feeling." This was the sublime height of descriptive reporting that the Expositor could ever attain. . . . W. J. Lawrenson having moved from Millerton bought Larquier's Occident, changed the name to the Exchange and was to make such improvements as to make it "at once one of the most commodious and magnificent places of resort in the interior." It is laughable to recall these superlative descriptives in relation to the early structures in Fresno, with not yet a brick building standing. . . . School children in the district eighty-six; number that had attended school, thirty-nine. . . . The only piece of fire apparatus in town was a Babcock fire extinguisher kept at Jacob & Co.'s store and of which Charles W. De Long was the carrier and chief engineer.

July 15—The following notice is given publicity:

#### NOTICE

FROM AND AFTER THIS DATE My Beer Cellar will be closed at nine o'clock P. M. At that hour the Saloon opens in the hall above. Persons visiting the Cellar can either go in by the back stairs or go down by the Elevator.

A. J. MAASSEN.

. . . Creighton, Johnson & Struvy open the Fresno Meat Market on H Street, adjoining the L. Davis store, Fred C. Struvy in charge. . . . King's River Switch has been made a postoffice and named Wheatville with Andrew Farley as postmaster at \$12 a year. . . . In Fresno, McCollough & Andrews erect a dwelling at Fresno and J. Whitlock & Young a carpenter shop on J "near Printing House Square," S. W. Henry stable and blacksmithy near Tulare and J. Mrs. Lord added to her I Street boarding house, C. E. Blackburn completed residence in the south east part of town. Henry has in mind building a hotel, Dixon & Faymonville law office and dwellings, also John C. Hoxie, A. M. Clark and J. S. Ashman. . . . 4th of July receipts were \$367.50 with \$204 from the ball, expenditures \$360.35, and "the town had a couple of drums left over for future occasions." . . . Government survey completed embraces land on both sides of the river from near Millerton down. Located farmers are warned to perfect their titles. . . . The jury before the county court gave judgment for H. A. Carroll on appeal against M. A. Schultz and Dr. H. C. Coley of the citizens' committee securing signatures to the county seat removal petitions. Costs totaled nearly \$250. . . . Offers made to take at par and at 99 cents on the dollar at private sale the issued courthouse bonds. . . . 40,000 brick are moulded at Maassen's brickyard and the first burned

kiln will contain 150,000 with 100,000 of these contracted for to be used in a brick structure. Turton & Co. are making brick for the courthouse.

July 22—The following "New To Day" was published:

#### TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

Fresno, July 20th, 1874.

Would it not be advisable for a noted physician of Fresno to stay away from the funerals of his patients? It looks too much like a fashionable tailor carrying home his own work. Wm. H. McCracken.

. . . Also the following in the same issue:

#### A CARD

To the Citizens of Fresno County and Surroundings. The Fresno Drug Store is a fraud and is kept by W. Y. Betts. —W. J. Wheeler.

. . . C. Richot and Thomas Johns as Johns & Richot open as carpenters and joiners with shop on Mariposa between I and J. . . . Bryant & Carter advertised for rent the Baker "Canal Grant," 89,000 acres of swamp land, and 47,800 of the grant in the county have been leased, the last 44,000 acres to Kettleman & Sutherland for stock grazing. There were about 42,000 acres more in Tulare and Kern counties open to leases. . . . The supervisors decided to erect a 20x80 wooden building for county purposes as it would take about a year to have the courthouse ready for occupancy, the officials being in the meantime in scattered places. That wooden building was located where the fountain is at the entrance of the present courthouse park. . . . Townsite Agent Underhill donates eight lots to the district for a school house. The lots are 200x150 at the southwest corner of block 101. He also donated a lot to the Odd Fellows for a hall. . . . The Expositor recalls to the old settlers "estranged to many of the conveniences of civilization" that the town is the only place in the county "that boasts of all the modern comforts such as barber shops, drug stores, butcher shop, printing office, telegraphic offices, fruit stores, ice, fighting whiskey and last but not least, a milkman." The last named was W. A. Baker serving twice a day. "Who says we are not getting civilized?" asks the Expositor. . . . Agent Underhill offers the two outside tier blocks around the townsite for sale for private residences at \$300 per block.

July 29—Canvass shows: four merchandise and two fruits stores, a drug house, three hotels, two restaurants, two stables, six saloons, two lawyers and two physicians, barber, tinsmith and saddler, two butchers and three blacksmith shops, a wheelwright, tailor and a printery. Variety store, carpenter shop and stable are under construction. The town has fifty-five completed structures—twenty-nine devoted to business and twenty-five dwellings and one not occupied. Five buildings are being erected, three for business and two as dwellings, the list not including the railroad buildings, nor those in the Chinese quarter. Attention is called to the fact that there are more business houses than dwellings and that during the next month at least twenty new structures will be erected. . . . R. H. Bramlet was engaged as teacher for the five months' school term.

August 5—The city's and the county's great need is a bank with a capital of \$100,000. . . . The San Francisco Circus and Collection of Performing Animals announces a visit Monday, August 10 "on a tour through California after an unparalleled season of 120 nights in San Francisco." Admission \$1. William H. McCracken publishes notice as to his "To Whom It May Concern," wishing it to be distinctly understood that he had no reference whatsoever to his fellow townsman Dr. Charles Spiers. . . . In six years "the aggregate wealth of the county has increased from about \$800,000 to over \$7,000,000 and the population has more than doubled and must now be over 10,000 all told," and yet with the immense territory of the county "it looks

as though it was almost devoid of population, and even at its present rate of increase it will take many years before it will be thickly settled." . . . Sunday meeting held at Magnolia hall to take steps to stop, if possible, encroachment of the Chinese upon the white portion of the town. Thomas Pryce chairman, J. W. Ferguson secretary of the meeting. S. W. Henry, L. Davis and Ferguson appointed a committee to circulate agreement not to sell, lease, or rent to Chinese any property on the east side of the railroad track and to discourage all from so doing. In the very early days Chinese secured land and erected houses on I Street near Schultz's saloon, but so great the opposition of the people that they compelled their removal. The town agent refused to sell any more to Chinese so located. In the winter of 1873 a Chinese blacksmith leased shop at Mariposa and I and a washhouse was located in the southern part of the town and the week before the holding of the meeting erection was commenced of a washhouse in the heart of one of the most rapidly growing blocks in the town surrounded by residences. This resulted in the meeting. The signature of nearly every resident was secured to the pledge. . . . A rush was made for land on the river newly surveyed and placed on the market, the land office at Stockton receiving filings this day. There was land jumping in disregard of prior rights. . . . W. H. McCracken is out for constable to succeed John F. Parker. . . . The first kiln of 500,000 courthouse brick is ready for burning. . . . The supervisors were to meet for the first time August 6.

August 12—E. F. Manchester offers for sale 130 Spanish merino bucks imported from best flocks in Addison County, Vt. . . . Capt. Charles A. Barth, U.S.A., and Otto Froelich contemplate opening a private banking house as local capital was too timid to undertake the venture. . . . The supervisors spent two days in town and contracted with A. W. Burrell to bore a well on the courthouse grounds and erect windmill and tank and carry piping to the building at cost of \$1350. . . . Fresno Lodge No. 186, I.O.O.F., has petitioned to remove its charter from Millerton to Fresno and to meet at the county seat after October.

August 19—M. A. Schultz married two days before at Visalia the widow, Louisa Daley of Visalia, formerly of the Railroad Hotel. . . . Fresno has its first midwife and nurse in Mrs. Anna Cramer. . . . The firm of Dusy & Co. dissolves, Frank Dusy and William M. Coolidge selling to William Helm. . . . Fleming erected two lamps on Mariposa Street and Lawrenson two more and having been lighted for the first time on Saturday the 15th "gave that street the air of a city." . . . J. C. Hoxie having gone out to examine the dwelling that was being erected for him, and the one that he occupies to this day, lost a roll of \$180 in gold notes. The loss was not discovered until after nightfall. With lantern and accompanied by Fleming, search was made and the treasure found. What primitive idealistic days those were in Fresno!

September 2—The streets and alleys "are in a disgustingly filthy condition" as are some of the vacant lots. The statement is that they "are covered with old bones, hats, boots, dead dogs, decaying vegetable matter, old clothes, tin cans and the like, and the consequence is a most disgusting and pestilence breeding effluvia constantly pervading the atmosphere." . . . The first brick building in town is announced to be the one that Dixon and Faymonville will erect on the north side of Mariposa between H and I. Froelich & Barth will erect another for their bank immediately east, C. G. Sayle talked also of erecting a brick structure. . . . The school building tax election was successful, fifty votes were cast, forty-eight for the tax and two against it.

September 9—The plans for a school house call for a wooden or brick building to cost from \$3,000 to \$4,000. School term opened in the upper story of the Booker Building at Tulare and H. . . . Bryant & Carter for themselves and for Center & Boyd sold a quarter interest in the Canal Grant for \$60,000 to Withington, Dean & Co., who had recently purchased all the stock in the



county of John Sutherland paying more than \$160,000. The purchasers were San Francisco wholesale butchers, succeeding Dunphy, Hildreth & Co.

September 16—Phillip Schussler from San Andreas locates as a watchmaker and jeweler in Schultz's hotel on H Street. . . . Brubaker & Taber lease the Larquier Hotel. . . . Not being able to obtain sufficient support, George Cain, the night watchman, relinquishes the job. . . . To J. L. Smith was awarded the contract for \$125 for the 24x80 building for the temporary accommodation of the county officials while the courthouse is being erected, the rookery to be finished September 25. . . . The public school opened with about forty pupils, two-thirds of them girls. . . . Fresno Lodge of Odd Fellows appointed H. C. Daulton, R. H. Bramlet and C. G. Sayle a committee to select and buy a lot for a lodge hall, and negotiated with J. C. Hoxie for one of his town lots. . . . Jacob & Co. have bought Julius Biehl's lot adjoining for \$1,000. They propose moving the wooden building to this lot and erect a brick store on the vacated 50x150 site. . . . Supervisors were to hold their first formal session in the new county seat October 1.

September 23—Death is announced of Clark Hoxie at the age of seventy-four at Sandwich, Mass., Sept. 10. . . . Laying of courthouse corner stone is set for Thursday, October 8. . . . A party of seven masked Ku-Kluxers served notice on William H. McCracken to leave town before morning. McCracken went to Millerton, laid his case before the district attorney and was counselled to return to Fresno which he did. He was described as a "sport" of no "particular advantage to the town." On Monday the 21st there was a free fight in town, pistols were drawn but not used. Two warrants were issued for McCracken's arrest. He disappeared, was later overhauled at Visalia and was sentenced to 100 days imprisonment. One Tom Johns was fined thirty-five dollars, Bryan Bradford also arrested for running McCracken off was discharged as the evidence was insufficient. . . . All bids for the school house are rejected because plans too ornate for the money on hand. Plans were changed to a one-story building 30x68, with surrounding portico, two rooms each thirty feet square divided by hall and with twelve-foot ceiling.

September 30.—Meeting held and Citizens' committee of W. J. Lawrenson, Peter Larquier and Julius Biehl named to wait on all and request a cleaning up of streets and alleys for cornerstone laying day. . . . The morrow was hailed "as the dawning of a new era in the history of the town of Fresno" to be known in the statutes as the county seat. All the county offices have been located in the temporary building and elsewhere, the jail at Millerton to be used for the incarceration of prisoners and Dr. Leach having rented building in northern end of town as temporary hospital quarters. The district attorney is in one of the anterooms of Magnolia hall awaiting removal to the temporary "courthouse" at Tulare and K. . . . George Hampson appointed night watchman. . . . A stream of teams with grain, wool, wood, and lumber rolled into town during the week imparting to it a thrifty and business-like appearance. Seventeen were counted on Saturday at one time on H Street, thirteen of these four and six teams with grain. Bustling village that! . . . Laying of the courthouse foundation commences tomorrow. . . . The express office at Millerton has suspended, W. T. Rumble having moved to Fresno. . . . Montgomery Queen's Circus and Menagerie is announced to show in Fresno Saturday, October 17. . . . David P. Blevins of Fleming's stages reports seeing a herd of over thirty antelope between Fresno and Jensen's store on Big Dry Creek.

October 7—George Bernhard opens merchandise store at I and Tulare. . . . Supervisors met on the 5th for the first time in Fresno and levied one dollar and forty-eight cent tax rate. . . . City school district assessment foots up \$633,760. . . . The charter of the I. O. O. F. lodge has been removed and first session in Fresno was on the 5th.

October 14—E. P. Nelson opens as a butcher on Second Street (I). . . . S. W. Henry as a boarding house keeper at Tulare and J. . . . Thomas Pryce

as notary and conveyancer, justice of the peace and general agent. . . . Peter Larquier and Simon Camy dissolve as copartners. . . . Expositor publishes week old account of the courthouse corner stone laying, never "such a large and fashionable assemblage" having before gathered and as usually reported "the whole ceremony passed off as well and pleasantly as could be desired." Another story was told in a paragraph in another column under the sidehead "Drunks." Total expenses for the day \$260; receipts from ball \$326, balance of \$66 to be donated to city school fund. . . . Beds were not obtainable on the day of the cornerstone laying, or the day after. . . . District court met for the first time in Fresno on 19th, the term calendar the largest ever before a Fresno county court.

November 4—Twelve thousand pounds of the first of the cotton crop of the season came to the depot from the A. H. Statham farm on the Upper Kings, being a trifle over one-third of his crop, ginned and baled, ranging 300 to 400 pounds and averaging about 250 pounds of lint per acre, the equal of any from the southern states and land that was not irrigated producing best. . . . New Year's ball at Magnolia hall being arranged for the benefit of the fire protection fund. . . . Scarcely a day passes but two or three wagons loaded with immigrants seeking places to locate are in town. Kings River is the chief point of attraction, though many go further down the valley. . . . Winter temperance meetings are resolved upon at Shannon & Hughes' hall, the leading lights being Judge Gillum Baley, Rev. L. Dooley, W. J. Young and E. C. Winchell. . . . Report is of "quite a settlement" near Wheatville on vacant government land, and simultaneously that Theodore Schultz "will immediately commence the erection of a large and elegant saloon" at the place formerly known as King's River Switch. . . . W. T. Rumble appointed justice of the peace, vice J. R. McCombs.

November 11—Fresno Dashaway Literary Association formed with E. C. Winchell president and H. C. Shelton secretary as a temperance organization. Twenty signed the pledge. . . . Social club organized to give winter season hops.

November 18—Contract and Finance Company sells to Russell H. Fleming Mariposa Street lot for \$125, Fleming to Dixon & Faymonville \$400. A. J. Brawley to H. D. Silverman a lot for \$2,000. . . . Dr. Lewis Leach building dwelling on K near Tulare adjoining C. G. Sayle's. George McCollough completing tenement on Mariposa near his residence. . . . Froelich & Barth's brick building is the first in the town. The name of the Larquier Hotel is changed to California House.

November 25—As high as forty teams a day loaded with emigrant families bound for Fresno, Tulare and Kern counties have crossed Fresno Slough at Watson's Ferry during the last thirty days. . . . Brick work on the courthouse is up to the second story. . . . R. H. Bramlet appointed deputy county school superintendent.

December 2—Reported sale of lots: L. Farrar to J. L. Smith lot \$600, B. B. Sheldon to J. W. Hutchinson one-half of two lots \$1,200, C. & F. Co. to F. Jensen two lots \$187.50, to M. A. Schultz two for \$375, to George McCollough for \$250, to A. M. Clark a block and a lot \$362.50. . . . H. D. Silverman of E. Jacob & Co. announces intention of erecting a 30x100 brick building at Mariposa and H, two stories, with basement, practically three stories. . . . Maassen is excavating for brick edifice on H adjoining the International Hotel.

December 9—Bierstadt, who made the Yosemite Valley famous with his paintings, completes a magnificent picture entitled "Kings River Canyon." Eastern dispatches say he sold it to an English nobleman for \$50,000. . . . Twenty families have settled on government land at Wheatville in the past month. Si Draper is the father of the town and in it are blacksmith shop, two stores, hotel and two saloons. . . . Louis Einstein, late with E. Jacob & Co., buys the L. Davis building and two lots on H Street for \$1,400. . . .

B. S. Booker is building fruit store on Mariposa, adjoining Nelson's meat market, J. M. Taber a dwelling on J near Tulare and J. W. Williams a two-story building on Mariposa. . . . Only twenty-one marriage licenses were taken out in the county for the year.

December 23—Eugene J. B. Du Gas locates as physician and surgeon at Bishop's drug store, "A share of public patronage is solicited." . . . Brick work on the third story of courthouse is half completed. . . . Lowest local bid for the Henry Hotel was that of Shanklin & Co. for \$6,850. . . . Rev. L. Dooley bought two lots adjoining the Baley house for a dwelling. . . . Sabbath count made showed 109 buildings completed in town, or with finishing touches being put on, over double the number five months before. Besides, there were about thirty in the Chinese quarter. Simon Camy and M. A. Schultz talked of brick buildings and Maassen of a large one on the vacant lot adjoining the International on H, Henry Glass having bought the Mariposa and I Street corner will remove blacksmith to the rear and erect a substantial substitute. The demand for houses is an insistent one, the most temporary affair finding ready occupancy at large rental. The town is keeping pace with the advance over the county. The construction work has attracted considerable of a floating population. . . . The name of the Millerton post-office has been changed to Fort Miller, and Charles A. Hart named postmaster. Thus is expunged even the last official record of the existence of the pioneer county seat. . . . It was a most depressing closing of the year. The unprecedented cold and fog continued over the valley. A month had passed without rain. In Fresno, Christmas passed off quietly. "Of course," said the official organ, "the usual amount of eggnog was drank and a few drunken fights occurred."

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## CHAPTER LVI

STEADY AND SUBSTANTIAL THE PROGRESS OF THE TOWN. GREATEST CHANGES ARE NOTED IN THE FARMING ENVIRONS. VILLAGE IS CLASSED ALREADY IN 1875 AS "FLOURISHING." FIRST CEMETERY IS ABANDONED. FIRE PROTECTION A MUCH FELT WANT. PROSPECTUS IS PUBLISHED OF THE CENTRAL CALIFORNIA COLONY, PIONEER OF A HOST OF SUCH LAND ENTERPRISES. GRANICE MERCED MURDER TRIAL COMMENCES. AGITATION FOR A CHURCH. COMPLETION OF COURTHOUSE. LAND COLONY RAILROAD EXCURSIONS BEGIN. A FRESNO GROWN ORANGE IS AN EXHIBITED CURIOSITY OF THE DAY.

Fresno City was making steady and substantial progress, even though on a comparatively small scale. The great change was being made in the outlying farming district with the organization of colonization enterprises, which proved to be the basis of Fresno's future stability. In the less than three years of the existence of the new county seat more substantial progress was made, more land opened up to colonization and more done in development with the spread of irrigation than in all the years of history with Millerton as the official center since organization of the county.

The fact was commented upon at the beginning of July 1875 in the statement that "the improvements that have been made about the town during its short life have been wonderful." Mushroom mining towns had been seen to make greater growth in a few months than Fresno had but they had also languished and soon gave up the ghost leaving only a memory of the brief bustling past. As to Fresno, "it was scarcely three years since the first shanty was erected, and now it was a flourishing town with 1500 inhabitants and comprising more than 150 houses including four or five brick edifices and as nice a courthouse as there is in the interior of the state."

People had settled with the intention of staying. Some nice dwellings had been erected, gardens laid out, trees and shrubs planted, "and an air of refinement imparted to the village." The one great requirement for making gardens thrive was water and the means for securing it was found in raising it in wells by windmills. People visiting the town wondered when informed that the village was less than three years old and that not a tree or plant in town was over eighteen months old. Another year would see a forest of young trees lifting its heads throughout the town to add to the appearance of the village. Otto Froelich was the pioneer tree planter and garden maker one year before in spring and he had a splendid lot of thrifty trees, plants and vines to make as neat a home as could be desired. M. A. and Theodore Schultz, L. Andrews and others planted trees along the roadway about the time that Froelich did "and in every instance where the roving stock left to pillage for a living from the public had not destroyed the trees they have made a good growth and are looking ornamental." There was reason to believe, and the later years confirmed it, that the town of Fresno "instead of being a lot of houses on a dry and barren plain will be a pleasant village environed with trees and decorated with beautiful gardens."

—1875—

January 6—Julius Biehl died at the age of thirty-seven on the last day of 1874. . . . A "Grand Calico Ball" is announced at Court house hall for Monday, February 22. . . . School opened on the 4th in the new house with over 100 children in the district and not over half receiving schooling under existing arrangements.

January 13—The Expositor says that the name of Fresno should be changed to Dogtown because there are not less than three dogs for every human being in it.

January 20—The remains in the nine graves in the first cemetery in northern part of town are taken up for removal and reinterment in the new cemetery south of Chinatown on the resumption of fair weather. . . . A lodge of the Good Templars was organized on the 25th by Jabez F. Walker, G. W. C. T.

February 3—James McCardle is building a dwelling at Mariposa and K. A residence for Dr. Chester Rowell at Tulare and K is near completion.

February 10—The large brick store of E. Jacob & Co. will front 100 feet on Mariposa and fifty on H. . . . The firm has dissolved partnership, H. D. Silverman and Louis Einstein purchasing the Jacob interests at Fresno and Centerville, and Jacob retaining the interest at Kingston and Visalia. . . . The remains of W. W. Hill interred in Odd Fellows cemetery at Millerton are reinterred at Centerville March 7th. . . . Meeting held on the 6th to secure fire protection and committee appointed to devise means and possibly also to incorporate. One of the means suggested was to bring water to the town by pipe from one of the irrigation ditches. The 17th of March was selected for another party for the benefit of the fire protection fund.

February 17—Announcement made that C. A. Heaton is about to publish the Fresno Review.

February 24—Mrs. Mattie Card is established on I Street as a milliner with Miss A. MacDonald as a fashionable dressmaker. . . . The school district is in a financial pickle. Over ninety children are attending school. The census under which the district was formed returned only sixty-four and fourteen of these were lost with the formation of the Red Banks district. It required about \$250 to continue as an eight months school. Judge Gillum Baley and Sheriff J. S. Ashman consented to solicit funds for the district and had indifferent success. . . . Saturday morning the 19th another providential escape from fire thanks to the still air. Fire broke out in the loft of the J. Lamothe large stable near Mariposa and I, in the hay on which drunken Indians had slept. Only the active exertions of citizens prevented a spread.

... The Silverman & Einstein store has been moved to a place a few feet north of the Magnolia to make room for the corner brick building. ... Washington's Birthday the flag was unfurled from the dome of the courthouse ninety feet from the ground, at sunset the workmen were addressed assembled on the pinnacle and then marched through the streets.

March 3—The Good Templars' lodge has over forty members. ... There are eight prisoners in the county jail when in former times it would be empty for months. "But things have changed," notes the Expositor, "the advent of the railroad and the increase of the population did the business."

March 10—First recorded game of baseball was on Sunday between the Fresno and Magnolia clubs. ... William Vellguth is adding wind-mill and tank for a bath house in connection with barber shop. ... Walter Tupper appointed justice of the peace. ... Schultz is grading Tulare Street near his hotel; Maassen, H Street on the railroad reservation, and Silverman and Einstein, Mariposa. ... H. D. Silverman, Lewis Leach, William Faymonville, Otto Froelich, W. J. Lawrenson, J. C. Hoxie, R. H. Fleming and Leonard Farrar bought seven-eighths interest in 100 acres from William Helm for a fair ground and race track, a stock corporation to be formed. ... The long promised Fresno Weekly Review has appeared.

March 21—The Sunday meeting of the Dashaway Society had as a special attraction after the lecture the marriage by Judge Gillum Bale of Frank Henley and Miss Lizzie Shanklin and "the venerable judge brought down the house by the skill with which he stole the first kiss from the bride."

April 1—The cattle buying and selling firm of St. John, Abbott & Co. has failed with liabilities of \$250,000. It was the lessee of the Laguna de Tache grant. ... Henry's Hotel is completed and is described as "the finest edifice yet completed in Fresno and in finish is equal to any hotel that we know of outside of the cities." The horizon of the Expositor was limited. ... The Odd Fellows' lodge is negotiating for a Mariposa Street lot for a hall, though the Finance and Contract Company had donated it three lots for that purpose.

April 10—Dr. Joseph Borden died at Borden at the age of sixty-nine.

April 28—The Henry Hotel fronts sixty-six feet on Tulare and sixty on K, with wing 30x40 and a kitchen addition 16x18 and two and one-half stories high. It was stated that the house and furniture cost over \$15,000. ... The walls of Maassen's brick house on H Street are going up and it will break the long row of wooden structures in that vicinity. ... The freight train from the south, two days before, consisted of twenty-nine cars, evidence it was pointed out "that the railroad business down the valley is building up." ... The spelling match craze has struck Fresno. ... So has the bovine gum-chewing habit. ... The Odd Fellows celebrated on Monday with parade, oration by James A. Louthitt of Stockton and a ball at Magnolia Hall at night the fifty-sixth anniversary of the establishment of the order in America. The only complaints made of the celebration "were in regard to the music from Stockton" and "this for the price paid was very poor." ... The public exercises of the Dashaways were suspended on account of the weather. ... Alarm was caused by the report that "grasshoppers were swarming the plains."

May 5—Simon W. Henry's new hotel will open on the 10th. ... May day the town was thrown into excitement by fire on the roof of the California House. The International Hotel force pump and the bucket brigade overcame the blaze. ... Fares reduced to San Francisco to \$11.35, to Stockton \$8.35, to Merced \$3.85, to Goshen \$2.35, to Sumner \$7.55. Passenger train from Fresno south leaves at 1:25 A. M.; north 3:12 A. M.; freight south at 12:10 A. M. and north 6:45 A. M. ... Applegarth ranch of about 50,000 acres was sold by the sheriff for debt on the 3rd for \$210,000. ... Ex-judge A. C. Bradford is the avowed Democratic candidate for lieutenant governor before the state convention at San Francisco, June 20. ... Whitlock & Young start

city planing mill, followed by C. M. Bennett at Pine Ridge with the latter to turn out rustic, flooring and surfaced lumber for building. . . . Many irrigation schemes are in the air. The Expositor publishes a two-column account of the project of the San Joaquin and Fresno Canal Company involving the diversion of 30,000 miners' inches of water from the San Joaquin at a point above Fort Miller conducting the water by canal to the plains, thence via Fresno to the so-called Fresno City across Fresno Slough, there connecting with a projected canal from Summit Lake to Antioch, diverting as much water from the lake and conducting it by canal running near the base of the foothills to Antioch, opening canal navigation from tide water through one of the most fertile portions of the state. It was one of other grand schemes that was never realized.

May 10—Montgomery Queen's Caravan, Circus and Menagerie—"Great Representative Show of California"—exhibited in Fresno. The town took great credit to itself that "the expenses of this monster establishment are so great that it can only afford to show at the largest places" and "that the mammoth tent was filled to repletion both afternoon and evening," despite "the dismal croakings of hard times, the failure of the crops and the like." It was yet the day when circuses and menageries travelled not by special railroad trains but traversed the country with their caravans, following the public highway making the towns from day to day. . . . Henry's Hotel opened this day. Fresno is cityfying with the hotel's "free carriage to and from all trains" and because "a bath room is attached to the hotel for the use of our guests." . . . Troupe show is announced at Magnolia Hall for the 18th, including "Senator Pinchbeck (colored) who was refused his seat in the U. S. Senate." . . . One Martin Vivian cut down one of the largest "big trees" in the King's River grove to convey a section to the Centennial exhibition at Philadelphia. He then went before a justice of the peace and informing against himself for the act of vandalism pleaded guilty and was fined \$50. He thereafter appeared before the supervisors for a remittance of one-half of the fine against himself, because he had been the informer. The claim was rejected because not a legal charge. The comment was that "this man has cheek enough to make a good witness in the Tilton-Beecher case," which was then agitating the newspaper reading world. . . . Cranes are gathering in bands, following up the grasshoppers and feasting on them. . . . Surveyors are locating the route for a ditch from the Kings River to lands of W. S. Chapman south of town to divert 30,000 inches of water. . . . Master Masons organized a lodge on the 9th with W. H. Creed as W. M., George Bernhard S. W., A. Kutner J. W., S. Goldstein Treas., A. M. Clark Sec., W. L. Nelson S. D., C. G. Sayle J. D., P. H. Schussler, Tyler. . . . Sunday preaching was a regular forenoon and evening thing by Revs. L. Dooley and A. Odom at the temporary court room.

June 2—Closing exercises at Magnolia hall of the city public school, May 29, with R. H. Bramlet and Miss Mattie Patten as the teachers. . . . Cole Slough settlers change the name of the settlement from Liberty to Riverdale. . . . Another meeting held May 28 with H. S. Dixon as chairman and W. H. Creed as secretary to consider fire protection. Dr. Leach, R. H. Fleming, G. McCollough, W. J. Lawrenson and Warren Spencer named a committee to organize a fire company and Dr. Leach, A. Kutner, A. M. Clark, R. H. Fleming and George McCollough to organize a joint company to supply the town with water. The Expositor had no faith "in anything being done, at least not until after the town is burned down." . . . Organization of grange lodges is a popular fad in the farming settlements. . . . More windmills are going up in town. . . . Another cityfying fad is the publication of the Henry Hotel guest list. . . . Land tract owners in the county publish warnings to sheep men against trespass by herding or driving across their holdings en route to mountain ranges. . . . Glass & Donahoo of the Clipper Mills at Pine Ridge offer to sell at mills: Common lumber at \$11 per 1,000 feet, clear flooring at \$15, clear



sugar pine at \$18 and refuse at \$6. All classes purchasable at Tollhouse yards at foot of grade at uniform advance of \$8 a thousand.

June 6—The Sabbath school and Bible class were organized.

June 16—Jackley's Vienna Circus with the remnants of the bankrupt Signor Chiarini Circus is announced for Saturday the 19th. Shows at the county seat are of frequent occurrence. . . . The water from Kings River is flowing into the San Joaquin through the slough. The San Joaquin is falling rapidly and the steamers have made their last trips to Watson's Ferry for the season. . . . The B. S. Booker fruit and variety store and newspaper agency on Mariposa Street is bought by Presley Fanning. . . . The first irrigation decision is given by District Judge Deering in the case of the Fresno Canal and Irrigation Company against the Kings River and Fresno Canal Company ruling as to the right to use water channels.

June 26—A. D. Firebaugh dies at his Big Creek ranch at the age of fifty-one, a pioneer of a very early day and the founder of Firebaugh Ferry. Death was from cancer of the tongue.

June 30—Prospectus of the Central California Colony is out under the auspices of the California Immigrant Union, taking up 4,000 acres of the Chapman tract to be divided into 200 holdings of twenty acres each, two acres of raisin grape vines to be planted on every twenty, water distributing ditches to traverse the tract and sales to be made at fifty dollars an acre, \$100 down, twelve dollars and fifty cents a month for five years and \$150 at the end of the fifth, additional vine acreage to be furnished at fifteen dollars an acre with a dollar a month for care and cultivation. Prophecy was that it will be surprising if in a few years Fresno "is not one of the leading raisin and wine producing sections of the world." . . . There are 151 children for whom school money can be drawn: 114 attended school during the term: sixty-six—thirty-two boys and thirty-four girls—are under five years of age. . . . A band of antelope raided the Henrietta Rancho one day last week and J. D. Fortchamp and another man of the ranch gave chase on horse and lassoed one of the fleet quadrupeds. This was less than three miles from the present town center.

July 3—The Saturday celebration of the Fourth was only an indifferent one according to the public print, notwithstanding the elaborate promised program. "But a small amount of tangle-leg comparatively was drank in town on the occasion." Centerville celebrated and on Monday July 5 also there was a social picnic at Glass & Donahoo's saw mill at Pine Ridge, likewise on Sunday at the starting up of the Champion quartz mine of Jensen & Keys at the head of Big Creek. . . . July 4 at the residence of M. J. Church near town Charles W. De Long was married to Miss Maria Church.

July 7—Trial commenced on change of venue of H. H. Granice for the killing at Merced December 7, 1874, of Edward Madden, editor and proprietor of the Tribune on account of a publication two days before of an article concerning his mother, the wife of Robert J. Steele of the San Joaquin Valley Argus, also of Merced. The article was a scandalous one attacking the chastity of the woman, stating that she had been inmate of a house of ill fame and intimating that a sensational book that she had published was a recital of her experience in that life. The killing was a cowardly one, Granice took Madden by surprise and unguarded after lying in wait for him, firing six times at him with pistol, wounding him five times and one of the six shots coming so close as to burn the cheek of the shot-at-man. The homicide was the sensation of the day. There was danger of mob violence, Granice was spirited away for safety after the Argus office had been partially looted and the Steeles had been ordered to leave town by the excited populace. Granice escaped from his guards at the Halfway House, six miles from Merced, in the confusion resulting from a supposed mob visit, and three days later Granice was taken at Modesto after having been found lost and starving in his wanderings. On the 10th of July after five hours of deliberations the jury found Granice guilty of murder

and fixed imprisonment for life as the punishment, October 20 time set for pronouncing judgment.

July 22—The first time that a candidate for governor of the state visited Fresno politically was on this evening when William Irwin spoke at a Democratic rally. . . . William Frank Lethers visits town thrice a week to deliver ice from Waggie's mill. An ice house is promised next. . . . Failure of crops has greatly checked the growth of the town this season. . . . Here was a local announcement: "John Bidwell, the land grabber, will tell the people of Fresno on the evening of August 4th how he stole that 23,000 acres of land and why he ought not to be elected governor of California. Take a cherry, sir."

August 4—J. M. Shannon and A. J. Hughes dissolve partnership, the last named retiring and Shannon still wanting hogs and announcing he will pay the highest cash prices. . . . W. H. Creed is building a substantial residence on K Street, south of that of Dr. Leach. . . . The Expositor submits "it is a disgrace that a town as large as Fresno should be without a church edifice," because "a town without a church looks a little uncivilized." It may be noted that Millerton never had one. . . . Deeds recorded from Thaddeus B. Kent to Thomas Brown and from the latter to the Bank of California for 49,161 acres for \$210,000 and from F. B. F. Temple to Miller & Lux for 23,240 acres for \$10,080. . . . Dr. Chester Rowell appointed district school trustee. . . . The courthouse is completed and awaits delivery to the county.

August 25—The "rookery" on courthouse square, known as the clerk's office and for ten months occupied by the county officials, is announced for sale.

September 5—The courthouse with basement jail having been accepted by the supervisors August 19 and Charles B. Overholser having been appointed the first janitor at seventy-five dollars a month, supervisors met for the first time in the building September 6.

September 8—Richard Glenn died at Centerville at the age of forty-eight. . . . The public school opened on the 6th with R. H. Bramlet in charge of the higher and Miss G. H. Ellis of the primary department. . . . The C. P. R. R. is selling return tickets between Fresno and San Francisco for fifteen dollars, good for ten days to visitors to examine lands of the Central California Colony. . . . First newspaper mention of M. Theo. Kearney in connection with his exhibition "of an enormous peanut vine with its roots crowded with nuts in all stages of growth." It was grown on irrigated land at the Gould ranch near town. He was taking it to San Francisco to exhibit it at the Mechanics' Fair.

September 22—Former Judge Abram C. Bradford voluntarily files in bankruptcy. . . . The grand jury of which P. C. Appling is foreman files report finding fault with almost everything in connection with the courthouse. . . . Wonder of Wonders! The Magnolia saloon has been closed under attachment for a \$299 debt owing to C. W. De Long and in two other suits for \$604.

September 29—The first located piano teacher is "Prof." E. Steinle, former music instructor at Mills' Seminary. . . . Freight charge on wool to San Francisco is \$100 a carload. . . . Rev. Father C. Scannell was to celebrate mass at the section house on Sunday. . . . The courthouse rookery was sold to Treasurer A. J. Thorn for \$146. . . . The county jail has twelve inmates. . . . Shannon's hall at H and Tulare—"Court Building"—is on wheels to be moved to Mariposa and I on the lots of the Odd Fellows, the upper story to be occupied as a lodge hall and the lower to be rented "probably as a saloon." . . . Total tax rate is one dollar and thirty-five cents—sixty and one-half cents for state and seventy-four and one-half cents county purposes—an excellent showing considering that the county had erected a \$60,000 courthouse. . . . The county register has 1,640 names.

October 20—The reported first oranges grown in Fresno county ripened at W. Hazelton's place on the Kings River this summer. . . . Al-

falfa is selling at twenty-two dollars a ton. . . . Sixteen prisoners in jail, mostly for petty offenses.

November 17—Theodore Schultz died on the 16th at the age of forty. . . . Night Watchman B. S. Booker furnishes evidence of attempt to fire the roof of the Rosenthal cigar store on H Street. . . . The grand jury makes report with testimony of experts that the report of a previous grand jury on the construction of the courthouse is a case of much ado about nothing and a veritable tempest in a teapot. . . . The first break out of the jail was on a Monday, November 14, when four prisoners, who had been left in the open court for exercise, pried open the back door in the absence of the deputy sheriff, who was seeking a surgeon to attend to a wounded Mexican, who had been brought into the lockup. Three were retaken in a day or two.

December 1—The name of the postoffice at Wheatville is changed to Kingsburg. . . . The orange from an eight-year-old seedling bearing for the first time is such a curiosity that it is on exhibition at the Henry Hotel. . . . Wood is selling at nine dollars and ten dollars per cord which is more costly than coal, the usual price being eight dollars. The rains made it impossible for teams to come from the mountains and supply the town.

December 8—Preliminaries undertaken for the formation of a social club with E. C. Winchell as chairman and Timothy Holland as secretary to maintain rooms and a library. . . . Dancing parties are all the go. . . . Jesse Morrow as purchaser of the line is running a daily four-horse stage between Fresno and Centerville, the latter the most populous center in the county. . . . Central California Colony "is looming up in importance." Located are thirty-six adults with eighteen children and over forty tracts besides sold to non residents. To carry out designed work will involve an outlay above \$100,000. "The town of Fresno is already appreciably feeling the influence of this new tributary." . . . Robert Brownlee, ex-supervisor of Napa County, leases the A. Y. Easterby four-section ranch in this county, three miles from the railroad; "and 100 miles south of Lathrop," so vague is the popular knowledge of localities in Fresno. Brownlee and son were to seed 1,500 acres to grain and on the remainder raise hay, the ranch being near the Kings River and south of the canal.

December 15—Supreme court grants Granice a new trial, judgment reversed because the indictment had been altered from one charging manslaughter to one for murder after the instrument had been recorded before the defendant had pleaded to it. . . . District Judge Deering gave judgment in the case against Jesse Morrow and other sureties for \$31,320 with ten percent interest from March 24, 1874, as deficit on the bond of W. W. Hill as treasurer, the largest in the history of the county. . . . Supervisors call for sealed proposals to fill in "all depressions around the courthouse."

December 22—Judge Alexander Deering died at Merced on the 18th.

December 29—Deed recorded from Contract and Finance Company to Charles Crocker for one dollar for 4,480 acres including the Fresno town-site, excepting the lots heretofore sold by the company. . . . Thirty-eight marriage licenses recorded during the year 1875. . . . The Review died after an existence of nine months. The Expositor commented that "one paper can live in Fresno County while two are sure to starve." . . . That moulder of public opinion observed also that "Christmas proved too much for a large number of the reformed tipplers in this neighborhood. They fell in the highways and by ways."

## CHAPTER LVII

SIX YEARS OF ASTONISHING CHANGES UP TO CENTENNIAL YEAR. COUNTY BOUNDARY LINE CONTROVERSY. IRRIGATION PROBLEMS COMMAND LEGISLATIVE ATTENTION. FIRST WINE MAKING IN THE COUNTY. REORGANIZATION OF THE BANK. FOUNDING OF THE TOWN OF MADERA. PANIC YEAR AMONG THE SHEEPMEN. WATER REACHES THE PIONEER COLONY. RAISING OF WATER LEVELS IN WELLS. GOLD PLACER MINE BUBBLES. SALE OF GRAPES FOR WINE PRESSING. CHURCH BUILDING IS BEGUN. ADVANCE IN LAND VALUES. PIONEER FLOURING MILLS

The changes in Fresno, once a start on them was made, were many, varied and astonishing. It was a transformation from the desert to the flower garden, the vineyard and the orchard, from the wild grass plain to the cultivated farm home. Forty years ago in the year 1878, the Republican newspaper noted the change and this is what it said:

"Fresno County has witnessed as rapid growth of population within the last six years as any in the state. In 1850 there were a few miners, hunters and gamblers, besides a few families and soldiers at old Fort Miller. In 1860 there were three or four towns, if towns they could be called, in the county, and the principal one was Millerton, the county seat, situated half a mile below Fort Miller on the San Joaquin River, and a few settlers scattered here and there on the plains at great distances apart. Most of the latter were stockraisers and many of them, among whom were Miller & Lux, Jeff James, John Sutherland, made their fortunes in a few years.

"Except in the towns, the county was but thinly inhabited six or seven years ago and upon the plains could be seen thousands of cattle and horses. But since the Southern Pacific Railroad was built through, which was done in 1870-71, the county has been completely changed. From that time the growth in population has been very rapid, emigrants coming in every year. In the winter of 1872, the 'No-fence law' was passed which compelled the cattlemen to drive their stock from the county or to keep it confined. This gave the farmers a chance, and now, instead of the countless herds of cattle are farms rich in grain, fruit and vegetables. These are all raised on the dry and sandy plains, which a few years ago nearly every one declared 'good for nothing except grazing.'

"In 1873 an election was held in regard to the county seat. Some wished it to remain at Millerton, others wished it removed to Kings River, and still others to Fresno, a small place which then consisted of only some half dozen houses and a number of saloons. But in spite of its apparent insignificance, Fresno carried the vote by a large majority, because of its being the most central of the other places, and was situated on a railroad, advantages which none of the others possessed. Since that time Fresno has grown rapidly and now contains between 1,000 and 1,400 inhabitants and boasts of a three-story courthouse.

"The county of Fresno now promises to be and will be in time one of the most wealthy agricultural counties in the state."

— 1876 —

January 5—The Centennial year was ushered in with a rainstorm. . . . W. D. Tupper and W. H. Creed are associated as lawyers with office in a courthouse rented room. . . . The Fresno Social and Literary Club was organized with E. C. Winchell as president, Dr. Lewis Leach as vice, Tim-

othy Holland secretary, William Faymonville financial secretary, A. M. Clark treasurer, Leopold Gundelfinger librarian. . . . James B. Campbell of Mariposa was appointed by Gov. William Irwin to the vacant district judgeship, the appointee having been district attorney of Mariposa. . . . Since farmers began irrigating the water in wells in the Borden settlement has risen over ten feet, bringing it to within seventeen feet of the surface. . . . Contract for grading the courthouse grounds was awarded to Jerome B. Stevens at twenty-five cents a cubic yard and 3,000 required to do the filling in. . . . Mariposa County jail has five prisoners charged with murder. . . . On habeas corpus, Granice was admitted on the 10th to reduced bail in the sum of \$8,000.

January 12—Fire broke out on the night of the 4th in Bishop & Company's drug house near Mariposa and I, the largest fire to date. Lawrenson's saloon, Bishop & Company's drug house with the building owned by R. E. Hyde, and R. H. Fleming's office building were destroyed, total loss \$13,700. The flames were fought as long as the water lasted in the barrels on roofs. Gables were covered with wet blankets, two lines of buckets were started, one from the tank in rear of the Fleming home and one from large I Street puddles. Fanning Bros.' and Tombs' saddlery on the east side were wet down and the fire kept from spreading in that direction. W. B. Bishop & Company of Visalia did not resume business. Charles F. Burks opened on his own account on one side of Fanning Bros.' store. . . . Citizens' meeting held the day after the fire, H. D. Silverman chairman and A. Kutner secretary. George McCollough, S. W. Henry, Jesse Morrow, S. Goldstein and H. S. Dixon appointed a committee on finance; C. G. Sayle, W. J. Lawrenson and R. H. Fleming to organize a fire company, and J. W. Ferguson, H. S. Dixon, E. C. Winchell, C. G. Sayle and W. H. Creed for incorporation of town. . . . Harry Mendies with Lawrenson opens Courthouse saloon at Mariposa and I in the Knott vacated restaurant premises. . . . Postoffice is removed from Silverman & Einstein's to the Fanning's variety store at Mariposa and I, express office remains at old location. . . . About \$500 is in the fund to purchase hooks, ladders and buckets for fire purposes.

January 19—Bill has been introduced in the legislature to make the Kings River the boundary line between Fresno and Tulare from Tulare Lake to Smith's Ferry at Kingston. Residents about Kingsburg sent petition to attach the territory north of the river to Fresno, Tulare having long cast covetous eyes on the strip. . . . C. W. De Long is about to erect postoffice and merchandise store on Mariposa Street, about twenty feet east of Fanning & Bros.' store. . . . Again the wail that "Fresno has no church house, and while the town contains about 200 children it cannot boast of a Sunday school."

January 26—The Kings River Lumber Company incorporates with Charles P. Converse, B. F. Scott, John Sutherland, Jesse Morrow, J. M. Gregory and William Helm as directors. . . . Remonstrances are being signed against the passage of the Kings River boundary line bill.

February 2—As the result of the storms there was a fall of thirteen feet of snow at the Clipper Saw Mill at Pine Ridge with a reported ten feet at date when seldom there had been more than seven during a winter. . . . The irrigation problem is receiving attention in the legislature with no less than a dozen measures introduced on the subject but not one of them, as claimed, fully meeting the requirements of the people. . . . Assemblyman J. D. Collins has introduced a bill to reestablish the original boundary line between Fresno and Tulare. . . . The publication of the 1875-76 delinquent tax list requires ten columns of the smallest type in the Expositor.

February 9—Sale reported from M. J. Donahoo to H. L. Rea of one-third interest in four possessory claims and Clipper sawmills for \$7,000, Henry Glass and Donahoo same to I. A. Carter for \$7,000, Glass and Rea one-sixth interest to Ira A. Carter for \$3,500 and by Rea to Donahoo half

interest in the Tollhouse road and Big Corral blacksmith shop, store and dwelling house for \$4,000. . . . Property owners on Mariposa Street have raised the money to grade that street between H and J. . . . Piper's Opera House Company from Virginia City played "Rip Van Winkle" on the 7th to "a hall crowded to its utmost limit," and "Under the Gaslight," the night after. . . . Petition circulated for a new road district taking in Fresno and Central California Colony.

February 16—Charles W. De Long opens with postoffice his new general merchandise store on Mariposa Street.

February 23—The stairs leading to Magnolia hall were removed to the alley between it and the Larquier House, an addition 18x80 to be erected "making it the largest and finest hall in the San Joaquin Valley." . . . It was the report that Fresno County will loom up in grape vine statistics this year, because upwards of 500,000 will be planted. . . . The Eisen vineyard will make wine this season. T. F. Eisen has opened a champagne manufactory in New York and all wines made on the farm will be shipped there. Vineyard comprises 120 acres of choicest varieties of wine grape vines and the entire product will go into wine. The vines are three years old. Prophecy: "It is evident that grape culture is soon to form an important element in the products of the county."

March 1—The F. L. and S. C. announces its first social reunion for the 17th at Magnolia Hall; tickets two dollars. It has leased the hall for one year. . . . Record made of the sale by J. C. Hoxie to William Helm and W. J. Lawrenson of city block 338 for \$5,020. . . . Charles Crocker makes deed to county of all streets and alleys in the town for public highways. . . . Wednesday night before the Law and Foster carpenter shop in the rear of the McCollough & Andrews tenement house, near the corner of Mariposa and I and Fresno, was destroyed by fire; loss \$600. Comment: "Wonderful to relate no fire meeting was held next day." . . . After innumerable breaks in the ditch, the water has at last reached Central California Colony. . . . An immense quantity of grape cuttings has arrived for Mrs. J. A. Smith. They are of the raisin variety and will be set out in the colony on three twenty-acre tracts.

March 8—Articles on raisin and orchard culture have become the fad. On this date the Expositor printed on first page cuts of Central California Colony and of the courthouse, and on the fourth page a real estate selling map of the colony. It was probably hailed in its day as a journalistic feat. Around the court house are shown trees and foothills! The colony picture is a dream. The artist drew it from a description given him and with the aid of the selling map. The large trees shown in the foreground were only in his mind's eye. Likewise the shrubbery connecting Elm Avenue with the town. The trees that lined the avenues and the vineyards, orchards and gardens are not in the picture. Instead of the two groupings of three houses in the foreground, there were at the time not less than eighteen with others in construction. The town located in the distance is in a valley gorge, between two mountains, on the right of the picture the Sierra Nevada in fact twenty-five miles away, on the left the Coast Range and in turn seventy-five miles away. . . . Yale lock boxes at two dollars and three dollars a year are introduced in the postoffice. . . . For the season, twenty and thirty-one hundredths inches of rain had fallen.

March 15—H. H. Granice was brought to second trial before Judge Campbell on the Merced County grand jury indictment, which he ruled was one for manslaughter. After all testimony was in, the prosecution asked that the case be resubmitted to the grand jury to find an accusation for murder. The motion was not contested and it was granted.

March 29—Resale recorded from W. J. Lawrenson to C. J. Hoxie of his interest in Fresno block 338 for \$2,066.66. . . . The bill establishing the boundary line between Fresno and Tulare signed by the governor. . . . State



supreme court issues writ of habeas corpus on petition of H. H. Granice returnable April 10. . . . J. W. Dunlap and Thomas Jones bring the story of quartz mining operations on the upper Fresno River with the owners of the Confidence mine running a 150-foot tunnel to the ledge with about fifty feet more to run to strike the ledge. The fall season before shaft was sunk to the depth of over 100 feet but abandoned on account of water, the ledge being then four feet thick, 500 tons of rich ore on the dumps and if the ledge developed good on tapping mill was to be erected. The tradition was that in 1850 Maj. James D. Savage, the pioneer citizen of the region, being in pursuit of hostile Indians, discovered the ledge outcroppings and that it was so rich that he picked the gold out with butcher knife. Savage carved his initials on an oak tree to mark the location. The exact location was lost with his death. The discovered ledge is supposed to be the Savage. It was thought the ore would mill \$200 a ton, assays being as much as six times that. . . . There was local excitement over the assignment to the government by Capt. Charles H. Barth to secure shortage in accounts of some \$60,000. Barth was of the Fort Miller garrison during the Civil War and for the two years last past engaged in Fresno in the banking business under the name of Barth & Froelich with Dr. Lewis Leach interested. The financial difficulties in no-wise affected the bank, though the latter declined to do business except to pay demands as presented. Its capital was \$50,000 and its liabilities \$4,800. Barth's interest in the bank was assigned to Louis R. McLane of the Bank of Nevada.

April 5—Merced county scrip received to pay jurors in the Granice case. Merced's general fund was exhausted and scrip was sold at ninety cents on the dollar. . . . The theft is reported of the brick that covered the cemetery grave of a child of County Treasurer A. J. Thorn. . . . The Millerton post-office has been discontinued.

April 26—Supervisor I. N. Ward died Sunday the 23rd at the home of the Birkhead Bros. on the San Joaquin River. The county judge appointed Maj. John J. Hensley to the vacancy.

May 10—The Ne Plus Ultra Copper Mining Company has incorporated with \$200,000 capitalization. . . . Silverman & Einstein will erect a 30x100 warehouse on the reservation near the head of Tulare Street where the stock corral was located. . . . Fresno has 15 bars.

May 17—Ladies of the Methodist Church call a meeting for the 29th at the home of Judge Baley to organize a sewing society and to make a start toward raising money to build a church. . . . Superintendent Bernhard Marks of the colony brings a silver cup inscribed: "To first born in Central California Colony, May 4th, 1876," to be presented to Mr. and Mrs. George Smith in trust for the son. . . . Former Senator Thomas Fowler has bought the interest of Charles H. Barth in the bank. Effort was to be made to incorporate and increase the stock. . . . A lot of barrel stock has been received by the Eisen Vineyard Farm for the season's vintage. . . . The California Lumber Company expects to complete in another six weeks its flume to ship lumber from mountain mills. This enterprise resulted later in the year in the location of the town of Madera. It promised to sell lumber at the railroad for twenty dollars a thousand or twenty-two dollars loaded on cars. . . . C. M. Bennett has removed his planing mill to near Tollhouse and is running it by steam power. The Fresno Canal and Irrigation Company is extending its main canal twelve miles westerly from Central California Colony.

May 24—William Helm deeds to J. G. James 14,623 acres, also half of city block 383, and 1,920 acres besides, for \$20,000, subject to mortgage. . . . The depression in the wool market continues and has caused a panic among the sheep men. . . . Machines are set to work heading the barley crop at the Easterby Farm. . . . The Eisen vines are heavily laden with fruit for the production of a considerable quantity of wine this season.

May 31—The Eisen Vineyard is described as a property that "at no distant day will be one of the most noted places in California." It is under the supervision of Prof. Gustaf Eisen, "a gentleman of refinement and culture." There was being erected at this time one of the most complete wine-making establishments in the country, a building 50x100, and two stories high, wine presses to be on the upper floor and the lower to be used for storing must, wine, etc. The capacity is for the storage of 40,000 gallons of wine, the estimated yield for the season, with the capacity to be enlarged as required. A substantial residence was also to be erected. . . . Effort will at last be made to raise funds for "a union church in this village." Rev. L. Dooley has taken up the matter and Otto Froelich, A. Tombs and Charles F. Burks accepted the trusteeship to receive and disburse contributions and supervise the project. . . . Walter D. Tupper will erect a fine residence at K and Kern, south of the W. H. Creed premises.

June 7—He who visits Fresno County five years hence will hardly recognize its plains as the barren waste that existed a few years ago. Here and there on every hand bright spots of green and clumps of thrifty young trees surrounding comfortable farm houses can be seen from any elevated position. The sinuous lines of the irrigating ditches can also be traced by their fringe of green willows. The trees in town present an attractive appearance, some of them over twenty feet high. The places of Otto Froelich, W. J. Lawrenson and J. C. Hoxie and of others northwest of town "look like young forests," while gardens in other portions of town "give brilliant promise of great beauty." The statement was made: "Add five years to the growth of the trees already planted and this portion of the San Joaquin Valley will bear some more favorable cognomen than 'the treeless plains.'" . . . Seventh Day Adventist missionaries that labored in this vicinity for two months moved with their tent to Visalia. While in the Georgia Settlement they made twelve converts—ten of them adults—and these were baptized in the irrigation ditch the Sunday before. . . . Law & Foster have commenced on the Silverman & Einstein warehouse and promise to have construction sufficiently advanced to permit of the use of the structure for the exercises on the Centennial 4th of July celebration. . . . Announcement is that the two Odd Fellows' lodges, the Good Templars, the Grangers and the citizens generally will participate in the celebration in procession, exercises and ball, Harry S. Dixon to read the Declaration of Independence, Walter D. Tupper to be the poet, J. G. McElvaney the orator, George Zeis the marshal and J. S. Ashman the chief aid. . . . H. G. Silverman will this summer improve his lots near the corner of Tulare and J with a fine dwelling house, intending to bring his family out from New York in the fall. The site of the lots is occupied today by the Forsyth building and then was on quite a high eminence. As stated at the time the lots were among the most slightly in the town "as they possess a commanding view of the whole village." . . . Twenty-two men are engaged in irrigating the trees along the avenues at Central California Colony. The condition of the soil and the newness of the ditches "made irrigation at the colony a herculean task."

June 14—C. B. Overholzer and I. W. Byington of the colony are the town's teamsters. . . . W. D. Grady and R. H. Daly are associated as lawyers with office in the courthouse. . . . Sheep are selling in the county by the embarrassed at fifty to sixty cents a head. . . . A. H. Statham has located as a stable keeper at Tulare and I. . . . The Eisen vineyard is experimenting with the growing of pineapples. . . . Monday the 12th there was alarm over a report that the courthouse dome was on fire. Investigation disclosed that "an immense band of flying ants circling about the dome" gave the appearance of smoke rising through the windows. . . . R. P. Mace of Borden will be the president of the day on the 4th of July.

June 21—Notice is given of dissolution of the Barth & Froelich banking firm, Thomas Fowler becoming the owner of the Barth interest and he,

Froelich and Dr. Leach to organize and incorporate a banking institution with larger capital. . . . They had hot days. Here are samples: Sunday the 11th, 100 degrees; 12th, 105 degrees; 13th, 110 degrees; 14th and 15th, 106 degrees; 16th, 113 degrees, that Friday afternoon a strong wind set in and continued Saturday but the thermometer went up to 106 degrees. The ground was so heated that the air seemed like a blast from a furnace and leaves on plants were withered and scorched as if by fire, so intensely hot were the rays of the sun.

June 28—A. M. Clark and James McCardle elected Fresno school district trustees. . . . Census shows 158 children between five and seventeen years of age in the district.

July 5—A son was born on the 4th to the wife of Jans Hansen of Central Colony. The Hansens were among the first settlers of the colony, having come to better their fortunes. With the birth of the colony, they married, and on the national holiday the first born saw the light of day. . . . Fire broke out on Tuesday on the west side of the colony and spread rapidly. There was considerable damage on the Jo Spinney tract and the dwelling was with difficulty saved. The flames extended south and east burning everything in the path across the land, destroying 900 acres of dry feed of A. T. Covell, 400 of Rowell Bros. and 200 of W. F. Coughell, and burning over 2,500 acres. The fire started from the spark of a stove pipe. . . . Nearly eight miles were constructed of the extension of the Fresno Canal and Irrigation Company's ditch west of the colony. . . . It was said to have been the best 4th of July celebration yet had in the county, notwithstanding the unexpected opposition that it encountered.

July 12—The church fund was started with ten \$100 subscriptions. . . . There is a deficit of \$175 in the 4th of July expense fund. . . . Ex Judge A. C. Bradford is chosen secretary of the California Society of Pioneers.

July 26—Operations on the western extension of the canal are suspended for the season after reaching out twelve miles. . . . A Tilden & Hendricks and a Hayes & Wheeler club liven up town politics.

August 2—Wells have raised two feet during the summer, attributable to the irrigation ditches, though none was within three miles of the city. The phenomenon was even more remarkable at Borden. At Central California Colony the water level rose five feet. . . . Tilden & Hendricks Club organized with 153 members. On the Saturday following, it raised a ninety-foot flag pole in front of headquarters. It was a pine tree cut in the mountains. . . . Report is that \$1,800 was subscribed for the church building fund, the Missionary Society of the M. E. Church South to furnish \$500 additional. . . . The California Lumber Company's flume has been completed to the railroad. . . . Ice is sold in Fresno at three cents a pound. . . . McCollough & Andrews announce readiness to supply water, if the public will give them encouragement in the enterprise.

August 9—Henry Glass of the Clipper mill announces rough lumber at mills in quantities of 50,000 feet nine dollars cash per thousand, in less quantities ten dollars per thousand cash and eleven dollars on credit. Clear lumber at mill cash eighteen dollars. At Tollhouse at an advance of six dollars per 1,000 on above prices. . . . Jerry Ryan is building a two-story brick house at Mariposa and I. . . . Dr. Leach vaccinated forty-seven on Sunday and twenty on Monday because of small pox epidemic in San Francisco. . . . According to the Expositor, "the baker's dozen constituting the Republican Club of Fresno" named Dr. Chester Rowell and Samuel Goldstein as delegates to the "Radical state convention." . . . The Centennial mining district was formed to cover the placer mines discovered by Fresnans and Tulareans in old Mill Creek in the eastern part of the county—George Sargeant president, W. F. Flournoy secretary and Nelson Harlan recorder. The placers were said to be of coarse wash gold with evidence of quartz vein drift, similar to the gold taken from Sycamore Creek in earlier days, the

purest in the county and bringing eighteen and one-half dollars an ounce. The existence of these placers was known but the winter water had always been so high as to cover the gold channel in the creek bed. . . . Bank of Fresno incorporated with a capitalization of \$250,000. . . . School opening on the 28th with John Dooner in charge and R. H. Bramlet of the primary department. Bramlet was afterward county auditor, and when he retired from public office remarked that he had no complaint for the people of Fresno had been good to him in permitting him at fifty-one years of age to have spent seventeen years or one-third of his natural life in office. . . . Dr. Leach appointed by the supervisors city health officer for six months from August 9. He was at the time county physician in charge of the county hospital and in both positions continued for years. . . . Frank Dusy and F. B. C. Duff report discovery of good gravel diggings on one of the bars in Dinkey Creek, yielding an average of three dollars a day per man. Some excitement and prospectors' claims located. . . . Dr. Chester Rowell elected Republican central committeeman from the county. The Expositor says he is "the most zealous Republican in the district without a doubt." . . . The passenger train schedule to be changed from midnight to daylight running time. . . . Ex Senator Thomas Fowler subscribes \$50,000 to the banking fund.

August 28—William Markwood for whom Markwood's Meadows are named died on the 15th following an accident. On Sunday the 13th he and Abe Childers engaged in horse racing on the grade near Tripp's old store. The horses shied and carried the riders over the bluff. Childers recovered consciousness afterward. . . . Conflicting reports circulated concerning the latest reported gold discoveries. . . . Friday the 18th the dry grass in the cemetery on Elm Avenue caught fire and 160 acres were burned over. Supposition was that the fire started from a joss stick on a Chinese grave. . . . Machinery is placed at the Eisen vineyard for the making of wine. . . . H. H. Granice indicted at Merced for murder.

August 30—On this Wednesday appeared the first call for grapes as a commercial commodity as follows:

Grapes Will Be Bought at \$30 per Ton at	
Eisen's Vineyard, East of Easterby Farm.	
Apply to	F. T. EISEN.

. . . "The new Golcondas," as the gold placers are described, are pronounced a fraud. . . . The frame work is up to support the water works tank on Fresno Street, west of J, so long afterward a city landmark.

September 6—Meeting of Republicans announced for the 14th to be addressed by John F. Swift, or as the Expositor stated to "flaunt the bloody shirt in this village." . . . The railroad having been completed to Los Angeles an extra freight emigrant train was placed on the run from Tulare to San Francisco, meeting a similar train from the city here at seven A. M.

September 13—The grand jury finds the county hospital a building "totally unfit" for the purpose.

September 20—The California Lumber Company is fluming as much as 30,000 feet of lumber daily from the mountains to the plains at Madera. . . . Fresno's assessment roll totals \$8,025,381.

September 27—Sunday the 26th, the jail was without a prisoner for the first time since occupation of the courthouse, the last one on hand having been shipped after sentence to San Quentin.

October 4—Construction is progressing on the 36x60 M. E. Church South building at Fresno and L, with ceiling sixteen feet in the clear, belfry and exterior corniced and as planned "an ornament to the town."

October 11—The California Lumber Company announces the sale of town lots at Madera for Tuesday, October 24. . . . Banquet is given Saturday the 14th at Faber's by citizens to McCollough & Andrews in appreciation of

their enterprise in construction of water works which are in operation. Tests of pressure made on Mariposa Street for fire purposes showed that it was satisfactory.

October 18—There is gratification over the advance in land values. Land that had gone begging at three dollars an acre four years before is held at fifteen dollars and twenty dollars—some irrigated land including water privileges selling as high as fifty dollars an acre. There is much land open yet to preemption and homesteading. . . . The Fresno Bank organizes with Thomas Fowler, Dr. Lewis Leach, William Faymonville, J. A. Blasingame, Jesse Morrow, Otto Froelich and H. C. Daulton as directors to open for business December 1. . . . There are 1,671 names on the great register.

November 8—C. E. Brimson from Tulare succeeds J. R. Hooper as railroad station agent. . . . Notice published of the marriage November 8 at San Buenaventura of C. G. Sayle and Miss Nettie Burks, and at Visalia November 5 of Lefonso Burks and Miss Mollie Sayle.

November 22—August Weihe sells to H. Voorman and W. S. Chapman the Henrietta ranch of 18,186.40 acres for \$8,000, a very low price. . . . M. A. Schultz died Friday, November 24.

November 29—Wine is offered for sale as a native product for the first time at the Eisen vineyard. . . . The Fresno bank will open Friday, December 2, Thomas Fowler president, Dr. Leach vice president and Otto Froelich cashier. . . . M. Theo. Kearney receives appointment as managing agent at San Francisco for the proprietors of the Central California Colony and the Expositor stated that as he is largely interested in land in this county he will therefore feel an extraordinary interest in the success of the colony.

December 2—Granice was convicted at Merced of murder in the second degree after the jury had deliberated for twelve hours. Judge Campbell of Fresno sentenced him to thirty years imprisonment.

December 6—Mrs. Black and Miss Williams announce themselves as fashionable dressmakers located on I Street, near the Statham residence. . . . The county asks for plans and specifications for a hospital to accommodate at least twenty-five patients and to cost not to exceed \$9,500, the award of seventy-five dollars to be made for the best plans. . . . Report is that a new front is being put on Kramer's saloon. This with other recent improvements will give a solid frontage on H Street in city block sixty-one. . . . Waterpipe mains are being laid in the alleys for distribution of the fluid.

December 31—M. Theo. Kearney was a caller in Fresno on the last day of the year.

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January 10, 1877, appeared an advertisement of the Central California Colony for the sale of its lands through M. Theo. Kearney as manager, also of lands of W. S. Chapman, adjoining the colony, through him as agent. This was the beginning of Kearney's career in Fresno County.

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The Expositor published a brief review and an enumeration of structures in the town at the end of 1876, showing 253 dwellings, ten stores, blacksmiths three, barbers two, butchers two, livery stables three, boots and shoes two, saddleries two, saloons twenty, paint shops one, planing mill in construction one, drug stores two, photograph gallery one, lawyers' offices four, I. O. O. F. hall one, public hall one, county hospital one, church one, bank one, school one, printeries two, doctors' offices two, court house one, twenty-five buildings and the water works were under construction, two lumber yards and a third contemplated, two physicians, two ministers and nine lawyers. When the railroad was completed, there was not a habitation; at this time the boast was of over 320, not including those in the Chinese quarter.

It may be added that the city steam planing-mill enterprise was never launched. Late in 1876 C. M. Jones bought the two Whitlock lots and on the

brick basement foundations built a flouring mill. The location was on the east side of I Street between Mariposa and Tulare, in part covered today by the Mason block. It did not operate long. The historic flouring mills was the Champion of M. J. Church on the site of the Sperry mills at Fresno and N. It was later destroyed by fire. It was operated by a water wheel in a ditch carrying water from Fancher Creek, the surplus conveyed by canal (which was bridged at intervals and for safety covered in parts) through the town along the center of Fresno Street to land of the Church's west of town and beyond the Kearney Fruitvale Estate.

In time this canal became a public nuisance as a dumping ground for refuse and offal. Time and again the board of health declared it a nuisance to be condemned, and the city council ordered it discontinued. Long controversy and litigation followed and despite an existing injunction irate citizens aided, abetted, encouraged and assisted by the health board took the matter in hand one Sunday in the latter 80's after all patience had been exhausted and secretly organizing and preparing swooped down on the canal and filled it up with shovelling in of the banks before another injunction could be sued out, or process be served. The late Dr. W. T. Maupin as city health officer was a leader in this popular movement. So ended the Fresno Street Canal. The people had been trifled with too long by the corporation.

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## CHAPTER LVIII

LOCATED TOWNSITE OF FRESNO A FORLORN AND UNATTRACTIVE SPOT ON SAGEBRUSH DESERT PLAIN. M. K. HARRIS IN DIARY GIVES MENTAL PICTURE OF THE VILLAGE OF 1879. ALL BUSINESS WAS CENTERED ABOUT THE RAILROAD STATION. SALOONS WERE NOT LACKING. BRICK BUILDINGS NUMBERED SIX. ALL OTHER STRUCTURES WERE ONE STORY FRAME OF LIGHTEST AND CHEAPEST MAKE. SURROUNDINGS NOT AT ALL PLEASING TO THE EXPECTANT NEWCOMER. COYOTES HOWLED AT NIGHT IN VILLAGE BACKYARDS. A GLIMPSE INTO EARLY POLITICS.

Admittedly "a new and wonderful country," there was in the village of Fresno in the year 1879 little as yet to attract to the spot that in 1872 had been described as uninhabited save by wild cattle, mustang horses, antelope and coyotes. There was as yet not much of a village. What little there was covered the four blocks from Tulare to Fresno, and from H to K, east of the railroad station, with fringes of widely scattered abodes but many more vacant spots than occupied ones in the habited territory.

First courthouse had been erected and was the most prominent structure in the village or town and continued such for years. The four blocks which it centered were levelled and trees planted that year. The first public owned schoolhouse had been put up at L and Tulare Streets, just across the courthouse park. The nine graves in the first city cemetery, a few blocks from the courthouse site, had crowded the living with their suggestive propinquity and had been removed.

Streets, blocks and lots were staked out on the rough rolling prairie land as it was when town was located by the railroad on the limitless plain. The very first demand for a townsite in drinking water supply was lacking. Windmills to pump up water from the deepest wells marked the inhospitable landscape in the first years. The sale of water for beast was the first commercial enterprise by the pioneer settler. Vacant blocks and lots fringing the town habited quarter were traversed by cow and footpaths to objective points. Streets there were none; neither sidewalks. Walked you four to six blocks in any direction east of the railroad, and you had passed the last



habitation; you were out in the country and on the rolling hog-wallow plain, with the vision on a clear day unobstructed as far as the eye could see on the undulating plain. Trees and shade? Heaven save the mark! There were none and the sun shone blisteringly and swelteringly hot. Another early enterprise was the digging of deep cellar on H Street near Tulare where the thirsty congregated and in the subterranean cool guzzled Philadelphia Brewery beer imported from San Francisco. When, nearly thirty years after, excavations were made in the tearing down of the Ogle House for the larger Collins Hotel they came on a portion of the unfilled cellar, people wondered what the excavation was and wrote to the papers until some pioneer solved the question by recalling the cool beer-guzzling cellar.

Can you imagine the one time Burleigh premises at J and Merced Streets, today one block from the city hall, and two from the nearest corner of the courthouse square, located so far from the center of town as to be connected by ground sluice ditch to convey water from the mill race ditch waste on Fresno Street with which to irrigate ornamental and vegetable garden? A two-story house was a thing to gaze at in wonder for its rarity. The prevailing architecture was the one-story, rude, clapboard shack such as would not even tax the constructive ingenuity of the carpenter with only saw, hammer and nails. Where ground space ownership was limited, steps to upper story or attic loft were hung outside the house if location was conveniently on street or alley corner.

At what are today the corners of Fresno and J and Tulare and J—the Shannon and Ferguson corners—were orange and fruit orchards as sore temptations for the small boy. The blocks between Tulare and Kern and J and M formed the ridge of a hilly prominence, six to ten feet above the present street level, sloping to naturally low ground with surface-water drainage channels on Inyo Street on the one side, on Fresno and Merced on the other, with deep depressions as at J and Tulare and at J and Mariposa continuing as far as the railroad station for the formation of spreading sheets of water during rainy winters, when with later street grading and levelling the natural drainage channels were destroyed. Verily it passeth understanding why the railroad located the town where it did. It was the most unlikely and god-forsaken place imaginable. But having located it, it has always been remarked that the mistake was made in not placing it on the west side of the railroad on the higher ground for the more commanding position and the better drainage which always has been a problem in its present low location. Still it was no better and no worse than other locations on the railroad when building through the valley with original town locations invariably almost on the left side traveling southward.

A mental picture of what Fresno was in 1878 is recorded in a diary of M. K. Harris, who came from Tennessee arriving August 15, 1878, as a young lawyer graduate to grow up with the town and the country, to sit twice on the bench of the superior court, early in his career to enter the field of politics, and today one of the best known practicing lawyers in the county and an estimable gentleman. The diary has its interest as a record.

"I arrived here about ten o'clock in the morning on a Saturday," runs the diary. "Coming down on the train, I met Mr. Ashbrook of Liberty and he was the first new acquaintance I made in the country. That night I stopped at the French Hotel, a little two-story building on H Street and run by Simon Camy, a clever Frenchman, who was killed in the mountains in 1883 in a difficulty over range for sheep. The next morning I looked over the town, presented a few letters of introduction to gentlemen, went into the cupola of the courthouse and took a view of the surrounding country. I cannot say that I was at all pleased with my surroundings, or with my future prospects, but there have been such marvelous changes both in the town and the surrounding country that I pause to recall and describe what I saw during the few months following my arrival.

"As to the town of Fresno, I discovered that the principal business street was H Street, also called Front Street. On this street Einstein conducted a general merchandise business in a one or two-story brick house at the corner of Mariposa. A little further down, Charles De Long had a store in the front part of which was the postoffice over which he presided. About where the Ogle House now stands, J. Brownstone had opened a store which the old time merchants viewed with rather hostile eyes as an intruder. Fred Kramer ran a saloon a little below Einstein and a man named Beagle (Biegel) ran one just north of the French Hotel before mentioned. Edouard Faure conducted a small barber shop in the hotel, while George Bates had a small fruit stand next to the barber shop.

"Mariposa Street began to increase in importance about this time. Kutner & Goldstein had just completed a one-story brick building on the corner of H and Mariposa Streets with a number of stores under one roof. William Faymonville and H. S. Dixon occupied adjoining offices in a one-story brick building about half way between H and I Streets on the north side of Mariposa. L. Burks had a drug store a little further down in a frame building owned by C. G. Sayle and on the northwest corner of I Street Bill Lawrenson had a saloon.

"Across I Street, P. R. Fanning had a little miscellaneous store in a one-story frame house and adjoining it on the east O. J. Meade and Henry Austin conducted a saloon; next to them was George Bernhard's butcher shop; across the alley was George Studer's residence and tailor shop; next was Judge Winchell's law office, then George McCollough's residence and across J Street was Fleming and Wimmer's livery stable which extended to the alley.

"On the south side of Mariposa Street commencing next to Einstein's brick building was a row of little frame buildings extending to nearly J Street. On the corner of J, where the Farmers' Bank stands now, was the Odd Fellows' hall, a two-story frame house, next to it a few little cabins, while J. W. Williams owned and ran a blacksmith shop where the Grand Central stands, and this about completes the description of Mariposa Street. The different buildings mentioned were all one-story frame structures of the lightest and cheapest make.

"The only brick buildings in town were Kutner & Goldstein's, Einstein's, Faymonville & Dixon's offices, the Fresno Bank, the courthouse and an old building where the Ogle House now stands. The Expositor office and J. W. Ferguson's residence were located on the ground now occupied by the Fresno National Bank building (The Bank of Italy at Tulare and J).

"I Street between Mariposa and Fresno was built for residences by Kutner, Goldstein and others. Statham's livery stable occupied the northeast corner of I and Tulare. The only school house was a two-roomed one-story frame building standing where are now the Fresno Agricultural Works. The only church was that of the South Methodists on Fresno Street and in which religious worship was had, I think, every two weeks.

"The hotels were the French on H Street, already mentioned, and the Morrow House owned by Jesse Morrow and conducted by Mrs. McElveny on the corner of Tulare and K, which is still there but in an enlarged form. (This is the postoffice corner.) Mrs. Johnson, Dr. Leach, W. H. Creed, and W. D. Tupper lived on K street between Tulare and Kern; also Dr. Rowell and one or two others. About the only houses north of Fresno Street that I remember were the residences of A. M. Clark, H. S. Dixon, J. C. Hoxie, C. L. Wainwright and the Methodist Church. Possibly there might have been others but that part of town was simply a part of the plains on which the wild flowers grew in the spring without the sign of streets or roads. The only buildings east of M Street were the residences of Judge Baley, Mrs. Daly and J. Scott Ashman and they resided on M Street facing the courthouse yard. Not a white person lived west of the railroad.





LAW OFFICE OF JUDGE E. C. WINCHELL, 1876—UNION NATIONAL BANK  
BUILDING SITE

"The cemetery was just to your right as and before you entered Fresno Colony on Elm Avenue as you left Fresno City. William Faymonville resided in a small frame house adjoining the Olcese & Garibaldi building on K Street (corner of Mariposa).

"As to the country. I went into the dome of the courthouse the morning I arrived and could see only two signs of life or habitation, the Central Colony and the Gould ranch. The colony had been started about four years before, I was informed. Temperance and Washington colonies had also been laid out, I think; Eisen vineyard, the only one in the county, had begun to bear crops. All the balance of the country, so far as the vision extended was one bare, hot, sandy, desert plain, which ran right up into the streets of the town, with scarcely one object to relieve the eye or cheer the heart.

"Sunday night after I arrived, I went out with W. W. Phillips in his buggy (one of the few then in the county) to Centerville; on my way to see my brother the next morning, I secured a seat in the wagon with Mrs. Gilbert with whom I rode several miles, when she pointed out a cabin away off in the distance which looked like a mere small brown spot on the desert as the residence of my cousin, Gen. T. H. Bell. I started for it loaded with a heavy valise and on my way crossed the C and K canal which had been made the year before and then had water in it. I finally arrived at the general's, a small shanty without shade tree or other ornament, where I was cordially received by his wife, Cousin Mary, the general being away from home. That afternoon I went to my brother's a half of a mile further. He lived in a small cabin on a place which a man named Stumpf afterward bought from Solomon Gates. All this country was unimproved, much of it was virgin soil, and I saw several large stacks of wild alfilaria hay near some of the residences."

"Selma had not then been laid out and I remember going from General Bell's across the country that winter to a dance at a schoolhouse at or near where Selma now stands. The only canals in the county then, I think, were the Fresno Canal and Irrigation Company's system, including the Gould ditch, and the Centerville and Kingsburg canal, also the Emigrant ditch. Land everywhere was very cheap and there was still some government land that had not been entered as late as 1880. I entered a quarter section in the Bethel neighborhood of good land which I afterward abandoned and which my brother entered under the homestead act. In those days antelope were quite plentiful on the plains and I remember seeing herds of them several times within seven or eight miles of Fresno City. The coyotes were numerous and troublesome close to town. I have heard them barking at night while I was in bed in Fresno so close did they come around.

"J. B. Campbell was judge of this district at this time and he went out of office a year later when the new constitution was adopted in 1879. Judge Gillum Baley was county judge and he also went out of office the next year. E. Hall was the sheriff and A. M. Clark the county clerk and recorder. The attorneys here were then H. S. Dixon, W. D. and H. C. Tupper, C. G. Sayle; the latter three forming a partnership with offices in the Kutner-Goldstein building; E. C. Winchell, W. D. Grady, E. D. Edwards and W. H. Creed. Creed was district attorney and Edwards his deputy and partner, S. H. Hill was the justice of the peace and held his office and court in the front part of a saloon on H Street.

"After I had been here awhile, I sent for G. H. Vaughn, who was in San Francisco and he, Grady and I formed a partnership under the firm name of Vaughn, Grady & Harris. We had our law office up over some saloon on H Street and did a pretty fair practice in a small way. The first lawsuit I ever helped in was the case of one Curry against Thom et al. at Borden. It was Grady's case and he took me along to help him. His opponent was a lawyer named Gardner from Merced. After many speeches and much wran-

gling between Grady and Gardner, we secured a verdict in our favor for the plaintiff. For my trouble and valuable time, Grady gave me a five-dollar gold note and paid my expenses, which I am free to state was much more than I had earned.

"This partnership continued until January 1, 1879, when we dissolved by mutual consent, Vaughn and I forming a partnership and having our office upstairs in the Donahoo block, near I Street, which had been built since my arrival. We remained there one year, when we moved into an office upstairs in a brick building where Donahoo, Emmons & Company's store is at present (east side of I near Mariposa).

"During the year 1879, S. A. Holmes was elected superior court judge defeating H. S. Dixon who ran against him as an independent. For the Democratic nomination, his opponents were Judge Gillum Baley and W. D. Tupper whom he defeated. W. D. Grady was elected district attorney. On the 6th of September, 1880, my partner Vaughn got into a difficulty with John Donahoo (candidate for sheriff) and shot and killed him. At the time the shot was fired, Donahoo had Vaughn down and was beating him. Donahoo had made previous threats to do Vaughn harm. Great indignation among Republicans was excited against Vaughn and a mob was even formed to lynch him, but this was quickly put down and after a fair trial the following January before a jury above the average in intelligence and in which Vaughn was defended by Judge (D. S.) Terry and myself he was acquitted. This affair dissolved our partnership as Mr. Vaughn practiced here no longer, and, in February, 1881, Judge C. G. Sayle and I went into partnership.

"In 1882, E. D. Edwards and I were candidates for the Democratic nomination for district attorney and I was defeated after a close contest. I should have been nominated (I don't mean that I was more deserving than Edwards) and would have been but I had an idea that all a man had to do under such circumstances was to announce himself, show himself to the people and stop. I had no system to my canvass, no workers and nothing that is necessary in such cases, because I knew nothing about politics myself. On the other hand, my opponent had experience in such matters, was a shrewd manipulator and consequently beat me in some precincts where he had but little strength while I had a good deal. But I had and have no complaints to make over the result, and stumped the county for the ticket after it was nominated. In 1880, two years previously, I also stumped the county for the Democratic ticket.

"After my defeat in 1882, the Democratic convention in my absence and without my knowledge instructed the delegates to the district senatorial convention to vote for me. Though this was contrary to my ideas and feelings, after earnest solicitations by many friends, I finally consented to allow my name to be put in nomination. In Tulare County at the Democratic convention, the delegates to the senatorial convention were instructed to vote for a citizen of that county and for me for second choice. Pat Reddy was the candidate from Mono County and was my choice for the place, not excepting myself. The convention met at Bakersfield and for about eighty ballots, Mono, Inyo and Kern voted for Reddy, Tulare for its man and Fresno for me.

"Finally seeing no disposition in the delegates from Tulare to carry out the instructions of their county by voting for me, as second choice, I notified them that I would withdraw after one more ballot. They evidently thought I was not in earnest and that it was a mere ruse to obtain their votes. But I did withdraw and on the next ballot all the counties went for Reddy except Tulare. This action was a mere matter of choice between the men as Reddy was incomparably the superior. I was well satisfied with the result—in fact I held on as long as I did in deference to the wishes of my county.



"In 1886 I ran against Reel B. Terry for district attorney and attribute my defeat in this race to the fact that at this time the Chinese question was violently agitated. Terry took a pronounced part in the agitation which secured for him the support of a large element. I was not what was called anti-Chinese, as I thought it would seem too much like acting the demagogue to join the crusade against the heathen, even going so far as to boycott persons employing them at that time. This year I was elected chairman of the Democratic County Committee, of which I had been a member since 1882. I believe I have been elected a delegate to every Democratic state convention that has been held since but only attended one, the memorable one at Stockton in 1884.

"In May, 1883, learning that my father whom I had not seen since I left Tennessee in 1878, was in a low state of health, I made a visit back to Gallatin, where I remained until about the middle of August. I found my father very feeble and declining and a few months after my return to California he died.

"In December, 1882, I received a letter from W. S. Moore, who had been publishing a paper at Franklin, Ky., for a year or two, stating that he would make a change soon and inquiring about Fresno as a field for a newspaper. Knowing that he was not very strong physically, greatly desiring to have him near me and believing there was room for a bright Democratic weekly, I conceived the idea of publishing such a paper and placing Moore in charge of the business. A little inquiry satisfied me that the plan was feasible and I telegraphed Moore to come. He arrived in Fresno early in January, 1883. In a short time I had a company incorporated for the purpose of publishing a newspaper and doing a general printing business.

"The outfit was purchased and we named the paper the Fresno Democrat. The first number was dated, I think, March 12, 1883. The first office was under the Ogle House on Front Street, then it was moved into the second story above Furnish's butcher shop on Mariposa Street, then into one of the stores on the west side of J, just a door or two above Mariposa, and there it remained until we sold out. From the beginning, the Democrat was opposed, assailed and the motives of its projectors impugned by both the Republican and the Expositor, especially the latter.

"A serious but rather ludicrous effort was indulged in by the proprietors of both of these papers, to use a slang phrase, to 'sit down on' the Democrat and its editor, through the columns of their papers, but it was a good deal like a shirt-tailed boy sitting down on a redhot stove. They got up very quickly with disastrous results and with a strong disinclination to repeat the experiment, for Moore was full of fight, a brilliant, witty and powerful writer and utterly fearless in the expressions of his convictions. The Democrat under him soon took high rank among the country papers. I am glad to be able to state that its course was never once influenced by sordid or improper motives, as I think it shows for itself. In December, 1883, Mr. Moore returned to Kentucky, married, returned at once and took up residence again in Fresno.

"The legislature of 1886-87 created a new department of the Superior court for Fresno County, the business of the court having grown too large to be transacted by one judge. W. D. Tupper, E. D. Edwards, S. S. Wright, S. A. Holmes and I were applicants before Governor Bartlett for the position and I received the appointment on the 12th of March, 1887, and at once entered upon the discharge of my duties. The next year 1888 was the general election and I was a candidate for the Democratic nomination for Superior court judge with my old antagonist, Judge Holmes, as my opponent. I defeated him by a large majority. Shortly after the primaries, I went to San Francisco for a week's rest and while there I received the gratifying intelligence that the Republicans had endorsed me and placed me on their ticket.

At the election I received within seventy-five votes of the combined number received by the Democratic and Republican presidential nominees in the county."

The diarist recites that he graduated from the law school of Vanderbilt University at Nashville, Tenn., in August, 1874, and left his Gallatin home for Fresno, "which place he had selected for his future home thinking that a new country offered a wider scope and a more promising field for a professional young man than an old one." A brother, C. C. Harris, had located in Fresno eighteen months before and on the journey the diarist was accompanied by George H. Vaughn, whom he had known since they were boys but with whom he had had little association, the latter living at Nashville. There are interesting references to this journey in a day when travel was not the luxurious experience that it is today. To the diarist who had hardly been outside of Kentucky and Tennessee all his life, the nearly 3,000 miles long journey to California was a revelation. "It first gave me," says he, "something like a just idea of the extent, of the wealth, of the future of this country of ours."

At Omaha, then a town of not much importance, cars were changed and the travelers were given seats in what was known as the emigrant car. The accommodations were by no means good. Seats were not upholstered, no place to wash, two persons to a seat and no porter. Car was attached to the end of a long freight train which moved exceedingly slow, but the travelers were a good natured lot, all became acquainted and passed the time pleasantly. Each seat of persons furnished its own bedding, all had baskets of lunch "of sufficient dimensions to last to the journey's end." Fare from St. Louis to California was fifty-five dollars each.

The morning after, the travel was "over an unbroken and a seemingly boundless prairie covered by a thick carpet of verdure, variegated with bright sunflowers. Nowhere did it seem that the soil had ever been broken; indeed it had the appearance of having just come from its Maker's hands." Scarcely any farmhouses were seen anywhere in the state of Nebraska and no buildings anywhere except a few small ones clustered around the railroad stations and the latter at long intervals. "We saw," reads the diary, "large bands of sheep and cattle feeding on the rich herbage and not infrequently bands of antelope could be plainly seen in the distance. The entire country had that air of western frontier life that has such a charm for the young."

Approaching the summit of the Rocky Mountains, reached late one evening at Sherman, the air was crisp and bracing though it was in August. Some of the travelers frequently rode for hours on top of the caboose and every moment over the wild, diversified country was full of interest. "In Nevada," says the diary recorder, "I saw my first Indian at a little alkali station in the person of a stalwart brave, a captain somebody wearing a silk hat but not much else, chasing a gaunt old sow that carried a small bundle of meat and bread in her mouth after having purloined it from Mr. Indian. This specimen of the red man of the forest was not in keeping with what James Fenimore Cooper had told about them in his interesting but romantic novels."

Utah, the country of the Mormons, seemed better cultivated than any seen on the journey. Crossing the Sierra Nevadas was seen Donner Lake, memorable scene of the ill-fated California pioneer party of travelers. The Tennessean arrived at Sacramento on the morning of August 15, there Vaughn and the new acquaintances of the rail parted to proceed to San Francisco by river steamer, while the diarist came on to Fresno, which has been his home since with one other journey back home to marry the sweetheart of his youth.

## CHAPTER LIX

EVERY CHANGE OF THE LANDSCAPE WAS ONE OF NOTE IN THE DAYS OF BEGINNINGS. IN 1881 FRESNO WAS YET A HANDFUL OF HOUSES IN A DESERT OF SAND. LOCATORS DID NOT LOCATE AS THE TOWN PROJECTORS HAD PLANNED. METROPOLITAN HALL THE GRAVEYARD OF SO MANY TRAVELLING SHOWS. O STREET WAS OUT OF TOWN. NOB HILL THE RESIDENTIAL QUARTER. RABBITS AND SQUIRRELS IN THE BACKYARDS. BEYOND CHINA-TOWN IT WAS SPACE AS FAR AS THE SLOUGH. UNOCCUPIED STRETCHES OF LAND TO THE NEAREST COUNTRY SETTLEMENTS.

Located as was Fresno on a barren plain with nothing to obstruct the visual horizon nearer than the Coast Range on the west and the Sierras foothills on the east side, little wonder that any change in the landscape was one of note. The beginning of Fresno was literally one from nothing. Even after the location of the town, its growth was slow. The first beginnings with the coming of the railroad have been traced. Judge M. K. Harris' mental picture of the town in 1879 is incomplete in many details. His diary was a composition of later years. Not so startling were the changes between 1878-79 and 1881 as in turn recorded in a diary of R. W. Riggs, whose arrival dates from February 1 of the latter year but whose recollections cover other details that had escaped the memory of the earlier diarist. Riggs' impression of Fresno was that it was "not much of a town, a handful of houses in a desert of sand." Riggs has been a frequent newspaper contributor of historical sketches.

It is not to be gathered from the two diaries in the location of the business places in those days that the described blocks were of solidly built up blocks. Far from it. The unoccupied space was far greater than the occupied. The only solidly built up block in those years was the one on H, or Front Street, facing the railroad station block afterward turned into a park under a ninety-nine year lease to the city and on which the Chamber of Commerce building was erected facing the town. That railroad block was long an eye sore—a muddy water hole in winter, a bed of dust, sand and refuse heaps at other times and anything but an inviting front entrance into the city from the railroad.

Fresno Street, eighty feet wide, was to have been the main artery through the city, running east and west, and beyond the town limits. So planned the projectors. The locators squatted on H, and then turned into Mariposa Street, which became the center of the retail trade and continued such for many years. The railroad barred Mariposa westward at the reservation; the county blocked it eastward with the erection of the courthouse, facing the railroad. Courthouse grounds of four blocks were granted with the idea of having the courthouse face on Fresno looking northward; it was located in the center of the grounds facing the railroad station and westward. With the growth of the town and the traffic, there were no safe or convenient crossings of the railroad tracks and the subway on Fresno Street was the result under the administration of Mayor W. Parker Lyon. The railroad was forced into the building of this costly subway for concessions in closed certain other track crossing streets. The future will demand other subways or viaducts to accommodate the traffic.

The Santa Fe as the successor to the rights of the San Joaquin Valley Railroad runs through the eastern part of town, on Q Street and out of the city through Belmont Addition. It was so crowded for switching space and

conveniences that it removed its yards to Calwa and there started a new railroad town a few miles from the city. The Southern Pacific plans to locate switching and freight depot on reservation in the northern end of town following the example of the Santa Fe but war conditions delayed the project. There has been agitation to move both railroads out of the populated and busy portions of town and erect a union passenger depot but these periodical agitations have not materialized.

In 1917 there was agitation for the industrial zoning of the city through the efforts of the City Planning Commission and a beautiful scheme was laid out with a Civic Center planned around the courthouse. The plan aroused much opposition. The war suspended active operations and the plan has been shelved for the time being. One result of the agitation and the zoning movement has been however to designate a territory in the southern end of town, and including Woodward's Addition, as an industrial zone, and here are being located the large plants of the California Associated Raisin Company, of the California Products Company, of the Rosenberg Bros. packing house, the Hollenbeck-Bush planing mills and other enterprises. A like industrial zone has been established at the southern end of town on the line of the Santa Fe.

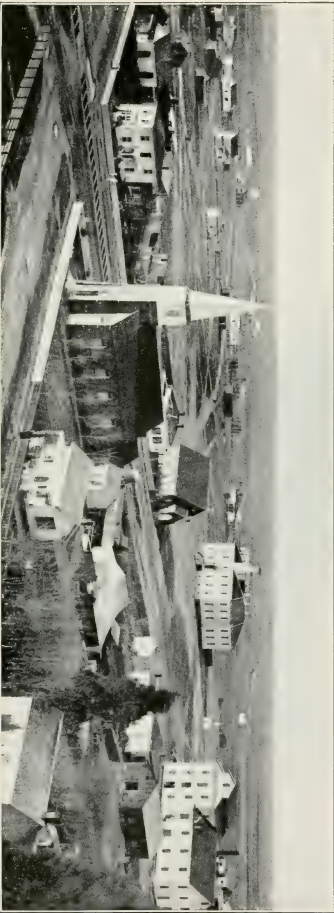
But to return to the Riggs' diary, commenting on 'the rapid travel in the days of 1881 he states that he left the city of San Francisco at 6:30 on the evening of one day and arrived at Fresno at three on the following morning and stepping off the car dropped into a foot of storm water at the depot. He expressed astonishment as he had expected to come to a dry country. It was the first rain that had fallen in fifteen months and the diarist comments that it was also the only one in the next ten months. He was driven to the Morrow House, W. J. Dickey was the night clerk and gave him a hospitable California welcome and the stranger from the east was introduced to the Mexican tamale. It was "not much of a town," says the diarist, "a handful of houses in a desert of sand." The census of 1880 credited the town with a population of 800 people. There were only two negroes, one the porter at Einstein's and the other "Gabe" Moore of Centerville and a historical character of the county. But many of the race came afterward.

The business of the town was centered about the railroad depot and on Front Street between Mariposa and Tulare. "It was a solid block of buildings." At Mariposa and H. he first notes the Einstein two-story brick, next the two-story Magnolia hall managed by the "only Jo P. Carroll," famous in his day from Stockton to Bakersfield as "a square sport." Next was the French Hotel, another two-story of fifty feet frontage, two or three saloons and small places and then the Ogle House and on to the corner opposite on Tulare the Star Hotel "and so ended Front Street southward." On the north side of Mariposa was Kutner, Goldstein & Co., back of them Russ Fleming had his stables and beyond the Pine Ridge (Behring) mill had a yard in charge of Walter Foster. Away out on the corner of Amador lived the widow of "Doc" Glass who completed the Tollhouse grade and in his day was one of the big men. From her house to the San Joaquin River, "it was sand and sand and more sand."

Back to Mariposa and there was S. Goldstein's stove and tin shop with a splendid stock in trade for a small town. Between him and Kutner, Goldstein & Co. was the Reese cigar and fruit stand, and across the alley on the same side William Faymonville had abstract and land office and Harry Dixon his law office, next door Sayle's drug store in charge of W. T. Burks and assisting him W. R. Williams afterward state treasurer. Alongside was the post office (?) with Otto Froelich as postmaster (?). In rear of this office Sayle, Harris and J. B. Campbell were lawyers. Upstairs the Weekly Review was published on a Washington hand press with S. A. Miller manager, W. T. Shanklin editor and A. G. Greeley as "devil." Under this building, notes the diarist, was one of the three cellars in the town; the others were "The Cave" and at Einstein's. "The Cave" was next door to the Ogle, twenty



FRESNO IN 1870—FROM FRONT OF COURT HOUSE



FRESNO IN 1880—BACK OF COURT HOUSE





feet below the surface, fifty feet long, ten or twelve feet wide and eight high. There was said to be another cellar below this one. After the big fire in 1882, the cellar was filled with ashes and never cleaned out.

At Mariposa and I was C. W. De Long's store and across the way on the south side Sol Wolner's I X L store; between him and Einstein's Edouard Faure had a barber shop and there he continued until his death. Gus Young and Chris Arkel made shoes in this locality and John Johnsen in the same line of business was on Mariposa near J about where he was in 1911. On I Street, A. Vellguth had a barber shop and his wife kept a notion store, and next door was the Metropolitan Hall, "the graveyard of over half the shows that struck town," Stockton, Merced, Modesto, Fresno and Bakersfield being the show towns between San Francisco and Los Angeles. John Hicks had a tin shop near the hall and across the street was Statham's stable and Tupper & Tupper had a law office. Back of there on the alley Simpson Bros. had the largest blacksmith shop in the valley.

At Mariposa and I was Masonic hall (it was the I. O. O. F. Building) and "beneath it good old Judge Baley had a grocery and crockery store." Across on the north corner was the Donahoo hardware store and Fanning's. Eastward, Charles Burks had stationery store with H. C. Warner as a jeweler in the other half. Next door was M. A. Blade's saloon and on the corner Bernhard and J. W. Coffman, butcher and grocer. George Studer's tailor shop was next across the alley and W. E. Gilmour merchant was next. On Mariposa and J stood McCollough's "first famous Fresno residence." The Bradley block at Mariposa and J was covered by the Wimmer and Fleming stables running nearly to the alley, where in small brick building Creed & Edwards had law and Bernard Faymonville real estate offices, and ending the occupancy on the north side to K Street. Around the corner toward Fresno, Frank McDonald had small furniture store. On the south side of Mariposa, Greening & Reid, Chaucer & Brown, M. R. Madary, Riggs & Son and Jones' flour mill, and beyond and running to the corner Henry's stable and stock corral. Opposite the street at the corner where the Fresno National Bank was the residence of J. W. Ferguson and the Expositor office and back to Mariposa Mrs. Jones' hotel and the Williams' blacksmith shop on the Grand Central Hotel lots. The Morrow House stood on the post office site and north of it Greening's hotel. Most of the dwellings were on Nob Hill taking in the territory bounded by Tulare and Kern, I and N, also back of the courthouse and the block north on M. O Street was considered "out of town" as late as 1883. Zach Hall, W. W. Phillips and William Sutherland built on N between Mariposa and Tulare in 1882 and Charles W. Wainwright who in 1891 was deputy school superintendent was out on O Street and always apologized when ordering a bill of groceries to be sent out so far through Riggs & Son.

Judge Holmes, Cal. Davis and Walter Pickett lived far out on the site of the high school. The ditch on Fresno Street came into town from back of the Fresno flouring mills at Fresno and N with "bully swimming hole" beyond there. Where the traction company barns were later located was considered far enough out in 1880 for McCollough and W. H. McKenzie to locate an eighty acre cemetery. This was the third cemetery. On J and I to Merced were a few scattered houses and the boys matched horned toads on the hot sands to see them fight. Jack rabbits and ground squirrels occupied many a yard and many a jack rabbit was chased up Mariposa Street. As late as 1884 a rattle snake was killed in S. B. Bresee's cellar at M and Merced. Runaways became so frequent that the farmers used to say that the teams were untied for the fun of seeing John Stephens flash out from his corral on speedy horse and run down the runaway.

S. B. Bresee, T. J. Kirk, who was afterward county and also state superintendent of schools, James Fanning and George Bernhard lived in a row of houses on L between Merced and Tuolumne, and across the way in a house

there Frank Chance, the base ball player, whose nick name was "Husky," was raised. Away out on Stanislaus, Bernard Faymonville lived in the only brick dwelling in town, afterward the home of Mrs. C. B. Shaver. Next door was Mrs. Clifford and that ended L Street. On I or J near San Joaquin were several houses back of a row of tall poplars and one of these was occupied by Mrs. Sophie Lawrenson who was a horse trainer and equestrienne and the Mrs. Zapp of her day.

West of the town on the other side of the track was Chinatown consisting of two blocks facing the railroad on G Street. North of there were a few residences, George Snell and William Sallinger among them. Back of them there was nothing but space until you reached the Herminghaus, Jeff James and W. R. White ranches on the slough of the Kings and the San Joaquin. The diarist recalls that on a drive to Firebaugh in March 1881 the wild geese were so thick as to obstruct the right of way and in clearing it with a whip he killed two of the honkers. One was impressed with the distance to the country settlements. It was five miles to Nevada and Temperance colonies with only the Barton vineyard between. On Ventura Avenue after Eisen's, you passed only two houses to Centerville. Out southeast seven miles to the T. E. Hughes ranch and two others were passed in travel to Mendocino school district. South only half a dozen houses were passed to Central Colony and to Washington colony and still new and beyond there was only Jones' store at Wildflower and a few scattered places in evidence clear to Kingston on the Kings River.

Selma had three stores, saloon, harness shop and less than twenty houses in sight. Kingsburg had a saloon, two hotels and a blacksmith shop. Fowler "was only a chicken coop" owned by J. S. Gentry & Son. Kingston was a toll bridge, had a store and the big Sutherland Ranch with several others extending up and down the river. In fact nearly all the settlers in the county lined the streams or were located near them. Centerville was the largest town after Fresno, with two stores, two hotels, a livery stable, drug store, millinery, four or six saloons, two blacksmiths, a flour mill and a meeting house.

For years property in Fresno within five blocks from Mariposa and J went begging at \$62.50 for inside and \$125 for corner lots. They took a spurt during boom times in 1887, and in 1911 within a radius of five miles they ranged from \$150 to \$200 and as high as \$300 for a pair.

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## CHAPTER LX

FRESNO'S MEMORABLE BOOM WAS NOT AN UNLOOKED FOR PERIOD BUT AN AWAITED ONE. 1887 WAS THE HECTIC YEAR OF GREATEST LAND SPECULATION WITH CONDITIONS SEETHING AND BOILING. THE PERIOD ALSO MARKED THE TRANSITION FROM VILLAGE TO TOWN STAGE. RECORDING OF LAND TRANSFER INSTRUMENTS PHENOMENAL. MANY OF THE LARGER BUILDINGS ERECTED AND OUTLYING TERRITORIAL ADDITIONS MADE TO THE TOWN. EVERY ONE IN THE BUSINESS OF SELLING LAND AND LOTS. SPECULATIVE FEVER GERM IN THE AIR. ABNORMAL CONDITIONS OF THE DAY ANTICIPATED THE LATER RULING LAND VALUATIONS. EXCURSIONS RUN TO BRING MONEYED LAND BUYERS AS COLONISTS.

A chapter in the history of Fresno affecting the city as intimately as the county while giving both wide publicity covers the year 1887—memorable one of the boom. As with every boom ever launched followed a col-

lapse, and a flattening out with dull and panicky times until the reactionary effect with renewed growth and expansion that was suspended for a time. 1887 was the hectic year of wildest speculation—after that the panic and years before the return to normal and healthy growth and with it in due sequence the realization of the Fresno of today.

The growth of new western towns is comparable to that of the infant child. The latter must undergo the ordeal of the mumps, chicken pox, whooping cough and all the other infantile ills. The town must have the experiences of boom, its panic period with reactionary return to normal state, if it has primarily the natural resources, favorable locations and supporting conditions to maintain itself. Fresno had these experiences and out of them came forth the Raisin Center, and Imperial Fresno to outdistance its rivals and be firmly established as the city of the great San Joaquin Valley, veritable giant among the younger communities of California, admittedly the most prosperous interior town in the state with no limit in the horizon of possibilities.

The boom did not burst forth in all fullness in the one year of 1887 as the mushroom in the rain sodden soil after a warming sunshine. It was not that conditions of the year 1887 were more especially favorable to the nurture of and development of a full-fledged boom. Rather be it said that the years before led up to this looked-for land boom and it having blossomed it attained its zenith and was full blown that year. Other cities had or were having their booms. San Diego, Los Angeles, San Jose, Stockton and Bakersfield might be mentioned, even San Francisco and the sister trinity of cities in Oakland, Alameda and Berkeley across the bay. The infantile Board of Trade of Fresno "resolved" solemnly but amusingly that the boom was not a speculative gamble but an evidence of a demand resulting from a well founded and recognized even though supernormal growth. But it was a boom, the resolutions to the contrary notwithstanding. Many of the dreams that were dreamed during the illusionary period of Spanish air castle building were realized but it was in the after years after the boom had been dissipated, and when people were back on earth again, dealing with realities and potentialities rather than with the things imaginary, intangible and speculative.

There was never a time after the introduction of irrigation when the pioneers of agriculture did not have an abiding faith in the future based on the wealth of agriculture and farm colonizations. There was absolute consciousness of its future with the manifest possibilities of the soil after the first demonstrations of its productiveness. The gambling spirit and the element of chance were of course features of that boom. But there was basis for the inflated land values during the hectic days of the boom. With the return of normal conditions after the fuller development of irrigation and agricultural expansion, orchard, vineyard and alfalfa land values went back to the values that they commanded in the days of boom gambling, illusions and dreams. That boom was not unlooked for. It burst forth as to time perhaps as unexpectedly as it passed away. As a fever seizes one and is cast off by the system, so it was with the boom. The year 1893 was the most acute of the after the boom stringency. It is recalled as the first year of Cleveland's second administration. Some people drew their own conclusions from this circumstance independent of any boom consideration.

Fresno was the creature of a railroad in 1872. Six years later the Church water ditch had been extended to lands surrounding the new county seat. In 1884 it was claimed that it had a population of about 4,000. Town incorporation was agitated. It was not realized at the time. There was still a leaven that was wedded to the old ways of doing things. Farm colonization enterprises organized and developed by outside capital marked the early years of the 80's. Fresno was advertised as no other locality had been and people had their eyes opened to this interior "cow county" wonder. The years rolled on until 1887, when the boom was at its highest pressure. It

was hailed as a matter of fact. The only wonder was that it had not come before. Fresno awoke at a time when the state was also wide awake with its own boom that subsided between 1890 and 1893. Fresno's swaddling clothes in original mile and a quarter square townsites were ready to burst at the seams and the buttons to fly off in 1887. It had outgrown them. It was ready for the knee breeches.

In that year the business center was still confined to Mariposa Street and one or two cross streets and blocks contiguous to the railroad depot. The business houses were yet small, frame, one and two-story structures, though a show of permanency in some brick buildings was in evidence. The courthouse was the largest building in the county. Original structure was damaged in part by a spectacular fire, later rebuilt and enlarged with the wings and the larger dome in the present building, the central portion the original building. Largest other brick building was the three-story Masonic Temple at I and Tulare Streets, erected by J. G. James but lost in the suspension of the Fresno Savings and Loan Bank of which he was the president. The Hughes Hotel named for Thomas E. Hughes, one of the first to discern the future of Fresno and pioneer to accelerate the coming of the boom and nurture it, was not completed until the year after. Work on its foundations was commenced in April, 1887.

There were not lacking dwellings sandwiched in between the early business structures. The most pretentious out of the commercial district clustered on K Street between Tulare and Inyo, or in vicinity, scattered here and there and far and wide apart. O Street as a residential street was considered then as "out in the country." The J. W. Ferguson residence in the hollow at Tulare and J was surrounded by an orange orchard. There was also an orange and fruit tree orchard at Fresno and J to tempt the small boy in fruit time. The W. H. McKenzie home at K and Calaveras was looked upon as a mansion of the day; that of William Helm at Fresno and R, later remodeled and now the home of Dr. J. L. Maupin was regarded as a suburban home. At Tulare and J, on the sand hill there was perched the Silverman cottage home; on Nob Hill were centered the residences then and later of Louis Einstein, Dr. Chester Rowell, the Gundelfingers, Dr. Lewis Leach, City Clerk W. B. Dennett, H. C. and W. D. Tupper, George E. Church, W. D. Grady, A. J. Thorn and others.

With the money made in land speculations William Faymonville built a fine home at K and Stanislaus which became the residence of C. S. Pierce, the lumberman; that of J. C. Herrington, the saddler and city councilman, was at J and Stanislaus; that of County Clerk A. M. Clark at L and Calaveras; that of W. H. Chance at N and Tulare; that of S. N. Griffith, real estate dealer and general promoter, at Voorman and San Pablo; that of William Harvey at S and Kern; that of H. P. Hedges on Fresno beyond Q; that of J. C. Hoxie at 2035 Stanislaus; that of M. R. Madary of Madary and Gurnee, planing mill men, at 503 J; that of M. W. Muller at K and Stanislaus; that of F. K. Prescott at Tulare and T; that of C. G. Sayle at 1358 J; that of Frank Short at I and San Joaquin, to mention only a few of the notables, and last but not least the two-story with mansard roof mansion with the transplanted orange orchard of J. G. Ferguson of the Expositor at J and San Benito, the largest residence structure in the southern section of town and long its landmark. This section was also an early day favored residential quarter of New Englanders among whom may be mentioned the Chaddock, Colson, Buker, Shaver, Snow and other families.

The boom era and the years that preceded it immediately marked Fresno's transition from the village to the town stage. The census of 1890 credited county with a population of 31,158 and the city of 10,890. Fresno was already recognized as the center of the raisin industry of America. Assessed value of property was \$35,525,021. City shipments by rail were nearly 400,000,000 pounds. The number of farms in county in 1890 was

2,352. The boom marked the period of the construction of many of the first notable larger buildings, altered or enlarged later as more modernized structures that came in with development of the wonderful oil field of Coalinga. The city's banking institutions date practically from boom times. The clearing house reported a business of \$4,800,029 for the first year of operations for a town of reputed inflated 12,000 population.

The Fresno National was organized in May 1888; the First National became a national depository in March, 1885, originally incorporated October 1881 as the Fresno County Bank, O. J. Woodward becoming the president in 1888; the Fresno Loan and Savings Bank incorporated in 1884 erected the Mariposa and J Street building at a cost of \$65,000; the Farmers' National Bank of California, whose interests are controlled by the firm of Kutner, Goldstein & Co. at Mariposa and I, organized in March 1882; the Bank of Central California originally a private bank was organized in 1887, and the People's Savings Bank is and was a state corporation. It and the Fresno National have been merged into the Bank of Italy.

The Fresno Board of Trade was an organization of 1885, active and energetic but during the real estate excitement was neglected by its members most prominent in the large transactions of the day. It would have disbanded with the tendered resignations of its officials in 1887 but that the Real Estate Exchange came to its rescue and there was a reorganization, followed by another in October 1900. The board merged ultimately with the newer Chamber of Commerce and the latter had after the boom a rival in the 100,000 Club with an ambition to realize a population of 100,000. That ambition has with the years been half realized. A fiasco connected with the early history of the Chamber was the enterprise of Dr. Leach in the erection of the corner building at J and Kern for a home. Here was held the first exhibition of Belgian hares when that fad had the populace by the throat and when from \$200 to \$300 was paid for a pedigreed jack rabbit for propagation purposes. The 100,000 Club had a natural death.

Woodward's Addition at the southern extremity of town and first territory to be annexed to it was a creation of the boom year. The growth trend was manifestly to the north, the east and the south. Farm and suburban land was cut up and parcelled out into town lots and tacked onto the city haphazard, making awkward junctions and intersections with the original site that paralleled the railroad track, which did not run due north and south. S. N. Griffith had laid out several additions and others there were by the score encircling the town. Town lots represented a greater cash value than when in vineyard or orchard land. The land speculation fever germ was in the air. Many the willing, nay the anxious ones, to be inoculated. Woodward's Addition for example had little to offer the buyer save platted and tree-lined streets. It was placed on the market March 7, 1887 by O. J. Woodward, Braly & Harvey; 396 lots were offered for sale and in sixty-one days 327 had been disposed of. By June 7th the fifteen blocks of twenty-eight lots each had changed ownership.

With the boom on once, the business was so great that in April 1887 to keep with the rush in the recording of instruments, County Recorder Charles L. Wainwright was allowed two additional deputies by the supervisors. Possibly having no relation to the boom yet looking to the future, the boring of wells was in progress in April 1887 for the enlarged city water works at Fresno and O, the original water system being taxed to its capacity. The principal hotels for transients were the Morrow and (William) Fahey's (later the Ogle), the Grand Central and others of lesser note. The Grand Central was favored by commercial men and theatrical parties. The tale is told that Am. S. Hays, now a bank cashier, and Jean F. Lacour divided honor and responsibilities as clerks and became prematurely bald with the daily problem of accommodating 250 guests to eighty beds. According to John A. Slater's first directory of Fresno published for 1890, S. Reinhart was

proprietor of the Grand; W. M. Ward, manager; Hays, clerk; and Lacour, proprietor of the Grand Central Laundry, while Fulton G. Berry was rated as a capitalist with residence at the hotel.

The Morrow, then known as the Southern Pacific, later as the Cowan and lastly as the Mariposa after removal from the postoffice site, was conducted by Frank A. Rowell & McClure; the Russ on I near Fresno by John I. Albin. That spring C. J. Craycroft, later a city councilman under the Spinney political regime and a brickmaker, built his Fresno House at M and Tulare. The building contract for the Hughes for \$87,335 was awarded April 30, 1887, with \$15,000 added for the brick foundations. It was not completed until the following year. There was at one time such a dearth of accommodations for transient speculators that in December of the boom year the Board of Trade printed lists of available rooms in private houses that the stranger need not walk the streets at night, or sleep on billiard tables, or rest in lobby chairs.

The boom resulted in the erection of hotels and in 1890 are noted as legacies the Tombs at Merced and J (S. B. Tombs and J. H. Tynan), the Pleasant View House at Fresno and J (George Pickford), the Kohler at I and Inyo (George M. Kohler), the Hughes Block at I and Tulare (I. N. Patterson), the Pleasanton Hotel at I and Merced (John I. Albin), the Russ having been destroyed by fire. There was a score of other less pretentious lodging and boarding houses. Not forgotten should be the unique and historical "Home Sweet Home" on J between Stanislaus and Tuolumne conducted on a co-operative expense-sharing plan with a salaried chef whose wife was the housekeeper mothering a lot of homeless, young bachelor bloods. The Home maintained its distinctive popularity for years, waged an incessant warfare against Cupid but matrimony in the end closed it out. There were at the time forty marriageable young clerks in the town to enjoy all the comforts of this monastic home.

The city was incorporated October 27, 1885. The Expositor newspaper was a veritable gold mine during the boom times. It not infrequently published eight pages daily but the news was scant. It was the day of hand composition and the time of the printers was monopolized in the more profitable setting up of double column, display type advertisements of real estate brokers, insurance agents and land tract sales, with which the paper was top heavy. The Republican was in existence as a morning publication but having a comparatively hard row to hoe in competition with the older established Democratic journal with a cinch on the county and city patronage in a Democratic stronghold politically. The year of 1887 was one of dynamics; the town one great real estate brokerage community; every one almost a land seller.

Recalled will be that, in January, Timothy Paige and T. C. White set out a section of land to raisin grapes and it was stated to have been the largest raisin vineyard in the world in one body. February 26 the numbering of houses in Fresno was begun and a system was employed of beginning nowhere on the outskirts with number one so that in the center of town the numbering was up in the 1,000 or 2,000. July 21 the famous Barton vineyard of 640 acres with 200,000 gallons of wines and 320 acres additional, buildings, improvements and splendid residence was sold to an English syndicate for a million dollars, the seller taking one-quarter of the selling price in stock and to be retained as managing director of the magnificent property that he had builded. September 4 contract was let for the county jail; on the 17th ground was broken for the first street car line—the one out to Arlington Heights. October 20 arrived a carload of immigrants from DeWitt, Ill., as located colonists and settlers. This was only one of many such parties to settle on tracts previously chosen by advance agents. November 16 the first train load of Fresno grown and cured raisins was shipped to market in New York. December 6 the real estate exchange was organized, and on the 28th went



to the wall George W. Meade & Co., the Fresno Raisin and Fruit Packing Company, pioneer raisin and dried fruit house. It made assignment as the result of overloaded boom speculations in land; liabilities \$175,000; assets \$350,000. The firm resumed fruit operations during the following season.

Things verily seethed and boiled during the boom. Everyone was inoculated with the speculative fever. The buyers were eastern immigrants and also Californians from San Francisco and other cities, many from the metropolis being victims of the reckless Comstock mining share speculations that enriched the new western crop of Bonanza Kings. Every other man was a real estate broker or insurance agent. Brokers and agents became bankers, directors or shareholders. Every one that could dabbled in land on commission and there was a wilderness of curbstone brokers. Their hats were their offices, the coat pocket their desk, and options their stock in trade. Even the colonists turned to and made an honest dollar selling land to former townspeople or neighbors and helped swell the incoming throng of new settlers and non-resident raisin vineyard buyers.

Money was "turned hand over fist." The same piece of property was not infrequently turned over several times in a day but always at an advance. Brokers bought options from each other and then disposed to a ready buyer at an advance and yet made commission profits. It was speculation running riot. The tales told of the spurts of property valuations were scandalous. As scandalous were population claims for the city, which in a few months went to 6,000, 8,000 and 10,000, figures that no one could verify but which did not deter setting 100,000 as a goal to be ultimately attained so wildly optimistic were some. Figures of real estate transactions have their present day interest to emphasize the magnitude of boom day dealings.

On April 4, 1887, Braly & Harvey had sold twenty-six unimproved tracts in the new Washington Irrigated Colony to locate a band of Texan immigrants. April 5 it was reported that on the day before thirty-five deeds were recorded representing transactions aggregating \$96,607.50, the sales with deeds naming nominal consideration exceeding \$100,000, "the biggest day yet" with the boast "that the boom hasn't exactly flattened out yet." This was in the summer season, the heated period in the valley when business is at ebb and commercial activities, realty transfers, construction work and every pursuit are at the minimum. The figures quoted are the more interesting in proof of the abnormal conditions in time anticipated land values and the riotous speculative spirit of the times.

For the first three days of the week of April 7 real estate worth \$141,778 changed ownership. "How's that for high?" was the delirious boast. The Expositor featured these real estate records frequently. The following day the records totalled \$77,540 or \$219,318 for four days of the week. "And thus the boom is flattening out," was the boastful jest. April 9 report was of ninety deeds for the week and valuation stated to have been \$231,339. Saturday April 16 report was of eighty deeds for the week with expressed consideration of \$90,416.90, and thirteen nominal consideration deeds with absolutely known consideration exceeding \$100,000, making a total for the week of over \$200,000. April 22 there were sixty deeds with expressed consideration of \$170,421 and in fact of over \$195,000. For the April 29 week 200 deeds represented \$147,707.50 in property valuation changes and the recorder reported for the month 375 deeds with stated consideration of \$789,089 and actual transactions totalling over a million. May 7 week ninety-one deeds or \$124,276.40 and nineteen others with probable valuations of \$100,000 additional. May 16 week seventy-five deeds represented \$95,918 and twenty-two others \$200,000 additional. May 23 were forty-three deeds with \$52,905 and as much more represented by deeds naming nominal considerations. In June month 302 deeds were recorded and fifty-two June 25 representing \$141,235 with fourteen nominals swelling the total to estimated \$200,000.

Figures such as these could be multiplied. Later in the year the regularity of the publication of these returns was interrupted and the publicity was only periodical—presumably on the occasion of big totals—the boom was flattening. December 17 week 155 deeds represented stated consideration of \$355,119 and the actual total probably \$500,000. December 21 rolled up twenty-one deeds or \$42,450. For the times in the first experience with a real estate boom, these total sales for a week or a group of days were undoubtedly extraordinary. But it is to smile to compare them with the present day and especially the records during the first half year of 1919 when a single transaction involved a third, a half and even more than the total of a day of the boom period, or when a day's sales exceeded the consideration that passed in the changes of ownership of farm and vineyard property for a week in the wild days of the boom.

At the height of the boom, railroad excursion trains were run by enterprising colony and land selling agents of Fresno and San Francisco. At first the special reduction in fare was to eleven dollars and in 1887 to seven dollars good for May 18-22. Bands accompanied the excursions, teams conveyed the visitors to the land and as a further hospitality lunches were served on the ground. The May seven dollar excursion brought 133 excursionists as telegraphed from the Lathrop junction point.

Some of the large transactions will interest the present day land buyers that regard productive raisin grape land as valued high at \$600 to \$1,000 an acre. May 27, 1887, the 160-acre Phelps vineyard adjoining the Butler was sold to A. B. Butler for \$48,000. Two years before Phelps had bought it for \$26,000. Notable wine grape vineyard sale was that of the before mentioned Barton; 640 acres were improved and 320 unimproved; sale was for £95,000 cash and £90,000 in stock, more than \$925,000 or \$1,000 an acre, not an unusual selling price these days although a high buying one. Alexander Gordon, who came to Fresno from San Joaquin in 1874 and with W. C. Miller was for seventeen years in the sheep business with flocks of 10,000 to 12,000 sheep, started in 1888 a 145 acre vineyard bought from T. E. Hughes and J. H. Hamilton, adjacent to the Butler, improved it with residence and buildings and in 1890 was offered \$600 an acre. In 1887 the M. J. Donahoo Building at K and Mariposa was sold to him for \$30,000. In a few days after, Gordon sold to S. N. Griffith and R. B. Johnson at an advance of \$5,000. In 1888 structure was demolished by fire and Griffith and Johnson re-erected it as the Temple Bar block as it was before it passed into the ownership of O. J. Woodward who made extensive interior improvements.

Mr. Gordon was long the land appraiser for the Sacramento Bank. He was the owner and projector of the Caledonia Colony and placed it on the market in twenty-acre tracts. He owned a thousand acres of land near the city, besides land in the county improved and unimproved. He and I. Manasse of Madera built the Kohler House on I Street and they were associated in twelve other houses and properties in Fresno, besides a business block with 150 foot frontage in Madera. Gordon came to California in December 1869 forty dollars in debt, his first employment was at twenty-five dollars a month and after the boom he was rated at \$150,000.

J. M. Braly sold his forty-three-acre farm to James Brodie, late from Honolulu, for \$20,000 before moving to San Diego to participate in the boom there. D. W. Parkhurst for whom was named the addition to town south of Ventura Avenue sold in four days to local and to Los Angeles buyers \$16,000 worth of the newly marketed lots. Fulton G. Berry sold \$186,000 in county and city real estate in five days. Berry came to Fresno practically a ruined man as the result of mining stock gambling but he had the financial backing in Ex-County Clerk Thomas H. Reynolds, Ex-Assessor Alexander W. Badlam and of a brother-in-law Ex-Supervisor E. N. Torrey, all of San Francisco, well to do men and influential in politics. T. C. White, one of the first

to make a commercial success of the drying of raisins, bought a section of land for \$12,000 and disposed of it at an advance of \$8,000 in sixty days; 160 acres bought near Selma for \$3,500 were parted with in less than two months for \$6,400. In January 1888 lots in Arlington Heights suburb were sold to the amount of \$160,000 worth.

The record could be multiplied if need be. Sufficient shown that there was a basis of verity in the assertion that the period was not a boom and a bubble without other foundation and reason than a lust for gambling but a real growth in the discarding of the village swaddling garments and that Fresno had the goods to deliver, even though the method of placing them on the market was theatrical and ultra sensational. Thomas E. Hughes was one of the foremost to start and nurture the boom, coming to Fresno with no capital other than assurance, as did M. Theo. Kearney, but with good recommendations as to business capacities, despite previous reverses. The firm of Hughes & Sons—James E. and William M.—introduced the practice of railroad excursions of investors, carrying much of the financial burden. It may be truly said of Mr. Hughes in the words of the toast of the late Fulton G. Berry at a banquet at the Hughes Hotel December 4, 1888, in honor of O. J. Woodward: "'Twas Thomas E. Hughes who cleared the stumps, the brush, the stones and weeds away and paved the way for all of us to travel."

Robert Barton was also a factor of the day. He died at the age of fifty-one in 1891. He was German born of a noble Polish family, was brought to America at the age of eleven by an uncle and coming west when a young man and taking up mining and mine promotion work acquired a fortune in the Comstock days in Nevada and cast his lot in Fresno in 1881. He had anglicized his name. An incident recalling the artistic temperament of this pioneer of Fresno is the one that his youngest son, Leland, was baptised in Yosemite Valley in the pool of Bridal Veil Falls.

The Barton vineyard was showplace par excellence. It had a national reputation. It was the subject of a series of articles in Harper's Magazine. It was the guest house of every European viticultural expert investigating California's wine industry. Not in these respects alone did Barton make Fresno's name known, but also in association with the best in theatricals. This was through the Barton Opera House at the corner of Fresno and J Streets with its companion Armory Hall building. Theater was erected in 1890. It was the boast of the city and one of the best equipped on the Pacific Coast with a seating capacity of 1,500.

At this theater during its quarter of a century career appeared the foremost dramatic, operatic and theatrical attractions and Fresno achieved the reputation of one of the most appreciative theatrical towns in the California circuit. C. M. Pyke of the Pyke Opera Company was the first manager succeeded by Robert G. Barton who was the youngest theatrical manager in the land. He continued in the management until the last. The estate eventually lost the property. It passed into the hands of L. L. Cory, attorney at law and large city property owner, who has leased the remodeled theater to a vaudeville circuit and dismantled the Armory Hall building for a modern office structure.

The Barton replaced the two first showhouses of Fresno prior to which the Magnolia and Metropolitan halls on H and I Streets accommodated the travelling companies that visited this territory. Besides there were variety halls which no self-respecting woman or man would care to visit and have it known. The first theater was the (W. D.) Grady opera house on the east side of I Street, seventy-five feet from Mariposa, with fifty foot frontage, two stories in height. It passed into the hands of J. D. Fiske, who died a violent death, was known as the Fiske opera house and afterward as the Fresno opera house; falling into neglect was turned in part into a beer hall varieties (The Fountain), in its last days was occupied by the Salvation Army then in

its infancy, declared officially a nuisance to be condemned as an unsafe building, bought by Kutner, Goldstein & Co. and converted into a store building.

This theater was supplanted by Armory Hall, known also as Riggs' theater, Charles T. Riggs manager. The wooden structure of one story was erected by a corporation of members of the two military companies of the city. Neither it nor the Grady was commensurate with the demands of the growing community, yet the best theatrical companies appeared in them. The Riggs ended its career as the Armory stables until dismantled to clear site for the reinforced concrete E. Gottschalk & Co. Department Store. The Grady was destroyed by fire a few years ago, the ruins torn down and thus another landmark was obliterated.

A time came when even excursions were no longer necessary adjuncts to entice land buyers to Fresno. It is the record that in November, 1887, 1,100 deeds were filed with the recorder. The last of the seventy lots of the Central Pacific's original townsite holdings were bought by Attorney Jefferson Guy Rhodes in August of that year. Such an appetite for land buying had been stimulated that the supply was not equal for a time to the demand. Then came subdivisions of town adjoining acreage property in additions and in connection with one of these, Prather's Addition named for a pioneer dentist, a lottery scheme was even exploited to stimulate sales of lots. Some of these additions were failures financially because of locations or overstocking of the market and the lots reverted to acreage property. Most of the additions proved profitable ventures and all have been annexed to the city.

It is not to be denied that the boom years were the times of town growth and development. They were the years for the granting (stimulated by the boom) of franchises of public utilities. Many of these were forfeited, having been speculations to hold advantageous routes for street railroad lines. In July, 1886, was granted the first franchise for an electric light and power company; in 1887 of six street railroad franchises, two forfeited and one repealed; besides in April, 1887, the Fresno Water Company and the Western Electric; in May, George H. and Herman C. Eggers for a telephone were franchised; in 1888 half a dozen more franchises for street railroad lines were granted and also forfeited, and so on not overlooking the May, 1891, franchise for the San Joaquin Valley Railroad Company—the Pollasky road popularly called—obtained after a bamboozlement of the people.

Principal events of the year 1889 following the hectic boom were these:

January 2—Ahrens fire engine tested and accepted, being the city's first owned piece of fire fighting apparatus.

January 16—Foundations laid for the City Hall on I Street, lower floor occupied as a fire engine house and upper as sleeping quarters for the firemen and as city offices.

January 25—First cars run on the Tulare Street car line, the first in the county.

February 2—Death of William Faymonville, pioneer of the county.

February 16—Organization of the Fresno Clearing House Association.

March 5—Margherita vineyard fire; loss \$200,000.

March 20—Thirty-one thousand dollars subscribed for the Adventists' Church at Mariposa and O, patterned after the Metropolitan Temple in San Francisco and one-quarter its size.

March 23—Sale of 200 lots in Butler east of town on projected railroad. Town never passed the map stage.

March 24—Sale of county hospital lots at Tulare and Q for \$16,345.

June 2—Jollification over the supreme court's decision upholding the Wright irrigation law.

June 9—Fire south of the Masonic temple covering three blocks; loss \$130,000.



FRESNO—1916 EAST OF DRILLTOWER ON S. P. RAILROAD RESERVATION





August 12—Most disastrous fire for years at one A. M. starting back of the Donahoo building at Mariposa and K, covering two blocks; loss \$160,000.

August 15—Popular invitation to the riff-raff to march out of town on account of the incendiary fires.

With the close of 1888, M. Theo. Kearney had blossomed out as a land promoter and his Fruit Vale Estate was on the market. Pictorial publicity was given his ambitious project of a costly estate residence, to have been a replica of the Chateau de Chenonceaux near Tours, France, most artistic existing specimen of the 15th and 16th centuries architecture. Kearney never progressed farther with his plan than to complete the residence wing of the chateau and the porte cochère to the grounds.

The death December 5, 1888, at Stockton, Cal., from Bright's disease at the age of sixty-three of J. B. Sweem is worthy the recalling. He had been a resident of the county in 1855, settling on the Kings River near Center-ville and operated the first flour and grist mill in the county. The tale was that the dam for the race supplying mill with operative power broke one day and flooded the adjacent territory. The result was springing up of vegetation and germination of grass seeds with the receding of the flood water. The demonstration led to the digging of a ditch to carry water from the river to irrigate his grain land. It was the first irrigation ditch in the county. Later it was sold to M. J. Church and associates—Church "The Father of Irrigation." The canal was the outgrowth and with irrigation agriculture in small farms became the paramount industry and the basis of Fresno's 'wealth.

## CHAPTER LXI

PUBLIC SCHOOL DEPARTMENT OF FRESNO COUNTY. IT IS CLOSER TO THE HOME AND THE FAMILY THAN ANY OTHER GOVERNMENTAL BRANCH. MOREOVER IT IS A TRULY DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTION. ONE OF THE LARGEST IN THE STATE. THE NORMAL ESTABLISHED A STATE INTERIOR EDUCATIONAL CENTER. PUBLIC ACTIVITIES OF THE CHILDREN. SCHOOLS THE PRIDE OF A COSMOPOLITAN CITIZENSHIP. THEIR GROWTH WAS FROM A SMALL BEGINNING. STATISTICS IN PROOF OF THE SCOPE OF THE COUNTY'S TEACHING AND AMERICANIZING OF THE YOUTH.

No governmental branch of state, county, city or district is in closer touch with the home and the family than the public school department. It is the most democratic institution of the republic. During the school age minority of the child, the teacher has the direction of the child as proxy of the parent. As prescribed by law in this state, the duties of the superintendent as the head of the department are so many and varied that they "seem at times to spread him out pretty thin." The district school trustee is the last connecting link between him and the home through the teacher.

The superintendent is secretary of the county board of education; he is its executive officer; he is the distributor of the text books; he apportions the school funds; he sends out the blanks and reports; keeps the records and statistics and visits the schools under his jurisdiction. Without assistants, the work imposed on him could not be done at all. He is the official and practical head of the schools and through him every activity and new movement is launched.

The official that deals in such familiar way with the public direct cannot possibly "carry out all these things in exact, cast-iron, business channels, cutting off people with a word and working for efficiency only." A kindly

human element and a necessity for counsel and helpfulness are involved that must be reckoned with. These conditions and necessities every county superintendent meets with.

And above all, it is a democratic institution, closer to the people than any other of the government. This feature was emphasized in a recent biennial report of the state superintendent of public instruction in the answer to the question, Can a district trustee hold office, if he can neither read nor write the English language?

The answer was that he can, because there is nothing in the law to prevent it and because the only qualification of the law in this state is that he shall be a citizen, a resident of the district and shall have received a majority of the votes at the district election for school trustee. "Such is the freedom of our glorious country," it was remarked, adding that the above is also true in the selection of a county, and for that matter, of a city school superintendent. No certification is prescribed. It is only necessary to secure the popular voice. "Strange as it may seem," the further comment was that "the matter is never abused. The trustee may be a very valuable one who knows nothing of letters. The superintendent is from the school teaching class. The freedom is not abused."

The public school department is one of the boasts of the citizenry of California. It is one of the big things of the state government in the Americanization of the boy and girl, a feature that received more attention than ever before as the result of the war in Europe in which the United States of America proved the deciding factor. California expended for all school purposes in 1916 the great total of \$36,927,109.05 as against \$35,379,946.68 in 1915, and of the first named sum the kindergartens expended one-half million, the elementary as the backbone of the school system twenty-one and one-half millions, the high ten millions, and the other institutions one and one-half millions. For the biennial, state school funds apportioned to the fifty-eight counties totaled \$11,386,957.03 for the elementary and \$1,524,752.91 for the high—roughly five and one-half millions a year for the first and three-quarters of a million for the second.

Fresno County has one of the largest public school departments in the state, yet a goodly portion of its territory is mountainous, and a no inconsiderable area of it sparsely inhabited or not at all. At the close of 1916 it had 145 elementary school districts, exceeded in number only by Los Angeles with 156. It had 541 teachers, exceeded only by Los Angeles, Alameda and San Francisco as counties with more dense populations. Fresno's elementary graduates in 1916 were 18,344, Alameda, Los Angeles and San Francisco exceeding it in point of number. Fresno's apportionment of state funds for 1916 was \$257,154.13; total receipts \$1,044,017.95. Its expenditures for all purposes were for the year \$826,268.15; total valuation of property \$1,807,128; its total bonded indebtedness \$968,136. The daily average attendance was 15,840 in 1916 as against 15,378 in 1915 with enrollment in elementary schools of 18,344 and 17,977 for the respective years.

Fresno City's schools are under the direction of an elective city board of education and an appointed city superintendent, though of course under the general co-ordination of the county department. They have striven to keep pace with the growth of the city in population, but the latter has out-run them in the race. Despite the several voted bond issues for new or enlarged school building facilities, the accommodations have not met the enrollments at the school term openings.

Fresno was made an educational center when the state legislature selected it as the place for the new state normal school. This educational institution cost \$150,000. The bill for the necessary appropriation was introduced at the 1910 legislative session, but on account of a shortage of funds an allowance of only \$10,000 was made for maintenance in temporary quarters for the succeeding two years. The regular appropriation to defray the

cost of buildings was provided at the succeeding session. The normal school in Fresno is the only one in the valley. When students whose homes were in the valley of which Fresno is the center desired to continue their studies through a normal school they were compelled to go to other portions of the state. The train service from Fresno to valley points enables the student to spend the Sunday and holidays at home, and for this reason if none other the Fresno school will have an advantage over the others at more distant points in the matter of securing attendance. The central interior has become too important to be longer ignored in the affairs of the state. The site for the normal was donated by Fresno people and surrounding the college buildings a new residential suburb has sprung up, where a few years ago there were vineyards.

The schools of the county and the city fill an important part in the social and public life of the communities under the direction of the earnest and inspirational work of the teachers. It might be asked, where would have been the magnificent Raisin Day pageants but for the enthusiastic cooperation of the schools? What of the board of health's clean-up and fly-swatting campaigns? Where today would be the city playgrounds department with all its varied activities? What would have become of that bond issue election to acquire city playgrounds but for the school children's twelfth-hour street parade as the culminating demonstration of a campaign resulting in practically unanimous carrying of that bond issue? Where would be the school grounds and city beautifying projects, the school and war times gardens, the over-the-top subscriptions to the Liberty bonds, the sale of government war and thrift stamps and all the other varied patriotic services by the boys and girls that have been given by the youth of Fresno under the inspiration of teachers and the spirit of the times, the while Americanizing all these white, yellow and black cosmopolite and impressionable children of the public schools? There is not another such a "melting pot" as the American public school. It is the very foundation stone of American democracy.

Is the enthusiasm of the child not overtaxed? Superintendent of Public Instruction Edward Hyatt alluded to this feature in the following paragraph in his 1916 report:

"Here comes in the flag lady to urge that we organize at once a campaign to put a flag in every school house; and a committee from a society upon the Stanislaus to promote humane education in the schools; and some people who want to know the extent to which the anti-fraternity law is enforced; and a delegation to call attention to the necessity for the metric system, or simplified spelling in the schools of the state; and a number of ladies to urge medical inspection for the public schools; and a representative of the Thrift Organization urging that his work be taken up; and some good citizens pleading for a clean-up day, or ripe olive day, or water conservation day, or bird day, or mothers' day, or honest measure day, or country school day, or old home day, until the wonder is whether any day is left for an ordinary school day."

The school department is a progressive department. One of its activities is the distribution of state textbooks, a work that is in "exceedingly satisfactory condition" with books costing the state much less than had been expected. When the law was passed, the estimate was that half a million would be necessary to introduce the system and \$200,000 annually thereafter. Actual necessities demanded only one-half of these sums. There are over 400,000 children in the schools and the cost of their text books is a little more than \$100,000 a year, an average cost of twenty-five cents per year per child, or as reported to the governor "less than that of six cigars, less than six glasses of beer, less than six daily papers, less than six movie shows." The free distribution amounts to about half a million books a year to somewhat less than half a million of children. The sales of books are

insignificant, only about \$6,000 a year, sold at cost to dealers, schools and individuals and used chiefly to supply private schools.

During the 1914-16 biennial the period of the school term has decreased. The number of schools maintaining 160 days or less has risen from 482 in 1915 to 1,018 in 1916, while those maintaining 200 days or more have fallen from 252 to twenty, an average loss for every child of six days in the state. The reason for this is in the reduction of school money when the poll tax was abolished in 1914. There was \$22,592.93 less for teachers' pay in 1916 than in 1915.

Another feature of the public schools is an unusual growth in the evening or night school, due to the agitation for the education of the adult foreigner. The average cost per pupil in high school has fallen from eighty-seven dollars and nineteen cents in 1915 to seventy-six dollars and seventy-two cents in 1916, due to the increase of the evening schools which are cheaper and adding their enrollment to the whole for the state reduce the average cost for all. Even this decreased high school education cost is high compared with the common schools where the average cost per pupil is thirty-eight dollars and four cents, only half that of the high school figure. The latter is twice as expensive because the studies are so differentiated that small classes are the result and these cost as much as the large ones, raising the per capita cost in small high schools while high school teachers cost more than those of the elementary grades.

At the close of the biennium there were 17,840 teachers employed in the state. In the elementary the proportion of women to men was still growing being about ten to one; in the high school one and one-half to one, for 2,389 women to 1,610 men. There is, however, the gratifying fact that the state's schools have on the whole been growing. Property valuation of the elementary schools increased for the two years from fifty-five and one-half millions to fifty-eight and one-half millions; and in the high schools from twenty-three to twenty-six millions. Average daily attendance has risen from 331,000 to 341,000; enrollment from 415,792 to 423,562. Expenditures for the elementary schools have increased less than \$1,000 for the state, while the high schools with only one-fourth as many children increased notably much more.

A remarkable showing covering the years from 1907-16 is the one that the state enrollment in the elementaries has increased forty-three percent. for boys and forty and six-tenths for girls, while the graduation has increased 151 percent. for boys and ninety-two and four-tenths for girls. In years gone by, the boys dropped out of school in the fifth and sixth grades. The schools are not holding them all now but a creditable showing is made. High schools show no such graduation gains over enrollment as the night schools have thousands who attend only from day to day for certain work. Still a gain of 304.3 percent. in boy enrollment and 204 of girls with 243.7 gain for boy and 133.2 for girl graduates would show that the schools are holding the boys and meeting the wants of the people.

Fresno's school system has grown from small beginnings. The state's system dates from 1852. When Fresno County was organized April 18, 1856, out of territorial chunks of old Mariposa, Merced and Tulare, the population was a sparse one, there was a lack of women, of homes and of children. No wonder that no attention was paid to schools. It is an ancient tale that when the Mariposa Gazette was started there was not a woman in the town and that when not long after several families did move in the editor complained in his paper of the wailing of the children. Another ancient tale of the mining days is the one that when the miners learned there was a woman in town all suspended work and trudged the road four miles to meet her, several arches were erected over the highway and an impromptu band led the procession into town to the accompaniment of cheers, huzzahs and the waving of hats, and the bars did a land office busi-





DRY CREEK ACADEMY SCHOOL HOUSE IN 1872



HALF OF FIRST COUNTY OFFICE BUILDING WHICH WAS HENRY'S  
HOTEL AT MILLERTON



ness in celebration of the event, the town swarming with miners from the hills for a glimpse of the woman and to take part in the celebration.

That first woman was a married one at that, the tale has it, and according to tradition she started a pastry business and sold pies at five dollars per pie. Some complained of the pies (dried apples never did make good apple pie), but she was independent and retorted that if they did not like her pies they needn't buy them and she wasn't particular whether she sold pies at five dollars anyway. That silenced the criticism concerning the pies.

The first school superintendent in Fresno County was the late E. C. Winchell, a lawyer. A clever and well-equipped man mentally but so timid in manner and so retiring in ways as if lacking to assert his own powers that this timidity shadowed his unquestioned abilities. His appointment by the supervisors dates from February, 1860, when Scottsburg, Millerton and Kingston were organized as the first districts. Ten years later there were twenty in the county. The first school in the county was the one taught in the old Fort Miller barracks by Mrs. J. M. Shannon, who received seventy-five dollars a month, recorded an attendance of fifteen and maintained a three months' session. There were other such schools in some of the populous nooks in the county taught by young women to earn "pin money" while making no pretense as teachers. The schools were little more than kindergarten gatherings, the children taught the A B C's of "ritin', readin' and 'rithmetic," and the mothers happy in the thought that when at school they were for the moment relieved of the care of the youngsters with the knowledge that while under the eye of the teacher they were at least also out of mischief.

First schools were supported by subscription and rate bill and as late as 1865 the amount thus raised was \$1,120 and often with difficulty. The first school in Fresno City was one of these private kindergartens taught by R. H. Bramlet and gathered on the upper floor of a rented shack located about the center of the block at one corner of which stands today the Hughes Hotel. The railroad donated in 1874 eight lots on Tulare Street for school purposes, site covered in part today by the Elks' lodge building. Here a two-room school house was erected at a cost of \$2,669 and opened January 3, 1875, with Mr. Bramlet as the principal. In 1879 was erected on purchased lots on Fresno Street, opposite the flour mills, a larger building at cost of \$7,500 with additional \$10,500 for equipment. And such was the beginning of the city school department, and R. H. Bramlet the father of the institution. Mrs. Mary J. Hoxie, née McKenzie, and a graduate of the State Normal School at San Jose, taught the first private school in the city, of fifteen pupils. School was located in a room over the Booker store. This was in 1874, school maintained by public subscription to demonstrate the need for the apportionment of public money for schooling and the organization of a district.

Nor should be forgotten among the early institutions the select boarding school for girls of Mrs. Winchell in Winchell's Gulch, one-half mile from the old fort. This was quite a fashionable school for the day. Nor the academy at Academy on Dry Creek, erected in 1874 by a \$50,000 capitalized corporation of members of the Methodist Episcopal Church South. As a private institution it did not live long. It was too far in advance of the times. The first teacher was the late J. D. Collins, one of the most universally beloved and respected of pioneers who came to Fresno after the war. Other teachers of note taught here and the academy was rated as one of the best in the county. The corporation has long gone out of existence but the academy building has always been used for the purpose for which it was erected. That building was only a 36x54 affair with verandah on two sides, but at the time was described "as the handsomest building in the county."

The splendid school system of the county is an outgrowth of humblest beginnings as statistics emphasize. As late as 1882 there was not a high school in the county. The county superintendent started at a \$250 annual salary. This was doubled in 1868 when there were 10 teachers and 488 census children, with 193 of them enrolled. The first teachers' institute was one of three days held at Centerville December 7, 1870, with the fifteen teachers attending and the session one of drills rather than of talks and addresses. The next was held at Millerton in February, 1872, the third in December, 1872, at Fresno with fourteen of the twenty-three teachers in attendance and visited by State Superintendent Henry N. Bolander, who will be recalled as botanical expert who defaulted in office and became a fugitive to Guatemala or some other central or southern American republic. Fresno City had another institute November 10, 1875, when Prof. W. A. Sanders was the star attraction as a lecturer on grammar.

It was at this time that the county superintendent reported that "Our needs are beyond the powers of legislation. We want a more dense population and that composed of persons able to appreciate the benefits resulting from schools. Six years ago, we had thirteen districts; now we have thirty-six. Our teachers are better qualified, the schools larger and the attendance better. The people are building better houses and as soon as they are able to do so furnish them with reasonably good furniture."

The following comparative statistics will give comprehensive bird's eye view of the scope of the public school department of the county of Fresno:

#### KINDERGARTEN

Year:	1915	1916
Women teachers .....	3	3
Enrollment .....	170	184
Daily attendance .....	96	99
Schools days .....	188	171
Receipts .....	\$2,885.15	\$3,813.40
Expenditures .....	\$2,454.54	\$2,479.86
Property valuation .....	\$3,725.00	\$3,739.00

#### ELEMENTARY

Year:	1915	1916
Districts .....	144	144
Teachers allowed on attendance.....	506	529
Actually employed (467 women).....	526	(482 women) 541
Enrollment of boys.....	9,400	9,529
Enrollment of girls.....	8,577	8,815
Total .....	17,977	18,344
Graduates (440 girls) .....	946	(558 girls) 1,026
Average attendance .....	15,378	15,840
School days .....	172	161
State funds .....	\$248,370.66	\$257,154.13
Total receipts .....	\$1,180,598.70	\$1,044,017.95
Expenditures .....	\$874,143.68	\$826,268.15
Property valuation .....	\$1,756,590.00	\$1,807,128.00
County tax rate .....	\$.25	\$.32
Bonded indebtedness .....	\$993,023.00	\$968,136.00
Average interest rate.....	\$.055	\$.0586
Maintenance tax rate.....	\$.43	\$.194
Building tax rate.....	\$.04	\$.236

## HIGH SCHOOLS

Year:	1915	1916
Teachers (66 women).....	124	(54 women) 100
Special (12 women).....	-----	31
Total, 1916 .....	-----	131
Regular Certificates (26 special).....	98	(30 special) 101
Enrollment (1,197 girls).....	2,257	(1,273 girls) 2,458
Post graduates .....	-----	107
Graduates (183 girls).....	300	(171 girls) 300
Daily attendance .....	1,905	2,015
State funds .....	\$29,311.44	\$32,522.61
Total receipts .....	\$431,882.00	\$483,888.41
Expenditures .....	\$324,318.80	\$327,824.83
Property valuation .....	\$588,705.00	\$681,222.00
Maintenance tax rate.....	\$.45	\$.344
Building tax rate .....	\$.20	-----
County tax rate.....	-----	\$.15
Bonded indebtedness .....	\$143,000.00	\$180,500.00
Average interest rate .....	\$.0525	\$.053

## MISCELLANEOUS

County superintendent's office.....	-----	\$9,947.73
County Board of Education.....	-----	\$1,846.00
City superintendent's office.....	-----	\$7,940.00

## FRESNO STATE NORMAL

Year:	1915	1916
Teachers .....	26	19
Men .....	10	9
Women .....	16	10
Pupils .....	288	343
Boys .....	15	15
Girls .....	273	328
In training school.....	284	379
Boys .....	155	196
Girls .....	129	183
State funds .....	\$414,909.50	\$362,335.00
Tuition .....	\$1,959.32	\$1,780.75
Total receipts .....	\$427,328.06	\$369,506.32
Expenditures:		
Teachers .....	\$32,638.99	\$47,943.79
Labor and supplies.....	\$6,156.23	\$5,348.88
Sites, buildings, etc.....	\$43,693.03	\$142,192.45
Books and apparatus .....	\$1,245.93	\$989.18
Total .....	\$83,734.18	\$196,474.30
Balance .....	\$343,593.88	\$173,032.02
Area of site in acres.....	25	25
Ground valuation .....	-----	\$37,000.00
Buildings valuation .....	\$11,000.00	\$370,000.00
Furniture valuation .....	\$4,735.00	\$3,500.00
Library .....	\$1,800.00	\$5,000.00
Apparatus .....	\$2,939.00	\$6,000.00
Total valuation .....	\$57,400.00	\$422,000.00
Library books .....	1,697	2,875
Graduates (81 girls).....	89	(110 girls) 111
Since organization .....	(411 girls)	438

The Kearney vineyard income to the state university from Fresno was \$40,000 for the year 1916.

The school income and expense increase in the county has been remarkable according to the following comparative figures:

#### ELEMENTARY

	1907-08	1917-18
Total income .....	\$254,441.20	\$755,553.37
An advance of 198%.		
Total expense .....	\$216,471.94	\$826,073.06
-An advance of 281%.		

#### HIGH SCHOOLS

Total income .....	\$70,827.91	\$481,742.22
An advance of 580%.		
Total expense .....	\$70,767.97	\$497,627.78
An advance of 600%.		

As regards the high schools, the comparison shows that the expense is forty-five percent. lower than the increase of income. That of the elementary increased eighty-three percent. over the income.

### CHAPTER LXII

A CHAPTER THE DARKEST IN THE HISTORY OF THE COUNTY. THIRTY-NINE YEARS AGO A REVIEWER OBSERVED THAT THE SICKENING ATROCITIES IN DEEDS OF BLOOD AND CRIME MARKED FOR ALL TIME BLACK STAINS UPON THE RECORD. HIS FERVENT HOPE NOT REALIZED THAT TWENTY-EIGHT YEARS THEREAFTER THERE WOULD BE LESS OF TAKING LIFE AND VIOLENCE TO RELATE THAN WAS INTERWOVEN IN THE QUARTER OF A CENTURY HISTORY BEFORE. RECORD OF THE COUNTY IS OF THREE DEATH SENTENCES PRONOUNCED AND OF ONLY ONE LEGAL EXECUTION IN SIXTY-THREE YEARS.

An historical review of the early times in Fresno County was published in a holiday number of the Expositor on New Year's day of 1879. It was up to that time the most comprehensive one printed and since the most quoted because of its authenticity, written as it was by one who treated of personal knowledge and recollections, inclined though he was to be biased because of that personal participation in the events of the times recorded. That review, a sketchy effort, of no literary merit, treats incidentally of the lawlessness of the times, and declares that "numerous other murders and homicides" than those enumerated "were committed in different parts of the county" up to the period of writing, nearly all of them, he said, still fresh in the minds of citizens. Writing thirty-nine years ago of the early deeds of violence and crime, he employed the following words as pertinent then as they were for years after:

"Deeds of blood and violence were committed at lower and upper King's River, at the San Joaquin River near Temperance Flat, at Firebaugh's, at Buchanan, on the road leading from Crane Valley to Millerton, at or near the Tollhouse, at McKeown's old store on the Fresno, at Texas Flats, at Fresno Flats, and in fact human life has been sacrificed in almost every neighborhood in the county where a whisky mill has been established. . . . But we will turn aside from the nauseating spectacle; a sufficient number of

murders and deeds of violence has already been mentioned to demonstrate the lawlessness which has prevailed heretofore, and the laxity and almost criminal indifference with which the law was formerly administered by juries; it is not necessary here to go into further detail of the sickening atrocities which were committed and which appear today and for all time to come as black stains upon the record of the county.

"And if perhaps," said this writer in conclusion, "twenty-eight years hence some one should see fit to continue the 'Reminiscences of Fresno County' it is to be fervently hoped that the recital will contain less crime and deeds of blood and violence than is interwoven in the history of our county for the twenty-eight years last past."

Some of these recalled deeds of blood were of a time before organization of Fresno County out of Mariposa with the district seat of justice at Mariposa and the Fresno territory a remote corner of it. The early treatment of the Indian was characteristic of the cruel roughness of the times. The aborigine had apparently no rights that the white man seriously respected. He was given little consideration as a human being. Force, cruelty and taking advantage of his ignorance characterized the general dealings with him. This was all the more remarkable, when it is recalled how many of the first whites, in the absence of women of their own race, readily took up relations with the young squaws and profited materially thereby. The California Indian, although classed low in the scale of humanity, was at least racially docile and amenable to kindness and fair treatment. The squaws were invariably loyal to their white protectors. When by way of reprisal according to his view point, the Indian rebelled against the barbarity and cruelty of the white man, there was a hue and cry, an excited round up and the Indian fighting in self defense when pursued was massacred and done for by superior armed force.

At this late day, it were vain to recall "the deeds of blood and violence" enumerated in the review of 1879. They have no bearing on the history of the times, save to emphasize the admitted lawless character of the period. Yet even in that respect, conditions were probably no more acute in the Fresno region than elsewhere in California in the pioneer days when there was little or no government, when human life was valued at so little and every one was a walking arsenal. Nor does one have to go back to the days of the pioneers to find warrant for the complaint of the almost criminal laxity with which justice was administered. Only once in the sixty-three years of county organization of Fresno has there been an execution of a murderer under the sentence of court. That was twenty-six years ago. And fearful murders were committed before and have been since. The wretch that was hanged in the courtyard of the old jail in rear of the courthouse was a dipsomaniac and a drug fiend. The others before and after him that cheated the hangman were given life sentences, or escaped altogether, though their crimes involved every legal element of fiendish deliberation, premeditation and preparation, with avarice as a motive for taking life.



### Murder of Major Savage

As foul a deed as recorded in the criminal annals of the county was the murder in August, 1852, at the King's River Indian reservation by Walter H. Harvey, county judge of Tulare, of Maj. James D. Savage, one of the most heroic and picturesque characters in Fresno County's history. The effort to bring Harvey to justice, with the murderer appointing the special justice of the peace to hold the preliminary examination, was a travesty. After Savage's death, many aspired to be his successor in gaining the prominence among and control over the Indians but no one filled his place—they felt like orphans and realized that their best friend was gone.

### Murieta's Career Ended

Next to be recorded is the bloody, meteoric and historic career of the bandit, Joaquin Murieta, which ended with his death in July, 1853. The retreat of this cutthroat was in the Cantua hills of the Coast Range in this county. At Millerton was made the first exhibition of the trophy of his decapitated head as proof of the successful termination of the man hunt for him, the killing of his principal lieutenants and the scattering of the bandit gang to the four winds, with peace returned to a sorely tried and raided state.

### Murders Common In 50's

Murders of whites by whites and of prospectors by Indians were common in the 50's. If the murderers did not escape, the grand jury ignored the charge, or if it found true bill the trial jury at Mariposa or Millerton acquitted. There was poetic justice in many of these cases. Very often these gun men died violent deaths with their boots on. Often also in these murders evidences were left to make it appear that the crimes were the work of Indians.

### Mining Camp Burglaries

In 1858 there was an epidemic of burglaries of Chinese stores and mining camps and notorious among the thieves were Jack Cowan and one Hart, the first named a half breed Cherokee. They lay in concealment by day in cool retreat and at night sallied forth robbing inoffensive Chinese at point of pistol and hesitating not at sacrifice of life if their demands were not complied with or resisted. The pair was encountered one day in August by cattle rangers in the hills between the Fresno and the Chowchilla and a battle ensued. Hart was wounded, crippled for life and upon recovery from wounds was sent to the penitentiary. Cowan was shot through the skull and the perforated skull was in the possession of Dr. Leach as a paper weight on his desk as a memento for years.

### Last Indian Uprising

The last serious Indian uprising was in the summer of 1856 among the Four Creek Indians of Tulare. The soldiers from Fort Miller under Captain Livingstone were dispatched to the scene of hostilities, also a company from Millerton and vicinity under Capt. Ira Stroud and another from Coarse Gold Gulch and Fresno River under Capt. John L. Hunt. The Fresno contingent achieved the name of "The San Joaquin Thieves." The campaign over, Fort Miller was evacuated September 10, 1856.

### Acts of Disloyalty

It was reoccupied in August, 1863, by United States troops and a volunteer company under Col. Warren Olney was dispatched also. Acts of disloyalty were numerous. The offenders were rounded up at the fort and made to walk a beat carrying a bag of sand as a punishment. Peter van Valer was the provost marshal, and other disloyals were transported to cool their ardor in the military prison of the bleak and ocean wind swept Alcatraz Island in San Francisco Bay.

### Looting of Chinese

In 1863 the looting of Chinese stores and camps was resumed with at least eight known desperadoes in the gang. The China store at Andrew Johnson's place at Coarse Gold Gulch was robbed three times and patience had ceased to be a virtue. A company of about a dozen men organized and one dark night in the dead winter of 1864 it invaded the camp of the desperadoes. Whether warned or not of the coming, only one of the gang—Al



Dixon—was caught that night and found a corpse hanging from a tree next morning between Coarse Gold Gulch and the Fresno. The life of the brother, John, was interceded for and six of the gang left the county and were not again heard from. The eighth, James Raines, remained to weather it out and came in conflict with the provost marshal in the latter's prosecution of his duties. A squad from the fort was sent to arrest him. Raines appeared pistol in hand to resist arrest and himself was shot and wounded in the arm. After having convalesced at the fort, Raines was taken to Alcatraz and spent several months at hard labor on the rock. Following release, he moved with his family to Raines' Valley, east of Centerville. He and others took up cattle and hog stealing until the neighborhood decided that it had enough of this business and one fine morning Raines' carcass was found dangling from a tree in or near the valley that bears his name.

### Indians Hanged

It was about this time that an Indian killed a sheepherder of E. J. Hildreth, burying the corpse under a log in a corral. An old squaw betrayed Mr. Indian and in daylight he was hanged in the gulch near Judge Winchell's home, half a mile from the fort and the judge's calf rope was borrowed for the event.

### Died With Boots On

A sensational case of the day was that of J. P. Ridgway, who in the summer of 1868 shot and killed B. A. Andrews at Kings River above Centerville. Ridgway escaped to Arizona where he engaged in mining. About two years later he appeared in San Francisco, was arrested and brought to Millerton. He was indicted but before tried escaped from the jail and made his way back to Arizona. His escape was with confederates who aided him with horse. A reward of \$1,000 was offered for his arrest and a San Francisco detective earned the money by going to the Cactus state, arresting and bringing back the fugitive. At the May, 1872, district court term, Ridgway was tried and acquitted and shook the dust of Millerton from his feet and a third time made tracks for Arizona. This time the bully met his match and received a load of buckshot in the head and died with boots on.

### Killed in Petty Squabble

At the October term of the county court, John Williams, a negro, was sentenced to a term of two years in the penitentiary for the killing of Theo. J. Payne, whom he had shot in the knee at a store near Tollhouse. Payne was so wounded that an artery was severed and he bled to death. The shooting was over a squabble at target shooting.

### Chinese Hanged

That same year vigilantes hanged two Chinese just below Jones' store (Pollasky or Friant as now known) for having killed a countryman. On a Sunday afternoon that year, another was found hanging from a tree a quarter of a mile from Millerton, the county seat, for having committed a nameless crime.

### Vasquez and Robber Band

The state at large was agitated during the years 1873 and 1874 with the bandit exploits of Tiburcio Vasquez and his robber band. Vasquez ended his career on the gallows at the San Jose jail in March, 1875. He and his gang operated in the central portion of the state, committed several robberies in this county and like Murieta and his band made the Cantua hills their stamping ground and retreat in hours of idleness.

### Killing of Fiske

John D. Fiske was killed July 26, 1890. J. L. Stillman shot him thrice in the back. He pleaded insanity on his trial but was found guilty and sentenced to life imprisonment. The homicide followed a wrangle and demand for royalties on a car-coupling patent. Fiske was a promoter in the early days of Fresno City, conducted the Fiske Theater and for him was named the showy and cheaply constructed building on the Mariposa and J present site of the first "sky scraper" in the city.

### Hanged for Wife Murder

One man and one only was ever legally hanged in this county. He was Dr. F. O. Vincent and he was hanged in the court of the county jail in the courthouse park at noon October 27, 1893. Jay Scott was the sheriff in office at the time and F. G. Berry—not Fulton G.—was the under sheriff that made the return on the death warrant that the order and judgment of the court had been duly executed. The death sentence has been only three times pronounced in the county for the crime of murder; first time on Vincent in April, 1891, second time on Elmer Helm in 1906 and third time in 1908 on Charles H. Loper. After the Vincent case, the law was changed to make the warden at the state penitentiary the state executioner. Before that, the sheriff was the official to carry out the death penalty on the murderer convicted in his county. Vincent's case is No. 651 in the register of criminal actions in the superior court of the county. He was informed against December 31, 1890, for the murder of wife, Anna L., on the 18th of the month. The trial before the late Judge S. A. Holmes opened March 11, 1891, continued for eleven days and ended March 24. Sentence of death was pronounced April 8, 1891, and two days later the death warrant was delivered to the sheriff. Appeal was taken, judgment affirmed August 25, 1893, and fixing time of execution under the original sentence was on September 21, 1893. On hanging day people climbed the trees around the jail for a view of the spectacle in the little court yard of the jail. The indecent curiosity of the populace was editorially commented upon in the newspapers of the day and rebuked. The record in the Vincent case is sufficient as to the procrastinations of the law in the prosecutions of that day. The attempted defense on the trial was that the act of homicide was not premeditated because the accused was an irresponsible dipsomaniac and drug user. The late County Recorder W. W. Machen was the foreman of the jury. There was little brought out at the trial to arouse sympathy for the prisoner. On the contrary, the showing was that the married life of the Vincents was anything but a happy one and that the suffering wife had been for years the victim of his cruelty and harshest treatment and neglect. There was not an extenuating circumstance in the case. The Vincent case is a notable milestone in the criminal annals of the county.

### Assassination or Suicide?

Cause celebre was that of Richard S. Heath indicted March 16, 1893, for the alleged assassination of Louis B. McWhirter while entering his home at the rear entrance on the night of August 29, 1892. The case attracted widest attention as it was claimed that the assassination was a political one on account of the division in the Democratic party in the county at the time over the presidential candidacies of Cleveland and Hill. McWhirter was a Tennessean who a few years before had come to Fresno, engaged in the practice of the law in association with M. K. Harris, made a failure of the law and as an erratic Bourbon reform Democrat was engaged as editorial writer for the Evening Expositor. He had been a reform politician in Tennessee which state he left to come west after a homicide, also growing out of political dissensions in the Democratic party. Much feeling was aroused over the McWhirter case here because at the time the Tennessean wing

of the local Democracy was in control of the county offices. So intense was the "interest and indignation" over the affair that in addition to the \$10,000 offered reward by the citizens for the arrest and conviction of the assassin, the widow, Mrs. L. B. McWhirter, also offered a reward of \$10,000 and the Blasingame family into which McWhirter had married made offer of an additional \$5,000. The rewards were never claimed because there never was a conviction and dismissals were entered against the two accused. The first trial of Heath before the late Judge Holmes commenced June 12, 1893, lasted for thirty-two court days and ended in a disagreement of the jury. The evidence supporting the assassination theory and Heath's connection with a homicide was largely circumstantial. The plea set up at the trial was that McWhirter had committed suicide. This was one of several constructive defense pleas. The trial jury stood eleven for conviction and one for acquittal—Juror J. H. Lane making the declaration that firearms were coercively exhibited in the jury deliberation room. Motion for a change of venue was denied and the second trial commenced March 5, 1894, was before Judge Lucien Shaw of Tulare. It lasted thirty days and also ended in a disagreement. Change of venue was granted for a third trial to Los Angeles County but the case never again was taken up. Heath later died in Alaska in the Klondike gold fields. His co-defendant was Frederick W. Polley, a carpet layer, the accusing joint indictment having been found by a grand jury of which the late ex-Judge Hart was the foreman. Polley had one trial, the jury disagreed and the indictment against him was dismissed in October, 1893. Heath was a young man related to the Perrins and employed as a sub-foreman on the "Sam'l of Posen" vineyard, the property of M. B. Curtis and wife. Curtis was an actor who had made a success of the dialect character acting of the Polish Jew, made a fortune, invested in Fresno real estate and also founded a town near Berkeley which he named after his play. He was impoverished afterward defending himself on a charge of the murder of a San Francisco policeman. Sensational disclosures were made in that prosecution that the defense was predicated on suborned testimony. Heath was defended by a strong retinue of lawyers retained by the Perrins and Mrs. M. B. Curtis, while the special prosecutors were as distinguished attorneys in the pay of the Blasingame family. Few cases in the county aroused a greater interest than the Heath prosecution, divided as public sentiment was on the question of assassination and suicide and this division made more acute by the political differences of the respective theorists. Known as a barroom politician, Heath was lifted into sudden and unenvied notoriety. McWhirter had made political enemies by reason of his editorial writings and the division in the county Democracy was at the fever heat. However, public opinion was never settled as to whether his end was the result of assassination to silence him politically, or whether an act of self murder. He had his life insured for a large sum and it was known that his financial circumstances were such that but for friendly aid the policies would have lapsed because of inability on his part to meet the premiums due. His career as a lawyer had proven a failure. It was also known that he had spent the marriage endowment of his wife. He had become confirmed in habits of which the wife declared in her testimony she knew nothing about and which in fact she denied. The political stir and enmities that he aroused by his writings obsessed him with the thought that he was tracked as a marked man for assassination. Many believed then and do now that McWhirter took his own life when he realized that he was at the end of his financial career. The widow married a second time and recovered the insurance on the policies which did not contain the suicide clause. If McWhirter was assassinated, it was a cowardly murder by plotters that lay in wait for him to take him at a disadvantage. If so, the case would not have commanded the wide attention that it did for the political and personal interests that raised it above the ordinary. The end of McWhirter is one of the unsolved mysteries.

### Evans-Sontag Reign of Terror

The years 1891-94 have to do with the lurid chapter of the crimes of the Evans-Sontag train robber bandits, their pursuit, bloody and murderous resistance when driven at various times to bay, their final capture and the trials in Fresno. The details are given in another chapter. Chris Evans and John Contant (Sontag) were indicted November 22, 1892, for murder and Evans after a November and December trial of seventeen days was found guilty in 1893 and February 20, 1894, was sentenced to life imprisonment at Folsom. The operations of the gang in California began with the train hold up in February, 1889, south of Pixley in Tulare County. Contant died at the county jail in Fresno from the wounds received when he and Evans were captured after a battle. One Clark Moore indicted as an accessory after the fact on December 2, 1892, was tried on the second of three such charges March 14, 1892, and acquitted. The other charges were afterward dismissed. The newspapers at the time were full of the exploits of the bandit gang, sent special correspondents into the field to tell of the many efforts to capture it, the man hunts, pursuits, final capture and the trials, centering all these activities in Fresno and giving it unenviable notoriety for crime, criminals and the head-hunters fattening on the business of pursuing marked and proscribed men to capture them for rewards, dead or alive. The exploits of the gang were retold with renewal of the various applications of Evans for parole. One of these applications in January, 1908, inspired an "appreciation" of the bandit by Joaquin Miller, "the Poet of the Sierras," having at least curious interest if nothing else. It was published in the Pacific Monthly in the course of an article on famous bandits of the early and later days in California. In this "appreciation" at a time when Evans had served thirteen years of his life sentence, Miller made the point that Evans had never been tried for a train robbery, affected to believe that it was only the railroad influences that kept the crippled, blinded and dying outlaw in the penitentiary and introduced his subject with the following words:

"And now a few pages about the most famous gun-fighter of all; a well-bred and well-read man; a man with a most bloody record, yet a man who never fired a shot except to defend; so say his hosts of friends."

The publication provoked criticism and indignation in Visalia and those familiar with the unsavory history of Evans in that locality declared the Miller statements to be a tissue of misrepresentations and almost devoid of truth. There was there practically unanimous opposition against the liberation of Evans and the effort of the poet, at best an erratic and theatric personage, was little more than attempt to create sentiment through callous misstatements, unseemly and not calculated to inspire confidence even in Miller's veracity. The Times published in answer to the poet a statement that had been prepared on a previous attempt to secure a parole or pardon giving brief history of the many crimes of Evans, including the wanton killing of five men and the wounding or crippling of nine more, clinched by the recital of Evans' boasts of his crimes while yet at large and pursued, and his threats of death for any and all who would give information of his movements to the officers of the law. Which recalls also that in May, 1908, after his sixteen years and more spent in Folsom penitentiary and crippled with a limp after the desperate attempt to escape in 1893 after one year's confinement under his sentence, George Sontag appeared in Fresno looking for work, seeming to think that if he were given employment as a barkeeper the saloon would lose nothing by the advertisement of his presence. After recovery from the wounds received in the attempted jail break, Sontag came at the request of Wells, Fargo & Company to Fresno to give state's evidence against Evans. His final release from prison was on the authority of the governor.

### Wooton Mystery

Celebrated case of mystery was the one that grew out of the unaccounted for disappearance "on or about February 1, 1894," as the lawyers would say, of William Wooton, a well to do farmer of near Kingsburg. Murder prosecution could not be instituted because the first link in the proof was lacking—the corpus delicti—proof of death. Wooton's body never was discovered, although there can never have been moral doubt that he was the victim of foul play and the body disposed of in some unknown manner. In one of the proceedings, legal recognition of death was given in a ruling by Judge M. K. Harris in this language of his written decision: "The disappearance of William Wooton last February, an old man and a highly respected citizen of this county, is darkly mysterious. His habits of life, business methods, and neighborly associations added to his sudden and utter obliteration from the gaze of man but deepen that mystery." A near neighbor of Wooton was Prof. W. A. Sanders, who was regarded as one of the foremost educators in the county. As a teacher his specialties were arithmetic, botany and chemistry. At one time he was instructor at the Academy which was in the county the only institution where the higher courses could be pursued preparatory for entrance here to the state university. Sanders was a prolific writer on the subject of botany. He conducted an experimental farm and experimented with many foreign botanical importations. He was the man that introduced in this county the Johnson grass as a forage plant. It has become such a pest for the farmer that it had to be legislated against. And it has passed into a saying "that if Professor Sanders was not hanged for the murder of Wooton, he should have been for introducing Johnson grass in the county." Suspicion pointed to Sanders several months after Wooton's disappearance when he presented for negotiation a warehouse receipt for grain in the name of the absentee. Thereupon followed also his presentation of a deed to the Wooton property, fortified by an unlikely story that Wooton had left the country and had vested him with authority to dispose of his property without a power of attorney, and thus he came into the possession of the documents in question. Sanders was indicted for forgery May 19, 1894, and during his long incarceration several attempts were made to learn from him the mystery of Wooton's disappearance and Tyndall, the mind reader, had interviews with him to worm the secret from him. The interviews never had result, because Sanders never would subject himself to the test but resisted every advance on this line. A fourteen days' trial in June and July, 1894, had no result; another fourteen days' trial in April, 1895, resulted in his being found guilty and the sentence was ten years' imprisonment. Appeal was taken and new trial granted in a decision of October, 1896. The third trial in January, 1897, resulted in a disagreement of the jury and the fourth of sixteen days in April resulted in conviction with fourteen years imprisonment as the sentence. Sanders served his time and came out of the penitentiary broken in health. He entered it a bankrupt as the result of the long litigation. He died wretchedly an outcast in the county poorhouse. There was some testimony that might have connected Sanders as being in Wooton's company the night before a large brush fire on one or the other's premises about the time of the disappearance date, but it and other circumstantial details were so remote and lacked such definiteness that in connection with the inability to prove the death of Wooton no charge of murder could have been maintained. It was only when he made effort to realize on the Wooton property that he set for himself the trap that he fell into and raised the more than strong moral belief that he was the agency in the removal of Wooton. Various have been the theories how the body was disposed of. One has been that the corpse was buried in some secluded nook and with the lapse of years the place has been lost and all evidences of burial dis-

sipated. Another was that the body was consumed in fire and still another that chemical means were employed to dispose of it. At any rate no one knows how, when or where Wooton disappeared from the face of the earth. Human bones or remains of skeleton have not been discovered these many years in the vicinity of Kingsburg in a circuit of miles but to revive in the newspapers the story of the Wooton disappearance, and the speculation as to whether they might be Wooton's or not. The latest such revival was in November, 1917, anent the finding of a skeleton on the Fortuna ranch northwest of Reedley. The assembled bones led to the conclusion that they had been buried "about twenty years ago," had been those of a man about fifty-five years of age and about five and one-half feet tall. The solution of the mystery of Wooton's disappearance was taken by Sanders with him into the grave.

#### **Tweedle-dee Tweedle-dum**

Sensation was made public in April, 1899, when the city attorney presented before the city trustees affidavit that City Clerk J. W. Shanklin was an absentee from the city and his whereabouts unknown. Examination of the book showed a defalcation but in how much never was ascertained because under the circumstances the fact could not be learned. The office was declared vacant and the vacancy filled. The absentee was and remained without the state until early the following year when the grand jury indicted him on January 13, 1900, four times for embezzlements of small sums. Shanklin was learned to be in a small town just across the Oregon line, where he was doing business openly as a potato merchant. Brought back he was placed on trial in May, the jury acquitted him and thereupon the other indictments were dismissed and the affair ended in a farce. The sums alleged to have been embezzled were business taxes, perhaps liquor license moneys, that had come into his hands. It was not the duty nor an obligation of the city clerk to receive or make these collections but the task of the city license collector, though the money was receivable at the office as an accommodation, with the clerk giving receipt. The acquittal was on instructions of the court that no public offense had been committed and no embezzlement from the city of public funds. Inasmuch as the money was not payable to the clerk, he was not receiving it for the city and if the city did not receive it it was then a matter between the private and unofficial receiver of the money and the person to whom he had given receipt for the money. So ended Shanklin's Republican city political career and Fresno no longer knew him as a resident.

#### **The Case of the Helm Boys**

The verdict returned at a late hour on the night of June 19, 1908, by a jury in the city of Stockton, Cal., sealed the doom of the brothers, Elmer and Willie Helm for one of the most diabolical crimes ever committed in this community. The trial was had in Stockton on a change of venue because of the represented prejudice against the boy murderers in Fresno. The verdict was accompanied by recommendations of life imprisonment for both. The verdict saved Elmer from the death penalty passed upon him after conviction of murder in the first degree in Fresno in June, 1906, on first trial. The younger boy gained nothing by the second trial because after the first in September, 1906, the sentence upon him was life imprisonment at San Quentin. The case of the Helms was one of the most atrocious brought to the attention of a public prosecutor. Their crime was the wanton murder on the evening of October 30, 1905, of William J. Hayes and wife while camping out near a deserted cabin on the Whitesbridge road, about eighteen miles west from Fresno. The murderers rewarded themselves for the double crime with about three dollars taken from the person of the murdered man. Clues to the murderers were meagre. The authorities worked long and diligently



with little success and they might have been baffled in the end but that the fiends, the elder aged twenty-one and the younger nineteen at the time, were not content with their work but undertook another man killing a few months later. Singularly enough the father of the boys was the one to discover the second murder and to report it. Circumstances directed attention to the Helm boys and they were connected with the three murders. The late Sheriff Walter S. McSwain, then a township constable, made a name for himself in working up a wonderful case of circumstantial evidence. The story of the crimes and the bringing of the youths to justice is replete with incident and detail. The Hayes were an aged couple who lived at peace with the world and no other motive for their taking off could be conceived than robbery. Hayes had been a justice of the peace at Mendota and lived in Fresno. They owned a tract of land on the West Side, which it was their habit to visit at intervals. The murder was on the home coming from one of these periodical visits. At Whitesbridge stop was made to buy hay for their horses and paying with check he received about three dollars in change. They were overtaken by night on the journey home and camped near a deserted Mexican cabin, having food and bedding with them. Horses had been fed and picketed and the evening meal was being prepared when the murderers pounced upon them, shot both to death and levanted with the paltry booty. Conditions at the camp indicated that the Hayes were taken unawares. The canvas bed lay on the ground as it had been taken down from the wagon and the uncooked potatoes were in the frying pan. Remains were discovered next day by a passing traveler. Autopsy showed that Hayes had received gun shot wound, six inches in diameter in the breast and the heart was literally filled with shot. Her wounds were almost identical. Death came to both instantly. A single barrelled shot gun with which the murders were committed was found not far from the scene of the crime, but whose gun was it? Two boys riding bicycles and carrying a package that might have been the shot gun wrapped in gunny sack had been seen on the Whitesbridge road on the day of the murder. But who were these boys? About February 8, 1906, Henry Jackson, a bachelor of over sixty years of age, was surprised in his little cabin home a mile or so out of Fresno and murdered. He had sat at the table and the murderer let loose through the window glass a charge of shot that shattered the old man's neck and almost tore the head from the trunk. The window sill was left powder-marked. The murderer sawed a strip from a near-by board and nailed it over the powder-marked spot. The body was covered in bed quilt and with the aid of buggy axle and two wheels was conveyed to a culvert on the Southern Pacific railroad miles away and jammed therein. The Helm family of husband, wife, daughter and two sons lived only about a quarter of a mile from the Jackson cabin. They were practically nearest neighbors. Helm missed the old man several days, visited the cabin and found it a veritable shambles. He gave the alarm. Days were spent in locating the body and it was found in the siphon, five miles from Fresno near Herndon. There was also a bruise on the head where it had fallen forward on the table after the firing of the shot. Suspicion fastened on the Helm boys. Their reputation was not the best, especially that of the elder. On or about the night of the Jackson murder, Elmer had spent paper money lavishly in Fresno's tenderloin. The youths were taken to prison and the gathering of evidence began. The father was also imprisoned on suspicion but soon released. The owner of the shot gun was discovered, the chain of evidence was started and the links were added. A resident of Fowler, who had been a neighbor of the Helms about the time of the Hayes double tragedy, recognized the gun as one that had been stolen from him. Witnesses were found who saw the gun in the possession of Elmer. Paper money identified as part of that he had spent in the tenderloin was identified by denominations and name of issuing banks as money received by Jackson not long before. The

brothers were identified as the pair that was seen on the Whitesbridge road with the package in gunny sack; fabric threads of the sack were found clinging to the gun; the movements of the pair on the day of the murder were traced to the neighborhood of the Hayes camping spot. The formal accusation for the Hayes murder followed and on it Elmer Helm was first brought to trial June 16, 1906. It lasted sixteen days with much difficulty experienced in securing jury. The verdict was guilty as charged and July 16, 1906, the death sentence was pronounced. Willie's trial in September lasted twenty days. It resulted in a verdict of guilty as charged but with life imprisonment recommended as the punishment. Appeals were taken in both cases. The supreme court granted new trials in December, 1907. In the Elmer case a sapient supreme court reversed the judgment though holding that the evidence while circumstantial was sufficient to sustain the verdict. The ruling was against the appellant on the point that the information was void because filed on one of the continuous holidays declared by the governor following the earthquake and the fire in San Francisco. The reversal was on a purely technical ground that it was prejudicial error to overrule good challenge for cause compelling exhaustion of peremptory challenge to be relieved of jurors who should have been excused under the challenge for cause. The alibi defense of the boys had fallen before the strength of the people's case. For the second trial the county roads near and about Fresno were canvassed for declarations of people as to their prejudice for or against the accused. They were used on a motion for a change of venue to some other county because of the prejudice in Fresno against the Helms for their crime. And so it was that the case went to San Joaquin County for the second trial in June 1908 lasting sixteen days. This trial was notable for the unexpected reappearance of chief witness, Charles Molter, for the prosecution who had disappeared after the first trial. Without him the prosecution would have been greatly weakened in its case. On account of the notoriety because of his connection with the case, he had concealed his whereabouts and for months had been searched for high and low without locating him. Notable as new evidence was the testimony of Willie Helm's cellmate, one Kaloostian, who told of a confession made to him with various threats by Willie as to what he would do when out of the toils. McSwain's evidence was also very material in the tracking of the defendants by the corrugated bicycle tire and a heel-worn shoe. After this second conviction, there was talk of another appeal but it was abandoned and the prisoners left the Stockton jail on their life imprisonments, Elmer to Folsom and Willie to San Quentin.

### Murder of Policeman Van Meter

Policeman Harry S. Van Meter was murderously shot while on duty on the night of February 20, 1907, and died on the following day. He encountered a suspect at the corner of I and Inyo Streets. Three shots were fired by the night prowler and all took effect. Van Meter wearing a heavy overcoat was unable to open it to draw revolver to defend himself. One Ernest C. Sievers was arrested suspected of the murder but never prosecuted as the evidence proved insufficient. Van Meter twice identified him as his murderer, the last time on his death bed, but there was no corroboration save in a gray hat such as Van Meter stated the fellow, who had shot him, wore. Sievers claimed an alibi and that at the time of the shooting he was in a certain saloon. This was in part corroborated, but not positively as to the hour. The murder of the young policeman created such a sensation that a public money subscription was raised for the widow. He was a son of City Attorney E. S. Van Meter. Early in December 1909 came a story from Folsom penitentiary of the murderer of Van Meter in February 1907. One Mack Reed imprisoned under a life sentence claimed to be the murderer according to admissions to a cellmate. The latter drew the story from him, informed a guard and former resident of Fresno of the details, and the

guard writing to the police and learning that no reward had been offered for the apprehension of the murderer related the confession on a visit to Fresno. The prisoner's confession was made four months before the official recital. No action was ever taken on the supposed confession. Reed is under sentence for a criminal assault upon his ten year old daughter in the fall of 1907. Ernest Sievers, the man that Van Meter had identified as his assailant, was tried for his life and acquitted and after liberation returned to his home in Missouri. Reed in his confession claimed to have shot Van Meter five times after having been detected in a burglary of dye works on South I Street. Escaping at the rear door he met the patrolman in the alley at Inyo Street at the spot where the shooting took place.

### Watchman Murdered

There was an epidemic of night store burglaries during the fall and winter season of 1907. L. C. Smith, night watchman in the city business center, was found shot and killed on the morning of October 10 in the alley off Fresno Street alongside the Barton theater. He had evidently surprised a housebreaker and in the rencontre was murdered. The attempted burglary was of the Opera Bar at the back transom. Seven shots were fired in the alley flight of burglar or burglars in the direction of Merced Street. Three times was "Dad" Smith wounded in the right side, two shots high and the other low, all evidently from a large caliber revolver and at short range judging from the powder burns. No weapon was in the hand of the watchman when found dead, or near him. The murder was never cleared up.

### Tax Defalcation

In December 1907 report was made to the supervisors in 141 typewritten pages covering an exhaustive investigation of the books of the county tax collector's office from January 1, 1899 to July 2, 1907 following discovery of defalcations by W. M. Walden, who was deputy and cashier under the administration of the late J. B. Hancock. The net balance found due was \$2,130.14 with discovery of numerous errors and disbursements in a debit originally by the collector of a total of \$4,141.77. Walden was indicted, pleaded guilty, sentenced and later liberated on probation. The peculations were in small sums and covered a long period. Discovery of them was made incidentally in examination of the collector's books in the auditor's office while working over them at night. In turning over the leaves a page of an account book was held up for better reading with the electric light behind it. This showed erasure with chemical fluid so that the spot was transparent. This excited suspicion and the volume being closer scrutinized against the light numerous other like erasures were discovered. A sensation followed that was at once taken before the grand jury for investigation with stated result. Walden was indicted July 9, 1907 for falsification of public records and pleading guilty October 4, was sentenced to the penitentiary at San Quentin for seven years.

### Fifty Years for Highway Robbery

"Why didn't you bury me alive?" hissed back Julius Smith one day in December 1907 upon Judge H. Z. Austin's sentence of fifty years imprisonment at San Quentin after he had pleaded guilty to the charge of highway robbery. His accomplice had previously confessed and would have been used as state's evidence against Smith. The time was when highway robberies were epidemic. The sentences came under fierce criticism by the prison commissioners sitting as a board of pardon. The sentence was equivalent under the prison credit system for good behavior to twenty-nine years and ten months. Smith was aged twenty-two and his co-defendant, William Harvey, who received the same sentence, about sixteen. They had been con-

nected with other robberies and burglaries. These and the other robberies on the highway were committed by holding up the victims at point of pistol, or blinding them by throwing sand into their eyes after pouncing upon them from place of concealment. The same sentence was passed upon Harry Finnerty and Charles Washburn arrested at Seattle, Wash., and brought back for robbery, and upon a negro named Archie Scansell. There was a letup then for a time on robberies and burglaries.

### **Murder of Deputy Sheriff**

A fearful crime with escape from justice was the murder of Deputy Sheriff Joseph D. Price March 13, 1907 by Joseph Richardson, who with the price set upon his head became an outlaw and fugitive from justice. In his capacity as a peace officer, Price had arrested Richardson for a minor offense and accompanied him in buggy to the lockup at Reedley as the nearest place. Richardson was not bound nor handcuffed, a piece of neglect for which the deputy paid with his life. Richardson turned upon him in an unguarded moment and slashed him to death with knife and then made his escape. The murder was on a long, unfrequented roadway and was not witnessed by any one, and it is a question what would have been the outcome of a trial, even though Richardson had been arrested. Reports have been many of Richardson having been seen and recognized in various localities in the county and elsewhere in the years after, some of these reports strengthened by details, but the murderer has eluded arrest and the crime has gone unavenged. If some of these reports were true, the outlaw was taking desperate chances and tempting fate.

### **Wife Murder at Sixty-five**

At the age of sixty-five, and on his plea acknowledging the murder of wife on Sunday September 8, 1907 James P. Leighton, expressman, was sentenced January 4, 1908 to imprisonment at San Quentin for the remainder of his natural life. The wife that he murdered was the third that had borne his name, Hattie Leighton, nee Coppin. She had returned on that fatal Sunday from a vacation spent with relatives at Long Beach, Cal. Leighton's first wife left him for cruelty and secured divorce; the second became insane and the third was murdered premeditatedly. The showing for Leighton was that he labored under great mental stress on the day of homicide over the thought that the wife was maintaining improper relations with another man, a four year old daughter being the informant as to the frequent visits of this man to her stepmother in the absence from home of her father. Leighton was reputed to be a drinking man and a constable testified that several days before the killing Leighton had come to borrow a revolver, saying he wanted the weapon to kill annoying dogs and cats. The theory of premeditation was well established by the evidence of attempts to borrow revolver as much as ten days before the killing, his brooding and crying, and his declaration that something terrible was to happen and the plea that whatever would result care be taken of his child. Leighton's only living relatives were two aged aunts and they were pathetic in their recitals to give the impression that he was not in his right mind when the shooting took place. An occupant of the front portion of the house in which the Leightons lived overheard a conversation immediately before the tragedy. He had said: "Hattie, this will end it." Her plea was: "For God's sake don't kill me!" The shots then followed. From the evidence adduced the sentencing judge was of the opinion that the case was not one for imposing the death sentence. Mrs. Leighton was killed in the bed in which she lay partly undressed. The body bore two wounds. On the floor lay Leighton near the bed almost unconscious from a bullet wound to the right of the right eye. Near his head on the floor was an empty phial marked "Poison." The theory was that he had essayed to force her to take poison. Leighton's plea of guilty was accepted by the court without the

assent of the district attorney. A month before the day that the plea was taken, Leighton's attorney offered that his client would plead guilty if assured that life imprisonment would be the sentence. The offer was rejected. After a long term of imprisonment, Leighton was pardoned and he is again a free man.

### Domengine Kidnaping

With a far-away reminiscence of the romantic days when Italian brigands seized and made captive of select, hustled them into mountain cave or gorge to be held for liberation on delivery of the demanded money ransom, but in this instance with a local stage setting in the canyons of the Coalinga oil region, and a more modernized ending in penitentiary sentences following arrest and rapid pursuit in automobiles by the sheriff and citizens' posse was the remarkable Domengine kidnaping case in July 1908. The enterprise was a hare-brained and desperate one but the sensation created by it great. The result was the sentence October 3 of Z. T. ("Tony") Loveall as the chief conspirator for thirty years; also of Grover Cleveland Rogers as accomplice for twenty years in consideration of his turning state's evidence; and later Charles Barnes, who had also turned state's evidence and pleaded guilty but whose connection with the mad enterprise was a secondary one compared with that of the others, released on parole with judgment suspended. The kidnaping of eighteen year old Miss Edna Domengine on the night of July 29 from the ranch of her father, A. Domengine, on Section 29-18-15 is a famous one in Fresno criminal annals as well for the incidents of the case as the rarity of the crime. Domengine was a well to do freeholder and sheep raiser living on the wild and desert West Side. The ranch home is typical of that section of the county, comfortable, commodious and unpretentious. The bandits had been in concealment hard by all day on the Monday preceding the kidnaping. They were in hiding behind two water tanks below which the house lies in a pocket of the hills rising bare of vegetation all about. A barn to one side of the house and slightly in rear was set fire to at night and when the inmates assembled on the back porch in response to the alarm of fire the two bandits met them, the porch being on the far side of the house. After tying the hands of the family and of the three hired men who had responded to assist in putting out the fire in the barn, Rogers and Loveall commandeered a team of Domengine and drove away with father and daughter. Arriving at the ranch gate about two and one-half miles from the house, Domengine was commanded to leave them after bargaining for the ransom for the daughter. The price first set was \$10,000 but the final arrangement was for one-half of that sum. Leaving the father at the gate to find his way homeward, the kidnapers drove with Miss Edna to the town of Coalinga and near there turned the team loose and it was afterward found wandering about the outskirts of town. Loveall here left Rogers and the captive and returned to Coalinga. The younger proceeded with the girl to a place known as Jack's Springs in Jack's Canyon, one of the offshoots of Warthan Canyon, back of the oil town. Here during the day word was awaited from Loveall. Rogers concealed the girl in a rocky and rugged place in the canyon, where there was a clump of trees and a dense undergrowth. Here it was that Coalinga posse discovered them, the trail leading straight into the bushes and cottonwood trees, the canyon being shaped like the inverted hoof of a horse. The place was surrounded by the posse and when cornered Rogers shot at them from behind the girl and over her shoulder. Realizing that resistance was useless and that he was trapped, Rogers dragged his captive through the undergrowth up the side of the canyon rising abruptly to a rocky cleft. Here he compelled her to crouch in the shelter of the jutting out rock and cowered behind her. He wore a mask to conceal his features and had a strip of cotton cloth bound around his head to hide his red hair. The cloth was torn from him in the first scurry of the

capture. Following her rescue, Miss Domengine was taken to the home of Robert L. Peeler at Coalinga, one of the pursuing posse, and there kept until her parents came for her. Rogers was taken to the flimsy calaboose at Coalinga. There were threats to lynch him but he was saved from this end by Sheriff Robert L. Chittenden. He broke down under interrogation and named as his accomplice Loveall a known character in the oil fields with unsavory reputation. Loveall had been with one of the posses searching for the girl during the day but when search was made for him after Rogers' confession he had taken to the sand and rock hills surrounding the town on the sun-blistered and desert plain waste. The reason for Loveall joining the posse was stated to have been well recognized by the search party as an effort at self-preservation. Rogers was recognized by the searchers and the belief was that Loveall had resolved in his own mind to kill Rogers should the latter be taken. Succeeding in this, he would have destroyed the principal evidence of his connection with the kidnaping; there was little else then to trace the crime to him and the great danger was in the possibility of the accomplice confessing. Loveall led the posse in automobile pursuit a merry chase, plunging into the heart of the Coast Range, his career as a market game hunter making him familiar with every nook and cranny. Loveall was traced to a ranch fifteen miles from the oil town seething with excitement over the kidnaping. Here it was learned that he was willing and even anxious to surrender provided he was given guarantee of protection against the wrath of an outraged community. The hills and the country were searched for two days for the brigand and then came word that he was in concealment under the house of a cousin at the pumping station at Camp No. 2. There the fellow was found asleep and readily made a prisoner. Miss Domengine had a sight acquaintance with her captors, said she was not ill treated during her captivity and truth to tell did not take her kidnaping seriously. Loveall was a married man. The evidence in the case was complete, even without the confessions of the accomplices. It was a sensational episode at a period when the Coalinga field was overrun by a floating and irresponsible population attracted by the activities of the field. It contributed largely to the criminal annals of the county with corresponding expense in the administration of the department of justice.

#### Joseph Vernet Murder

The disappearance on or about July 15, 1908, not confirmed and made public until the last day of the month of Joseph Vernet, aged sixty-eight, and the search without result then for three days for the remains was regarded as another Wooton case by the authorities and the foothill dwellers between Letcher and Sentinel in the country where the eccentric old mountaineer had made his home for years. For nearly one week before August 1 one Charles H. Loper had been detained in the county jail pending a rigid investigation and search for the body of the old miner for the recovery of which a reward of \$100 was offered. Loper had shared the old man's cabin, was the last man in his company before his sudden dropping out of existence, and later announced that he had authority to settle up the old man's affairs. The finding of the body revealed the commission of one of the most fiendish, calculating and deliberate crimes ever committed in the county with avarice as the motive. Every step of the crime bore the evidence of cold, calculating premeditation in the details. On the last day that it was recalled that Vernet was seen alive, he had called at the Sentinel postoffice and engaged in a casual conversation with Henry Rae, deputy sheriff. He also posted two letters. The conversation was about nothing in particular. This was the very significance of it for it was rightly concluded that if the old man, who had lived in that neighborhood for thirty years, had contemplated departure on a long journey with possible non return, as Loper gave out, he would have made mention of this important decision. Rae was the last man known to have seen Vernet alive.



The evening after, Loper called at an adjoining ranch. He mentioned that he would not stay longer at the Vernet cabin because Vernet had left and he would not abide there alone. Loper made himself a guest for the night at the ranch and slept there. At breakfast he repeated the remark concerning Vernet's departure and that day left for Fresno by stage and five days later on the 22nd returned wearing new apparel and outfit, had money and presented a general air of prosperity. Meanwhile Vernet's absence had aroused the suspicions of Rae. On return from Fresno, Loper had informed him that Vernet had turned over to him all property and in corroboration produced a copy of a Fresno newspaper, then returned to the visited ranch and after a few hours proceeded to the Vernet place. The produced paper contained the following notice:

#### NOTICE

Any one owing me money will pay same to Charles H. Loper. Any debts of mine will be paid by him until further notice.

JOSEPH VERNET,  
P. O. Address, Sentinel, Cal.

Satisfied that all was not well, Rae sent notification on the 25th to the sheriff and a systematic inquiry was instituted. In the thirty years that Vernet had lived in the hills, he had never left home even for a few days without asking a neighbor to look after his pet cats, his only companions. When Vernet disappeared, there were five cats at the cabin and when they were later found they were almost starved. Upon his return from Fresno, Loper circulated the information that he had been to the county seat to look after Vernet's affairs, that the latter had gone to Oregon and he (Loper) proposed to sell off all property on hand. He had sold for \$300 a span of horses, wagon and harness. He had also offered at ridiculously low figure 125 cords of wood that the old man had cut. He had also collected some small bills but as Vernet always paid cash there were few debts to be paid. Loper remained at the Vernet place until the 28th, when he started on a second visit to Fresno. Although he had money and it had been his practice to go by stage, this time he walked to Fresno thirty-one miles and there engaged a room at the Ogle House. Loper was taken into custody, the investigation as to his connection with the disappearance of Vernet having already been instituted without his knowledge. He was questioned and in the hearing of a stenographer told a long story that Vernet was in Oregon somewhere; they were to meet at Portland in two or three weeks; he had caused the notice to be published on the authority of Vernet but no power of attorney was given. He claimed to have sold only the team and wagon receiving a note for \$300 due in nine months; Vernet had talked of closing out his business for two months or more; he left on the night of the 15th, walking to Fresno as he was wont to do nine out of ten times and his reason for leaving his old home was that he was disgusted with the people up there; there was nothing to hold him, he wanted to get out of the country and to go away to find a new home at the age of sixty-six. There was much more told but it was all a tissue of lies. Loper made no remonstrance against being detained, except to remark that he thought this thing would get him into trouble, referring to the insertion and publication of the newspaper notice. Every circumstance mentioned by Loper was in direct conflict with Vernet's known habits and practices. An examination of the cabin did not lend color to the departure theory. Vernet had left every thing intact; his best clothes were there, money in drafts; he had disappeared as he was dressed when he last talked with Rae. There was found a pair of Loper's trousers stained with what appeared to be blood. But as in the case of Wootton there was as yet no evidence of foul play. The body of Vernet must be found. This must be the first established link in the chain of evidence to base a charge of the murder of the old miner and stockman. Loper

was a man about thirty-five years of age and had lived with Vernet for several months. He had been reared in the country, had good family connections but was regarded as a roaming, idle character and possessed of not the best of reputations. He was a dreamer and irresponsible ne'er-do-well, worked at odd things and the wonder was how he made a living. It may be charitable to believe that he labored at times under fits of mental aberration. It is not to say that he was insane, though at the trial there was testimony to show that there is a taint of insanity in the family. If insane, the devilish details of the crime and the consummate preparations for it would dispose of the theory of mental irresponsibility. The investigation that progressed daily resulted in discoveries to give the lie to the many false statements that the prisoner made under interrogation. The chance discovery of the brutally butchered body of Vernet crowded into a narrow hole established the fact of the murder. Seven times had the party of searchers passed and repassed the spot where chance finally led to the clearing of the mystery through the humble instrumentality of a mountain squirrel whose disturbance of the ground in its tunnelling operations in a tree shaded nook attracted attention. The remains were exhumed. The legs had been chopped from the trunk. The remains were wrapped in burlap sacks bound with wire from bales of hay and conveyed for more than a mile from the cabin home of the murdered man. Word was conveyed to Loper of the finding of the body and he sent for the sheriff and submitted a long and full confession, accentuated all the hideous details, declaring that he had shot Vernet through the neck killing him instantly, that he cut up the remains to make their removal easy, conveyed them to the burial place in wheel barrow and told of many more of the details of concealing the body in the cabin, bringing it out for the mutilation, describing the knife and hatchet with which the operation was performed, the wrapping of the body and the removal at dusk, and the cleaning of the cabin and the instruments after the bloody business. The manifest purpose of the prisoner was to give the impression that the killing was in a fit of insanity. The mute evidences found about the cabin were corroborative of the confessed details. The six-day trial of Loper in February, 1909, resulted in a verdict of guilty on the evening of the 8th of the month with death as the penalty. The late J. S. Jones was the foreman of the trial jury and the verdict was unanimous on the first ballot of the jury. The sentence of death was pronounced April 12. Upon first arraignment Loper had pleaded guilty to the charge of murder but this plea he was afterward permitted to withdraw for the later trial. He was unmoved by the verdict, but on return to the jail remarked to the sheriff:

"It don't matter much to me. If I am going to be hanged, I want to be hanged by the law and not by those people up in the mountains."

After the conviction, Loper was transferred to a cell in the "felony tanks" and had as cellmate one Edward Turpin under life sentence for the murder of a Fowler ranchman. From the day of his imprisonment Loper had never been visited by friend, acquaintance or relative save once and that his aged uncle of Sentinel, J. H. Loper, cattleman, who attended every moment of the trial true to a promise to a brother in Adel, Ia., the father of the prisoner, that he would see that the son and nephew should at least have a fair trial. So absolutely deserted had been the defendant that he would have suffered even the deprivation of the solace of tobacco but for the kindly consideration of the sheriff. It was always considered that Loper's stolidity and absolute lack of interest or appreciation of his surroundings while in the courtroom was an assumed and acted part. In the hurried passages from courtroom and jail he was always in pleasant and talkative humor with his guard, while in jail he was more than sociable, enjoyed smoking, was a great reader of magazines and always eager to participate in a game of cards. The death verdict passed on him was the third in sixteen years. The defense on the trial was an attempt to prove the defendant to be insane and there were

depositions tending to show that the family was tainted with insanity on the maternal side. The prosecution described the prisoner as "a man with a rational mind and a crazy heart," belittled his defense as "flash light insanity" and a sham and subterfuge, and the murder a diabolical act for greed deserving the highest punishment under the law. The hanging was of course stayed by the appeal to the supreme court. A new trial was granted, Loper pleaded guilty and March 11, 1911, was sentenced to life imprisonment at Folsom. It was said of this fellow: "Probably Loper is without parallel in Fresno County history. Not only because of his crime, one of the bloodiest and brutal ever committed. But because he is without exception the most striking example of 'exaggerated ego' ever known, outside of the Thaw case."

### Sentenced in the Jail

Deserving of mention was the case of Edward Delhantie, a giant, burly negro accused of an unmentionable crime. One of the criminal puzzles of 1909 was "Is Delhantie crazy?" He assumed the ferocity of a tiger and his every appearance from jail meant physical overpowering of him. He made on one court appearance an assault on the unoffending courtroom clerk. There was apparently no physical control of him save when he was manacled and shackled. He entered a plea of guilty and was sentenced to imprisonment at Folsom for fourteen years. The sentencing was in the county jail, the burly giant behind bars and the attending court officials in the corridor. An imaginative writer referred to the episode as one that "will long remain as one of the most Dantesque events of 1909 silhouetted on the brain until time shall efface the memory of all things."

### An Unpunished Homicide

Because denied a second time permission to see his wife stopping at a lodging house at 625 K Street, J. E. Kerfoot, a packing house laborer, shot and killed Hamlet R. Brown, proprietor of the house, on the night of November 16, 1909. The police was notified but was given the number 645 J Street. There is no such number. People in the vicinity thought they had heard three shots fired coming from a lumberyard two or three blocks away. This also proved a delusive errand. A second police call, nearly one hour and a half after the fatality, gave the right address. Brown was found dead in the house hallway near the back door with a bullet wound in the left breast. Kerfoot had escaped and he never was arrested. The Kerfoots had come to Fresno from Bakersfield about two months before, lived together at the Brown house about a month when a separation took place and Kerfoot left, owing one month's rent. Kerfoot had come drunk to see the wife and was denied admission, Brown telling him to come in the morning when sober and making a taunting remark about the rent due. Kerfoot returned later, was again ordered away, there was a scuffle, a slap in the face and the shooting followed. The woman was in the house when the affair took place but remained in seclusion.

### Madman Runs Amuck

Three dead, one supposed to be fatally injured and two others slightly wounded was the bloody record achieved by George C. Cheuvront, a local rancher, who in a fit of insanity attempted on the morning of December 23, 1901, to exterminate a family of five with hatchet at his home at 167 Nielsen Avenue while preparations were being made for the breakfast. After the ghastly deed, Cheuvront apparently regained his mind and escaped from the house. He hurried in the direction of his peach orchard, west of town, but crossing the Southern Pacific tracks he became either remorse stricken or attempted to board a train and fell—at any rate the passenger train passed over him, mangled him to death and the remains were later in the day found

in a culvert into which they had been tossed by the swift moving train. Next day the remains were at the morgue with those of the murdered wife and of twelve-year-old son, Claude, while at a sanitarium lay little nine-year-old Blanche Gladys, not expected to live but proving a physical marvel, fighting a long fight against death and after months of suffering recovering to baffle every surgical diagnosis. The act of Cheuvront was that of an insane man as abundantly established by proof. The instrument in his hands was an axe in the hands of a man who weighed 200 pounds and who for his age had remarkable physical strength. The wife and son did not expire until the day after the murderous attack. She was struck three blows from behind in the back of the head near the left ear. She died in the operating room at a sanitarium. The boy died without regaining consciousness. He had wound in the back of the head similar to the one of his mother and the brains oozed at the gaping wound. With the loss of several ounces of the brain, the lad lived nine hours. Little Gladys received a hard blow on the top of the skull and face was cut about eyes and nose—the skull bone pressed against the brain. The assault on the wife was committed in the kitchen. No words were exchanged in the house. The first intimation of a tragedy was her piercing screams as she attempted to retreat at the kitchen door. The children leaped from their beds when they heard the screams. Cheuvront rushed into adjoining bed room brandishing the blood covered axe and heeded not the terrified pleas of Gladys. Cowan M. McClung, nineteen-year-old step son, and George Cheuvront, the older son grappled with the demented man but their strength was not equal to the occasion and the little girl was struck a glancing blow. Claude, the other son, received his fatal injury a few seconds later, falling back on bed with blood streaming from wound. Gladys also sank on her bed unconscious and bed clothes were crimsoned with blood. Then Cheuvront turned his attention to McClung and the son George, striking the latter several glancing blows on head, face and body but they proved only abrasions. McClung attempted to wrest the axe and Cheuvront pausing and placing hand to forehead surrendered possession of the weapon to the step son and fled from the house. The struggles carried the trio from the bedroom out to the front porch, where Cheuvront staggered and fell on his head. He was fifty-one years of age and a Frenchman by nativity. The wife was of the same age, her maiden name was Blanche Sanders; Cheuvront was her second husband. By a previous marriage with McClung, she had two sons. Cheuvront had been a resident of the valley for twenty years coming from near Visalia to Fresno fifteen years before and residing for a time at Easton. His specialty was hog raising. He was a man of some property and for a year or more before the tragic event of December, 1909, had on divers occasions manifested evidences of insanity. He had been arrested once, was kept in detention awaiting examination as to his sanity but had apparently recovered it before the examination as the medical men pronounced him sane.

#### Saved by a Miracle

Coming upon a suspicious character named V. L. Johnson on the night of January 30, 1912, in the alley in rear of the Union National Bank and the order to halt being unheeded, an exchange of pistol shots followed. The shot of Policeman James L. Cronkhite killed his man dead in his tracks. Cronkhite's life was miraculously saved, the bullet striking his metallic star and being deflected. For his heroic act the bank presented him a gold watch and chain as a testimonial. Cronkhite died September 8, 1912, after a surgical operation, having long suffered from cancer of the stomach. He wore Star No. 2, was six years a fireman and seven a policeman, promoted from roundsman to be detective.

### Traced by a Rag

Clarence French and George H. Ashton, professional safe crackers, with a record of prior convictions which they acknowledged, were sentenced November 22, 1913, each to fifteen years imprisonment at San Quentin. They were arrested in San Francisco for the dynamiting in Fresno of the safe in October before of Holland & Holland's grocery store. They were placed on trial and so strong was the case presented against them that their attorney abandoned further effort and the prisoners pleaded guilty. A third defendant, John O'Keefe, was discharged. The principals were expert safe crackers and a perfect case of circumstantial evidence was presented by the detectives of the two cities. The clue against them was a piece of rag torn out of a shirt cloth in which the burglarious tools were wrapped. The piece was dropped at the safe door and was of a particular pattern. Raided in their apartments in San Francisco, tools and wrapping shirt cloth were found in their possession. Piece fitted the tear and the pattern. The couple was suspected of other safe cracking jobs in the county committed at the time but they were such expert operatives that only the Holland job could be definitely saddled upon them by legal proof.

### Murder by Man and Wife

Women have not figured conspicuously in Fresno in the annals of crime. A notable exception came to light in the murder March 31, 1917, of Faustin Lassere, a well to do farmer of National Colony. The murderers, according to their pleas of guilty in the expectation that this would save them from the gallows, were C. L. Hammond and wife, Anna. Avarice was the motive for the crime. The woman was young and by some might be regarded as prepossessing in appearance. The couple was not given the best of records by the authorities in that pretending that she was single and marriageable several attempts had been made to obtain money and property from aged bachelors or widowers on her promises of marriage. This was the plan adopted to worm herself into the confidence and good graces of Lassere. Hammond and wife both made confessions when they realized that there was no further hope. He declared that the murder was her inspiration and suggestion, and she that he planned the crime and forced her to be his accomplice. At any rate, she became the housekeeper for Lassere and on the day in question before the meal Lassere was bludgeoned into unconsciousness and slashed with knife until there was no doubt of his death. Then both dragged the body out and having opened a grave to receive the remains they were buried under a manure pile and the grave frequently watered to accelerate decomposition. The Hammonds were never allowed after arrest to communicate with each other. They were not even brought into court together. They were arraigned on separate occasions and they were to have been tried separately. On the day set for her trial June 7, she pleaded guilty and after a long statement of the crime was sentenced to life imprisonment at San Quentin. Thereupon she had an attack of hysteria and had to be removed from the courtroom. He was brought in later in the afternoon after a change of mind and heart and also pleaded guilty, made his statement of the crime, declaring that he was moved to act as accomplice because of his love for her. He was also sentenced to life imprisonment but at Folsom penitentiary. In their statements both unbared their past and revealed circumstances which were not to the moral credit of either. Both, it was understood, would have pleaded guilty in the first place if any promise had been held out to either that their lives would have been spared for their diabolical crime. Whether the crime was her inspiration or not, certain it was that Hammond was the cringing yellow cur in the court after his plea when he attempted to fasten all the blame for the crime and the program of its details on the woman. The Hammonds were comparatively young people. Their

life imprisonment left parentless two young children, who became county charges, who if they ever learn their antecedents will in shame abjure their names. So with the murder of Lassere three children were left orphaned. He left an estate of about \$8,600 after payment of expenses. A relative was appointed guardian of them to receive the estate on distribution, and thereafter the children removed to make their home with the guardian at Lawton, Ia. The confessed details of the butchery of Lassere were as revolting as in the case of Vernet.

#### **A Costly Jamboree**

Constable A. B. Chamness of Fowler was run down and killed on an evening in September, 1917, on the state highway near Calwa by an automobile driven by W. A. Johns, while intoxicated, a prominent vineyardist of Parlier. He was arrested and held to answer for manslaughter and for neglecting to render aid to those he had injured in his wild ride. Chamness fell in front of Johns' car while trying to arrest him. Before this accident, Johns had demolished a wagon in which rode a woman and two girls. They also were injured. The constable alighting from the Fresno-Selma stage in pursuit of Johns fell and his skull was crushed. Johns pleaded guilty before the Superior court and was released on probation, one condition being that he abjure the use of intoxicants for the remainder of his life, his state at the time of the accident disproving malicious intent. The representation was also that he had made "restitution" to the widow in the sum of \$2,500, also recompensing the other injured. Chamness was sixty years of age, had been constable of Fowler for seven years and at one time was town marshal. Johns was sentenced on the lesser accusation of failing to render aid to the injured victims of his reckless exploit.

#### **A Woman Forger**

A dynamite explosion early in the morning on the last day of October, 1917, wrecked the home of W. R. Holmes on the William Newman ranch about twelve miles northeast of Fresno. Holmes sleeping on the porch was covered with debris but uninjured. Later in the day Mary I. Black, a fortune teller and divorced wife of Holmes, was arrested for the forgery of his name to a note for \$6,000 in her favor. A year before, she had sued him on that note, claiming that it had been given her in a property settlement agreed upon at the time of separation and she was given judgment. For this forgery she was later found guilty, denied release on probation and suspended judgment and sentenced to the penitentiary. There was no proof as to the dynamiting but it was strongly suspected that the woman placed the sticks. Roof of the house, a two-room building, was blown off, parts of the floor torn into splinters and the walls fell out intact. A rocking chair was blown through the window near Holmes' bed and landing on him shielded him from the smaller debris that covered him in bed.

#### **Murder of the "Old Broom Man"**

May 16, 1919, Edwin S. Taylor, a well known character of Fresno City, known as "The Old Broom Man," was treacherously and foully murdered in the tractor shack on the L. W. Gibson ranch, three miles northwest of the town of Clovis. Friday, June 6, the murderer, Ernest Nakis, was in custody as the murderer, and two countrymen were in jail as accessories after the fact in having harbored and concealed him after the crime. The search for the principal had been a long one, involving a journey to towns in Lower California. Taylor was an inoffensive old fellow who was a street and house-to-house peddler of brooms. He affected great poverty, and, to give semblance to his pretensions, went for days unshaven, wearing cast-off and patched clothing, looking the part of a very beggar. He had money, though, and this led to his undoing. After his death the public administrator un-



earthed thousands of dollars on deposit in banks. He was supposed to carry considerable money on his person—no one knows how much. It was to gain possession of this that he was lured to the Clovis ranch on some pretense of a sale of the place to him. Whatever the plan, the old fellow fell into the trap, and his life was the forfeit. The murderer was seen to arrive at the ranch in an auto, with the murdered man, to inspect the ranch; the report of shots within the tractor shed was heard, Nakis was seen to come out and walk around to the front of the ranch, until he drove away; and later curiosity drew attention to the shed and Taylor was found there shot to death. Nakis was arrested at the Fleener ranch, two and one-half miles from the scene of the murder, sleeping on a mattress under the bed. The identification of the prisoner was complete. Placed between five prisoners, the brothers Edward and Frederick Smith, ranchers, who had seen Nakis drive up to the Gibson ranch with Taylor, identified him positively, and Edward created a dramatic scene. The latter had also made note of the numbers of the auto. Besides there was the identification of Nakis by a policeman as the man he had seen on May 16th, in an auto on Callisch street with Taylor, and the circumstance was not one to be forgotten, because it was probably the one occasion in Taylor's long residence here that he had ever been seen riding in an auto. There was also a fourth identification by a woman caller at the jail, who had known the old man well and who recognized Nakis as the auto companion of the broom peddler on the morning of that ride to his death. The arrest of Nakis occurred in an unoccupied house on the Fleener ranch, which is said to have once been leased and occupied by the accused. It was stated that the blood-stained coat of Taylor, besides a .38 caliber revolver, and \$137 in currency, were found in the prisoner's possession when arrested. The accessories were the lessees of the ranch who harbored Nakis on the premises, Nakis probably having been animated by the same lure that has led to the undoing of many another criminal, in a return to the scene of his crime.

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## CHAPTER LXIII

PICTURESQUE NARRATIVE REVEALED IN A MADERA TRIAL FOR MURDER. THRICE THE CASE WAS SUBMITTED TO JURIES. VICTIM WAS A PIONEER OF THE DAYS OF THE DISCOVERY OF GOLD, AND ONE OF THE SQUAW-MEN OF EARLY FRESNO. NO PROOF ON THE TRIALS OF A MOTIVE FOR THE KILLING. REMARKABLE REBUTTAL OF CIRCUMSTANTIAL EVIDENCE. TALE OF A FEUD WITH THE MONO TRIBE OF INDIANS. MUTE EVIDENCES OF IT IN A HILLSIDE COLLECTION OF GRAVES OF VICTIMS WHO DIED WITH THEIR BOOTS ON.

A picturesquely interesting narrative was revealed on the ten days' trial in Madera County in November, 1908, of T. H. Muhly for the murder of James W. Bethel, an old resident of Fresno County and a pioneer of California of 1848, who participated in some of the Indian wars and took part also in the wild and rugged life of early days. A lack of motive for the killing was one of the unexplained features in the remarkable case. This was taken advantage of in behalf of the prisoner to give basis for the theory that the murder may possibly have been committed by Indians in revenge because of ancient feud between the Bethel family and the remnant of the Mono tribe. Recital was made of a story of bloodshed fitting a yellow-backed dime novel. Details of this tale were furnished in large part by the late Judge George Washington Smiley, then eighty-five years of age, and an old timer who had crossed the plains with Bethel upon the discovery of gold. Much of this testimony was ruled out because hearsay.

Various features made the case one of the most remarkable. The first trial resulted in the finding of Muhly guilty of manslaughter with recommendation to mercy in the sentence. The sentence was imprisonment for ten years. The prisoner had to combat on the trial not alone the public sentiment in a community that is noted for its clannishness but also the evidence attempting to connect him with the homicide. The jury used the courtroom for its deliberations and after its discharge there was found a tabulation of its seven votes up to the time of a halt when the court was asked for a ruling on certain disputed points in the case. The tabulation is interesting for the remarkable fluctuation of sentiment among the jurors on the first seven successive ballots. The showing was this:

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Guilty .....	5	4	6	7	8	9	10
Not Guilty .....	7	8	6	5	4	3	1

Appeal was taken and new trial was granted which resulted in another disagreement, the jury standing nine for not guilty. On the third trial in 1909, Muhly was found guilty of manslaughter and the ten-year sentence was again pronounced. While serving the sentence, Muhly was paroled.

The accusation was that he had shot and killed Bethel on the 28th of February, 1908, on premises on the Crane Valley road three miles from Power House No. 3 and four miles from North Fork. Bethel was wounded first with fine shot from a gun in the left side of the face and then had skull crushed either with the barrel or the stock of the gun. Muhly was a rancher who in 1904 had bought a half interest in the premises from Bethel. The latter as a pioneer of the earliest days had as many others in those times married a woman of the Mono tribe and raised a family of half breed children. Muhly had also entered into relations with the tribe through his marriage with Polly Walker, a half breed of the Walker family of Fine Gold and niece of the Walker, who was one of the pioneer sheriffs of Fresno. Muhly was a man about fifty years of age, and Bethel although seventy-six years of age had taken up with a married white woman of Tulare County, and it was understood intended to marry her as soon as he could divorce the Indian wife. He was one of the best known of the living early pioneers and came in 1870 to the place where he was living and where he was killed. For a time he conducted a roadhouse tavern and store, though for several years preceding his killing he had only the store. He was once a well to do man.

Muhly possessed a No. 12 shot gun which it was abundantly proved was used in common for quail hunting. Bethel slept in the tavern premises at Bethel's Station and Muhly and wife made their abode in a house sixty yards from the tavern, Bethel taking his meals with them. Muhly admitted that on the day of the murder he had the gun hunting quail but left the fowling piece with Bethel to try his luck. Bethel was late for supper that night but after the meal returned to the store, Muhly remaining at home to clear up the table and dishes. Shortly thereafter two shots were heard and between the shots some one exclaimed excitedly, "Boys, don't do that!" At the trial the gun had disappeared and it never was found, though effort was made to locate with divining rod its place of concealment on the ranch. Mrs. Muhly testified that her husband was in the kitchen shortly before the report of the shots. He ran out in time to note the flash of the second shot in the gathering twilight. After a time he went to the store and found Bethel dead on the ground by the side of the porch.

Investigation next morning disclosed that one of the shots struck the wall of the building about one foot above the porch and at close range. The shot in Bethel's face and in the wall was No. 8 fitting the gun. The cartridges were the only kind about the house. The gun contained two empty cartridges and the porch showed a blood patch. On the trial was introduced

as an exhibit a handkerchief found in the barn forty or more days after the homicide—a silken, dirty rag with blood spots. Muhly said the handkerchief was not his and he had never seen it before. Then there was evidence that teamsters were accustomed to use the barn on their journeys, and well it might have been that some one of them had cast the rag aside. This was plausible enough.

Thirty days or so after the homicide the Bethel-Muhly premises were gone over carefully and on a flat rock near the chicken house was found a mass of overall strips cut from the hip down. Some of these were blood marked. These and a pair of blood spotted shoes were submitted to a San Francisco chemist for analysis. He deposed that they were blood spotted but whether blood of human or animal he was not prepared to state, nor did he so state. To offset this testimony there was evidence that teamsters and workmen on the power house dam had been in the habit in traveling along the road to use the granary frequently as a night resting place and overalls in plenty had been discarded there by them. An Indian squaw, Mrs. Galt, the mother of Mrs. Muhly, gave in evidence that she had cleaned out the barn and had found sixteen pairs of overalls, had carried them to the flat rock and there stripped them to make rugs and quilts. One of the attorneys in the case had counted fourteen pairs of remnant overalls.

Then there was that pair of blood stained shoes discovered a few days before the trial and overlooked on a previous search of the premises when the overalls were found. The shoes were found in a rocky crevice about 100 yards from the Muhly house. Attempt was made to connect Muhly with the crime by reason of the blood spots. These shoes were much worn, heelless and the left shoe was broken at the arch and patched. It was a No. 7 shoe. Muhly demonstrated at the trial that he wore a No. 9 shoe. Again Mrs. Galt, the squaw, came to the rescue to exonerate Muhly. She declared that the pair of shoes was an old one discarded about a year before by Justice Thomas Jefferson Rhodes, then of O'Neal's and before of Fine Gold. She stated that she had salvaged the shoes, chopped off the heels and patched the arch of the left shoe and had worn them on the very day of the killing of Bethel and even on the day after. In fact she had worn them until the June before the trial when her boys bought her a new pair and one day while bathing in the creek discarded the old shoes and cast them aside in the crevice where they had been found. With the shoes were the rags that she had wrapped about her feet for lack of stockings.

Justice Rhodes testified that he had always worn a No. 7 shoe. He was not prepared to identify the discarded blood-stained pair, though he said it looked familiar to him because of the pegging. The spectacle was then witnessed in the courtroom of Rhodes and the accused in turn fitting the shoes, Rhodes finding them to fit and Muhly that they were too small and did not fit. Then it was also shown that Rhodes' left leg is longer than his right and in consequence he had contracted the habit in walking to place his weight on the ball of the left foot, likewise bending that foot when sitting, accounting for the break in the shoe sole at the hollow of the left foot.

There was testimony by a Mrs. L. A. Banta that on the evening of the homicide she saw a light about seven o'clock in the direction of the Bethel premises, about three-quarters of a mile distant. A lantern was in fact found near the body but to whom it belonged was another of the undetermined facts at the trial.

But what was the motive for the murder? That was another undetermined fact in the case. Effort was made to saddle a motive on Muhly but it was a failure. Bethel could neither read nor write. It was claimed that Muhly bore him a grudge and only awaited the time and opportunity to revenge himself for Bethel's encumbering the property in some manner in the half interest sale. The contention was in accounting for a motive that Bethel was the sole owner and occupant of the premises on which he had

built; that the half interest never was conveyed to Muhly; that the property was sold for delinquent taxes and bought in by Muhly on the tax deed to gain title and oust Bethel. This was disproved by the showing that the built on land was deeded with the half interest and moreover that there never was charge or lien against the property from the time of Bethel's deed until after the murder, when mortgage was clapped on to raise money for Muhly's defense on the murder accusation.

On the other hand the plausible theory was advanced for the prisoner that the murder could have been the deed of Indians for revenge on account of a feud between the Bethel family and the Monos. Followed the recital of Judge Smilie who was a walking encyclopedia of the neighborhood and familiar with the history of every one who had ever lived in the region. And in this connection it is interesting to record as a historical fact that the division of the county to form the later Madera left the larger number of earliest pioneers located north of the San Joaquin River as the common boundary; also necessarily the greater number of these survivors are to this day in the younger county. Reason there was for this. The greatest mining activities, with exception in a narrow belt along the San Joaquin about Millerton, had been in that portion of Fresno County north of the San Joaquin; the northern portion of the county lying between the San Joaquin and the Chowchilla and on the Madera and the Fresno between the two first named contributed more to the making of early history than did the southern portion between the San Joaquin and the Kings with population nuclei in the Millerton foothills, on the Upper Kings at what is today Centerville, on the Lower at what is today the Kingsburg and Reedley country and in the Coast Range on the west in a nook at what is today the New Idria quicksilver mining country in San Benito County, all between these points being a waste, desert plain awaiting the bringing on of water and the coming of the husbandman to cultivate the parched and baked virgin soil.

Putting in sequence the tale narrated by Pioneer Smilie, it appeared that when Bethel settled in the Crane Valley country more than a quarter of a century ago and took as a companion an Indian woman he had a quarrel over her with one of her tribesmen and shooting him thrice, killed him. This was so long ago that even Smilie would not hazard giving the year of the occurrence. Bethel had declared that he expected he would forfeit his life some day to an Indian assassin. However, early in the 80's Bob Bethel, a half breed son, shot an Indian in the leg but a white man's jury cleared him. About 1885 this Bob married according to the tribal custom the daughter of Mono chief named Pemona, who hankered for a rancheria for his sub-tribe on the Bethel ranch. With the marriage, Pemona secured that rancheria. A day came and Bob deserted the chief's daughter, took up with another marriageable squaw of the tribe and the proximity of the rancheria having become objectionable (a circumstance not to be wondered at), Bethel tried to have it removed and of course trouble arose.

Pemona came to pow-wow with Bethel, who supposed at first that the chief had come to kill his half breed son for the desertion of the chief's daughter. Bethel aided the son's escape with the help of a horse, but Pemona tarried all day and drinking too much there was a quarrel. Pemona advanced in menacing manner with a rock in hand and Bethel blew the top of his head off and killed him. Months thereafter, mayhap a year, the tribe had a gathering to grieve over the leaving from the rancheria and partly in memoriam of the dead chief. Bob Bethel was at the gathering standing at the camp fire. A shot rang out in the still of the night. A bullet struck him in the back and there was a dead half-breed. The shot was from a nearby house and the supposition has always been that the murder was by an Indian who had taken up the quarrel of Bob's wife.

Bethel feared to go among the Indians to rescue the body of this son because he would be foully dealt by for the hostility between the Bethels

and Mono tribe was at this period at fever heat. Bethel induced Smilie to accompany him in the recovery of the body for burial. Smilie acquiesced but for his pains was shot at mistakenly for Bethel. The body of Bob was recovered. About two years before the murder of Bethel, Barge, a younger brother of Bob, was found dead one day at home with bullet wound in the head. At the time it was declared to have been a suicide and the coroner's verdict so declared and found. Since that finding the impression gained ground that it was a murder because it was impossible for Barge to have shot himself in the location of the rifle wound, the fact that there were no powder marks on him as there would have been had the firearm been discharged at so close range as it necessarily must have been if it was a suicide, and lastly because it has never been known for a half-breed to take his life.

There was also evidence at the trial that Bethel had ordered an Indian off the premises some weeks or months before, that on the morning following the murder an Indian had been seen prowling about the Bethel store at North Fork, that he had been drunk and excited suspicion. The above fragmentary and disconnected recital was furnished as a basis for the jury to believe or conclude in the absence of any proven or indicated motive for the killing of Bethel on Muhly's part that the murder must have been committed by an Indian, who had taken the law into his own hands as avenger of a series of outrages suffered by his tribe through acts of the Bethels.

"Last scene of all,

"That ends this strange, eventful history."

On the hillside near the Bethel roadhouse is a collection of graves, most of them unnamed, forgotten, dilapidated, weed or grass overgrown and dank. Four mark the earthly resting-places of known dead. One is the sepulcher of Ben Harding called before his Maker unprepared for the journey into eternity many years ago. In the other three graves lie the remains of the three Bethels, father and two sons.

And all died with their boots on!

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## CHAPTER LXIV

CONSCIENCELESS EFFORT OF 1907-08 TO DIVIDE FRESNO COUNTY AND LOP OFF THE COALINGA OIL FIELD TERRITORY. A LAND GRAB INITIATED IN HANFORD FOR THE ENLARGEMENT OF KINGS COUNTY BY CONQUEST. ANIMOSITIES CREATED THAT CONTINUED A RANKLING THORN FOR A DECADE AFTER. COMMISSIONERS INDICTED CRIMINALLY FOR REFUSAL TO CANVASS VOTE CAST AT DIVISION SPECIAL ELECTION. APPEAL TO COURTS TO COMPEL THEIR PERFORMANCE OF A SWORN DUTY. COUNTY DIVISION CONSPIRACY DEFEATED. COMPROMISE FOLLOWS WITH LOSS BY FRESNO OF A 120 SQUARE MILE STRIP OF LAND.

Fresno was agitated to its depths in 1907-08 over a conscienceless effort made with apparent support of a ring in the legislature to divide the county by lopping off western territory embracing the Coalinga oil field developed in large part by Fresno men and capital and annexing it for the enlargement of Kings County to satisfy an insatiate greed.

Kings contained then 1,200 square miles. The Coalinga district embraced 1,242 square miles. It is one of the richest oil fields in the world. The proposed steal of the land south of the Fourth Standard Parallel would have more than doubled Kings' area. In the proposed change, Coalinga was sought to be voted by hook or crook from one of the richest to one of the poorest counties in the state; from one of the largest to one of the smallest.

Fresno ranked then sixth in the state in order of population and wealth. Its immediate future according to every reasonable prospect was to rise to fourth place. Beyond that it could not well advance. To do so, it would have to pass San Francisco, Los Angeles and Alameda. Kings was then not so large as the rich district upon which it had cast covetous eyes.

The ambition of Kings was to improve its river and swamp land at the expense of the taxes to be levied on the land and improvements of the oil district with which it was perhaps in closer relation because of the poor railroad connections and the lack of roads across the plains between Fresno and Coalinga. Indeed the railroad connection was by a circuitous route via Hanford in Kings. As a bribe to cajole it into annexation, the coveted territory was promised a supervisorship in the enlarged Kings County, besides other empty inducements, which with the ultimate defeat of the annexation project no attempt was ever made at fulfilment. Coalinga by going over into Kings was asked to forever cut off the chance for a big West Side county with itself as the largest community the possible county seat. A development had then been started and has since continued, and a population might be looked for to warrant some day the formation of a county with the oil district as the nucleus. Had Coalinga gone into Kings, the latter would never have population enough to suffer the territorial loss of Coalinga annex, and Coalinga, so the anti-annexationists argued, would have shut off its opportunity for a big county north of the Kings River to satisfy the ambitions of a few politicians south of the river. It was after all is said and done a raw effort by Kings to grow by conquest.

This county division plan never had inception in Fresno but was conceived in Kings. Two years before the Hanford papers began the agitation and campaign to enlarge the territory of the vest-pocket county for the sake of the enlarged tax income, Kings having reached the limit at home and Coalinga being a convenient and contiguous field with possibility of exploitation and assuredly worth the effort. There was everything to win and nothing to lose. In April, 1906, the Coalinga Record, under another management than that which dictated its policy later, denounced the Hanford county division of Fresno project and the manifest effort to divide sentiment in the Coalinga district by fomenting dissension and declared that it was content to remain in Fresno. What induced the change in policy in the sheet is left to conjecture. Certain it was not in a change of conditions because they were improving. The annexation scheme was an inspiration of Kings for its material benefit, carried through its first steps in the legislature by a combination of politicians and thereafter attempted to be pushed through to a successful consummation by methods suggestive of the most questionable tactics of the pothouse politician.

The annexationists were beaten in the end at their own game; the result on the division vote was attempted to be arbitrarily set aside and another election called; the popular indignation was great over the tactics pursued; the Fresno grand jury took up the matter of the election commission's refusal to perform an official duty in the canvass of the vote, and of the fraud in voting and registration; three of the commissioners were criminally indicted for felony; injunction was sued out to desist from holding a second or other election on division; the district appellate court issued writ commanding canvass of the election returns and declaration of the result; the indictments were afterward set aside on a legal technicality; the annexation swindle was defeated but based on the showing of the vote the Webber bill as a compromise was passed at the March, 1909, session of the legislature and 120 square miles were lopped off from Fresno instead of the 185 asked and the Laguna de Tache grant was cut almost in two. The ramified litigation over the annexation steal created intense and bitter animosities. It was a rankling thorn for a decade after.



The legislative measure that initiated the division election was one by Assemblyman William L. McGuire of Kings who politically has passed into oblivion. Under that bill were appointed March 25, 1907, the following named as commissioners to conduct an election to ratify the boundary change:

J. W. Herbert of Laton;  
L. P. Guiberson of Coalinga;  
Scott Blair of Coalinga;  
D. M. De Long of Coalinga;  
George Robinson of Coalinga.

They had made call for an election in the affected district for Tuesday the 10th of December, 1907. Things were in a muddled state the month before and registration of voters for that election had been reopened in the district under the expectation and theory that the election would not be held on the day set under the call and that the call was an illegal one. A test case had been taken to the supreme court against the advice of the Fresno bar and the decision declared that the election call could be issued at any time within sixty days after the remittitur of the court. The latter had not issued when the December 10th election date was set as notice had been filed of intention to ask for a rehearing of the case in the supreme court. The law required that the election proclamation be published twenty-five days before the day of election and under the attempted call for December 10 issued on November 13 there was a bare twenty-five days intervening and registration closing forty days before election. However that may all be, the election was held on December 10.

On the Saturday night before the election, the opponents of division held a rally at the Coalinga Theater which was literally jammed to the doors with the more than half a thousand people in attendance. The assemblage was an enthusiastic one and the sentiment decidedly in favor of Fresno and staying with it. Tom O'Donnell, one of the largest oil operators, who had at the election before been a candidate for the assembly, was the chairman and touched upon the personalities that had been injected into the campaign as uncalled for while not affecting the issues at stake. He declared that the attitude of many of the leading men of Coalinga had been misrepresented and lied about by the divisionists. He cited examples of misrepresentations, among others one by Assemblyman McGuire that the interests of the Associated Oil Company were being jeopardized by Guiberson as its local manager in efforts to coerce local men because he favored Fresno interests. The refutation was given in a letter by business men of Coalinga.

David S. Ewing defended Fresno's interests on the division question. The oil field had been developed by Fresno capital and operated by Fresno men. Kings County men came in after the field had been developed and been proven and there were no longer risks to take. He himself had been among the first to invest in West Side oil lands; was a member of the company that secured the first lease; and the company that discovered oil in 1899 on the West Side; and he was attorney for the men that discovered oil in the Coalinga field in 1894. He pointed out the loss to Coalinga in taking the division step and the burden that it would shoulder as it would be looked to to furnish much of the taxes for the building up of Kings County.

H. H. Welsh, another large oil operator interested in the pipe transportation lines, also pointed out the greater interests that Fresno men have in the district compared to the Kings agitators and therefore better able to form opinions on the subject of division than the outsiders. He referred to the change of policy of the Coalinga newspaper though two-thirds of its stockholders favored remaining with Fresno County and its unfair means and arguments. He asserted that the district supervisor had more than redeemed the one promise made that all money raised by taxation in the district should be devoted to improvements and needs of the oil district. He ridiculed some circulated rumors, one of these that if division carried the big

oil companies would reduce men's wages because involving the supposition of a location in a county affected by the laws of supply and demand of the country at large. And as to the matter of roads of which much was made, he asserted that Coalinga had the best roads in the state and the winter before their condition was nothing to compare in badness with those of Fresno and in the vicinity of Hanford.

The speaker of the evening was Senator G. W. Cartwright of Fresno, who elaborated upon Kings County's ambition to grow by conquest, its greed and the fact that county division had its inception in Hanford. He made sport of the argument of the excess of love of Kings for the Coalinga people because Fresno officials had not visited the field as often as the Hanfordites. The sum total raised by Kings County for roads was \$35,000, while the supervisorial district in which Coalinga is located alone raises \$52,000. Kings County could not therefore fulfil the road promises it had made, giving it credit of wishing to make good on its word. The supervisors promise to spend district tax raised money in the district had been fulfilled and the spending of the money was placed in the hands of De Long. If not spent to the best advantage, then it was De Long's fault, or going back of that of the supervisor, but in any event the county should not be held to blame. The remedy is not to leave the county. Under the existing arrangement in Fresno, Coalinga received a lot of tax money, but under the Kings system the plan was to place Coalinga into a district to be included with a large part of the Tulare lake bottom. This swamp country has comparatively small taxable resources, the Coalinga district is rich and the oil field would be called upon to build roads and bridges for the lake and swamp district.

As to the bait promise of a supervisorship, the Senator said that nothing had prevented Coalinga having a supervisor in Fresno other than that no man had been enterprising enough and up to snuff to run for the office, yet the district had elected a county recorder and small precincts had sent many a county officer to Fresno. Some of the circulated lies that had been nailed, proven untrue and having no foundation were reviewed. Among these were the assertions that Fresno County does not own its courthouse property; that there is a clause in the deed for reversion if the land is not used for court house purposes; that the county is in debt; and the like. As an argument clincher there was exposure of the plot in the showing that on November 19, 1907, at Laton, Ben McGinnis had in the presence of ten people, some of whom had made affidavit, said with regard to the question of who would pay for the proposed improvement of river and swamp land in Kings County: "Those people over in Coalinga are not paying anything like the taxes they should and we are going to raise their taxes to pay for all those improvements."

As one of the big jokes of the campaign was the statement that a suburban line would be built in the event of county division to run from Coalinga to Hanford crossing the river twice and passing through Lemoore and Laton. This was passed off as buncombe, as an election and not an electric road and ridiculed was the thought that a county would expend \$100,000 in bridges and in an electric road to accommodate the travel of a few hundred people.

The day may come when a main railroad will connect Fresno and Coalinga. Hanford located as it is will be always on a branch line and Coalinga annexed would be connected with its county seat by a jerk water line and the main line closely connected with Fresno. To emphasize the contrasted public improvements of Fresno and Kings Counties, stereopticon views were shown and the exhibition was of things that Fresno had, and that Kings lacked; and that Coalinga might expect to pay for what Kings lacked.

The night before election the divisionists had their final meeting. A Tulare senator and Hanfordites were the speakers, it was noted. The elec-

tion was held with the following result, nine precincts in the affected district voting:

For division .....	643
Against division .....	521
Total vote .....	1,164
Necessary sixty percent. to carry.....	698
Division lost by .....	55
Coalinga precinct voted for.....	329
Coalinga precinct voted against.....	229
Total precinct vote .....	558
Necessary sixty percent. ....	334
Division lost by .....	5

It rained on election day. Had it not rained, the anti-divisionists would have probably polled more votes. The rain impeded the automobiles as the swifter means of bringing men in from the oil fields to vote. Coalinga was the center of the day's conflict—a veritable “bloody angle” for there the Hanfordites were in strength and marshaled their forces, contested every inch of the ground with shifty tactics and methods to put to blush the boldest of metropolitan ward bosses. As Senator Cartwright stated after the thing was over, not dreaming of what was to come thereafter: “Every inch of the ground was contested, but Fresno did not lose any tricks, even though the cards did seem to be stacked at one stage of the game.”

The first bomb cast into the camp of the anti-divisionists was a ruling early in the day by the election board that whoever had registered, even up to and including the day of election, could vote. This ruling was on the advice of a Visalia attorney, who represented the annexationists in all the legal proceedings. The ruling cast to the winds the general election law provision that a voter must be registered a certain number of days before the election day. The Fresno committee protested against the ruling but it was of no avail. So it decided to take the bull by the horns and it also went after anti-annexationists that had not registered within the forty-day limit. Such votes were offered but being anti-division voters their ballots were refused on the ground that their names were not on the register. Kings County men were permitted to vote on a certification by a deputy registration clerk, who by some well directed mischance seemed to have omitted the names of those who might have been favorable to Fresno.

In the confusion that ensued the Visalia attorney was besieged and committed himself to a proposition on registration. The Fresno committee prepared certifications and forty-five or fifty votes were polled on the same basis as the Kings County “emergency voters.” Registrations were also proceeded with but these were not voted or made avail of. As a matter of fact 270 names had been added to the great register since October 30, the day when registration for the election should have ceased. Challenges at the polls were in order all day long, a total of twenty-six from Fresno. It was also stated that for divisionists as well as the antis some 300 affidavits had been taken during November and December of persons whose names did not go on the register because the time was after the forty days before the election. These had been taken for possible registration on the first entertained theory that the election might not be held on the 10th as there was a question as to the legality of the election call issued before the remittitur from the supreme court came down in the first test case. Election day was a day of excitement wild and long to be remembered.

But if beaten at the election, there were other shifty tactics to be resorted to and they were on Tuesday, December 17, at Coalinga, when three of the commissioners actually declared the election held null and void and made announcement of another election to be held on the 14th of January, 1908. The commissioners were to have met to canvass the vote on Monday the 16th but did not. In a sworn affidavit made by Commissioners Guiberson and Herbert they deposed that they met at the appointed hour at the office of the commission with an attorney who was clerk of the commission in Coalinga to canvass the returns. The clerk locked the door, refused them entrance, or to have access to the returns, or to inspect them, whereupon the commissioners met outside the door and by resolution adjourned until two o'clock on the day after. The affidavit also stated that Scott Blair, another of the commissioners, was present in the building at the time and although requested to do so refused to meet with the two commissioners or to canvass the returns, the meeting having been at the call of the chairman theretofore given.

The reason for not holding the meeting became apparent at the proceedings on the day after. Evidently the program had not been completed the day before and had not been rehearsed. It was an excited meeting this assemblage of the full commission with enough legal talent on hand to back the hope of the chairman that it would put them right in the proceedings to follow. The returns of the Coalinga precinct were produced for canvass. The precinct register index was missing but as it did not show who had voted it was inconsequential. Its absence was seized upon by the chairman, De Long, to raise the point whether it was not for the commission to question anything done at the election outside of and not according to law, in other words to go behind the returns.

This was the cue for the Visalia attorney, who launched forth in an argument that the election was not conducted according to law and that it was for the commissioners to determine whether the returns had come to them in a manner provided by law, maintaining also that it had appeared that people had voted at the election that were not qualified to do so because they were not on the great register.

Reply was of course made by the attorneys representing the anti-divisionists and the question was squarely presented whether the duties of the commission were not purely ministerial in the canvassing of the votes cast and certifying the result, and not judicial as maintained by the divisionists in going behind the face of the returns and passing on whether ballots are legal or illegal for any reason.

The law giver for the divisionists went further to declare that there is no legal procedure to contest a special election such as this, and maintained that if any illegal votes had been cast it was the duty of the commission to declare the election null and void.

Commissioner Guiberson in Anglo-Saxon more forcible than elegant or parliamentary asked how the board was to determine this question?

Without attempting to answer this problem, Chairman De Long announced flat-footedly for an inquiry into the legality of the votes. The lawyers argued and argued but all in vain. A program had been resolved upon and it was the intention to carry that program over rough shod, if need be. Guiberson forced on the issue to proceed with the canvass. The vote was a tie, he and Herbert voting for the motion and De Long casting the deciding vote, making it; Ayes two; noes 3. Effort followed to take up the returns of another precinct but it proved a failure, for at this point advance prepared resolutions were introduced and of course adopted by a vote of three to two. If evidence were needed to prove the existence of a pre-arranged program, the resolutions furnished it.

After this there was nothing more to do before the commission. The question was asked of the chairman: "Would this action have taken place

had the election gone the other way?" The reply: "It would in my case, so far as I am concerned," provoked incredulous smiles.

After long recitals, the resolutions declared that the election held on the 10th of December "was not in truth, or in fact, or in contemplation of law, such an election as provided for in said act;" all proceedings taken in relation to holding the election were voided and set aside and another election was ordered for January 14, 1908, and the secretary was ordered to demand of the county clerk a certificate showing the names of all qualified electors resident in the district prior to three months before the new date of election and registered.

It was a remarkable piece of work that of those three commissioners. As H. H. Welsh remarked: "This thing has positively reached the degree of indecency." As monstrous a lie as could be manufactured out of whole cloth was the declaration in the program resolutions that County Clerk W. O. Miles had refused "to furnish the board of commissioners any certificate under seal showing the additional names of the voters on the great register of the county of Fresno registered as residing in said territory described in said act, since the last register." He did furnish a copy of the great register and of all additional certified to names of voters on the register within forty days of the election and of those who had transferred within twenty-five days of the election. All who attempted to register after the forty or twenty-five days were not entitled to vote, and these he did not register nor certify to.

The county grand jury took up on December 20, 1907, the matter of the alleged conspiracy in relation to the division election and as the first phase the refusal of the three commissioners to perform a specific duty in the canvass of the returns, in pursuance of a conspiracy. It was a coincidence that Commissioner Herbert was a member of the grand jury and he was excused from participation in the inquiry on the first phase, but called for the second phase as regards the fraud in voting and registration. The plea for the refusal to canvass the vote was that this action was based on the advice of the Visalia attorney. The reason given for the non-holding of the called meeting of the commission for the canvassing of the returns was that it was not required to be held until six days after the receipt of the votes. That Monday was in fact the sixth day after the election and all returns had been received the day after the election.

There was a circumstance in this connection. It may have been that this Monday called meeting of the commission was not held because not until night of that day was the town council of Hanford to award to F. S. Granger franchise for an interurban road between Hanford and Fresno. Perhaps it was desired to have this matter settled before taking action to set aside the election and calling for another so that the matter of the franchise grant could be used as an argument for winning over votes at the second election. As a matter of fact this interurban road failed to materialize because its bonds could never find sale.

Confusion was worse confounded January 8, 1908, when there was a call out for the second election by the commission for the 14th but on which 8th day the grand jury returned indictments against Commissioners David M. De Long, Scott Blair and George Robinson for a felony under Section 41 of crimes against the elective franchise in the refusal and neglect to canvass the December election vote. The indictments were not expected so soon after the mandamus hearing at Sacramento the Monday before on the order to show cause before the district appellate court why they had not canvassed the vote. The petition was by John Cerini, an elector of the Liberty precinct, who had also petitioned in the Superior court of Fresno County to enjoin the holding of the January 14th election held up by order of Judge H. Z. Austin. The foreman of the grand jury was T. C. White and the indictments were returned by fifteen subscribing grand jurors out of nineteen.

There was a reason for advancing the finding of the indictments. The electors of Laton had voted strongly against division, in fact their vote had been a deciding factor, the divisionists having their support in the out-of-town voters in the Laguna country. To change the possible vote at the 14th of January election the commission removed the polling place from Laton, where it had been for years, to the district school house seven miles from town. The purpose of this change could have been to reduce the Laton vote against division because of inability to attend at the polling place, and thus increase the vote for division in the southern and western part of the county in the district before offset by the town people. Undeterred by indictment, mandamus and injunction, but determined to carry out the program to void the result of the December election, the personnel of the precinct boards of election in the affected district had also been changed for the election on the 14th, a new set of officials was practically named and anti-divisionists declared that the precincts were placed in control of sympathizers with Kings and partisans of division. The time for forbearance and temporizing had passed and the contempt of the commissioners was met by the indictments. Meanwhile no canvass of the vote and no official declaration of the result.

January 10th the appellate court issued its writ ordering the commissioners to canvass the result of the special election in December, the mandamus case having been referred to it for hearing and decision by the supreme court. The decision was an unanimous one and for the time killed the division movement. The pleaded refusal to canvass was on the ground that 309 voters registered within the forty days preceding the election were denied ballots by order of the county clerk.

The superior court injunction case as regards the called for second election on the 14th was independent of the mandamus case. It was held in abeyance until after the attitude of the refractory trio was further made manifest after receipt of the mandamus order. The injunction forbade making any preparation for this election. The commission had no paraphernalia for it save the sealed and bank-vaulted election papers of December and if the returns were canvassed and the result against division declared manifestly there would be no need for another election under the act. The county clerk refused to issue new papers for an election in January. The question of illegal votes was not a matter for the commissioners as it had always been contended and as it was held. Theirs was to canvass the vote and declare the result. And if any one desired to contest the election, how was he to institute that contest when no official declaration of the December vote had ever been made? Moreover, had it come to the question of that fraud, it would probably have been found where the initiative was and there would have been no likelihood of a contest by the divisionists.

The mandamus decision was to order the refractory ones to do under the law the thing that they had been asked to do but which they stubbornly refused to do and for which they were indicted. Their defense was that they had acted as they did on the advice of a Visalia attorney. Lawyers will tell you that it is no defense in law that a client has acted on the bad or fool advice of a lawyer. The commissioners abided by the mandamus order and canvassed the December vote. They had been hoisted by their own petard. They had chosen to accept the sole and unsupported advice of this Visalian as against that of other lawyers and that of the county's law giver in the deputy district attorney in opposition to the Visalian but conformably with the court ruling in the mandamus case.

But there was discovered another strong piece of evidence as showing intent. It was brought to the attention of the grand jury, and as report had it, was a strong determining factor resulting in the presentation of the indictments. It was in effect that after the day of the December election and after defeat of division was known from the unofficial returns, and before the day for the canvass at Coalinga, the commissioners under indictment



afterward communicated by telephone with county division headquarters at Hanford and all or some attended a meeting of the division campaigners in that town. The communications that passed and the instructions from the meeting were in effect of the character of the acts done in the refusal to canvass the returns, and brought about the complications that actually arose.

The four indictments against the three refractories and their ill advising Visalia attorney were stricken from the court files by a decision on January 23, 1908, by Judge J. A. Melvin of Alameda County, who had been called into the case and whose technical decision was that the substantial rights of the defendants had been violated in that G. P. Beveridge and William Forsyth as grand jurors had voted to find indictments when they had not been present at the grand jury meetings when testimony was given on the 20th and 21st of December and that what evidence they were in possession of was not legal but hearsay evidence, having been the stenographic report of the testimony given on the two days. Judge Melvin declared that he was loath to grant the motion on a technicality, but said that the people's rights would not be sacrificed by a granting of the motion for he instructed the district attorney to resubmit the case to another grand jury. The attention of the court was directed to the fact that even with the two grand jurors eliminated, there had still been a quorum of twelve to find the indictments. The answer was that the duties of a grand juror are not alone to vote but to hear and take the best evidence and to discuss it and not having heard all the testimony presented they were disqualified, biased or prejudiced.

The two jurors had testified that they were not prejudiced. In behalf of Beveridge, it was admitted that he had contributed \$200 to the Fresno anti-division campaign fund. Three interesting facts were brought out in a reading of the testimony given by Commissioner Guiberson before the grand jury and they were:

(1) That it was understood at the meeting of the commissioners for the canvass of the votes that the Visalia attorney came with a prepared resolution to declare the election void and of no effect, with only the date line blank.

(2) That Guiberson could not comprehend that this Visalian's advice could be right because he quoted no law and had he said that black was white the board would also so have declared in following any advice from him.

(3) If any lawyer in Fresno had advised contrarily, the board would notwithstanding have acted upon the Visalia advice.

The conspiracy matter was never submitted to another grand jury. Division was effectually squelched. Kings County's land grab took another form and on March 10, 1908, Senators Cartwright of Fresno and Miller of Tulare arrived at a compromise and the Webber bill was passed after two roll calls on defeated amendments and with no reasons given for the passage of the measure. The bill established a new south boundary for Fresno County, the original bill asking for 185 square miles and the last amendment calling for 120. Miller had tied up a bunch of votes with a fairly close prospect on the final result; Cartwright recognized that he had been beaten and Miller was not certain how long he could hold his block intact. In the contest on the floor, Cartwright first proposed the river as a boundary giving Kings thirty-eight and Fresno in return thirteen square miles. This was defeated by a vote of seven to twenty-six. Then came his proposal to give Kings the district in Fresno south of the river; defeated by a viva voce vote. Then was made the offer to give the south of the river land and that about Heinlein understood to have a pro-Kings County population. This was defeated fifteen to eighteen.

In the debate on the floor on the third reading of the bill with demand of roll call, much was told of the history of the county boundary question in the effort of Kings to secure more taxable property, showing how the cam-

paign was started in Hanford to arouse discontent, carried on for two years to set up a revolt against Fresno and ending in a vote and defeat of the proposition. Cartwright and Miller had made agreement against any lobbying on the bill in the hope of a vote on its merits. On the showing made at the election, it was claimed that the people north of the river were averse to going into Kings but those south of it desired a change.

Cartwright presented protest from about seventy-five percent. of voters in districts north of the river against any change; showed that ninety percent. of the people of Laton did not want to go into the smaller county and nearly all the families in Riverbend desired to be in Fresno. Miller's reply was almost wholly an attack on Assemblyman A. M. Drew of Fresno for instituting the injunction suit of two years before and lost to prevent the election, denouncing the act as a breach of faith in a matter submitted by the legislature. Interviews with senators on the Webber bill were excused on the plea that two years before Cartwright had beaten Miller in pledging senators on the boundary question. The further plea was that as above sixty per cent. in the territory asked by Kings so voted the change should affect the land on both sides of the river. Kings could not afford to accept the river as a boundary as it would have to spend too much money in bridges without recompense in taxable property.

Objection being made to the reading of more telegrams from Fresno against a change in boundary, Cartwright had his last fling in the arguments on the amendments to show up Charles King for his welching after making a \$1,500 wager on division and losing. Cartwright admitted that this had nothing to do with the bill but he wanted to show the senate what kind of a man was behind the bill.

As passed, the bill gave Kings about half the valuable territory that it had asked for, leaving to Fresno the town of Laton and placing the line about six miles south of the fourth parallel line south which was the line that Kings desired. Fresno saved three-fourths of those that desired to remain with Fresno and lost nine-tenths of those that wanted to go to Kings.

And thus ended the chapter on the Kings County grab, denominating the attempted act of brigandage by the mildest of terms.



# OFFICIAL DIRECTORY

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(Fresno, forty-first county of fifty-eight in the order of formation, was created under the act of April 19, 1856. The seventh legislative session at Sacramento adjourned two days after the date of the county creative act.)

## STATE SENATORS

1857-61, S. A. Merritt. 1862-63, Thomas Baker. 1863-68, J. W. Freeman. 1869-72, Thomas Fowler. 1873-76, Tipton Lindsey. 1877-78, Thomas Fowler. 1879-82, Dr. Chester Rowell. 1883-86, Patrick Reddy. 1887-94, George G. Goucher. 1895-98, Dr. A. J. Pedlar. 1899-1906, Dr. Chester Rowell. 1907-14, George W. Cartwright. 1915, W. F. Chandler. 1919, M. B. Harris.

## ASSEMBLYMEN

1857, Orson K. Smith. 1858, A. H. Mitchell. 1859, James M. Roan. 1860, T. M. Heston. 1861, Orson K. Smith. 1862, James Smith. 1863-64, James N. Walker. 1865-68, R. P. Mace. 1869, P. C. Appling. 1871, J. N. Walker. 1873, J. W. Ferguson. 1875, J. D. Collins. 1877, R. P. Mace. 1879, C. G. Sayle. 1881, E. J. Griffith. 1883, J. F. Wharton. 1885, A. M. Clark. 1887, J. P. Vincent. 1889, E. H. Tucker. 1891-94, G. W. Mordecai and 1893-94, H. J. T. Jacobsen. 1895, N. L. F. Bachman and W. F. Rowell. 1897, G. W. Cartwright and L. W. Moultrie. 1899, John Fairweather and J. M. Griffin. 1901, W. F. Chandler and Marvin G. Simpson. 1903, A. M. Drew and J. O. Traber. 1905-08, W. F. Chandler and A. M. Drew. 1909, W. R. Odom and A. M. Drew. 1911, W. F. Chandler, W. A. Sutherland. 1913, Chandler, Sutherland and L. B. Cary. 1915, L. D. Scott, Henry Hawson and Roy C. Traber. 1917, A. A. Carlson, Henry Hawson and Melvin Pettit. 1919, S. L. Strother, B. D. McKean and Melvin Pettit.

## DISTRICT JUDGES

Fresno County was in the thirteenth judicial district until the system was changed with the constitution adopted in 1879.

1856, Ethelbert Burke. 1864, J. M. Bondurant. 1865, Alexander Deering. 1868, A. C. Bradford. 1873, Alexander Deering. 1875, J. B. Campbell and the last on the district court bench.

## COUNTY JUDGES

1856, Charles A. Hart. 1860, James Sayles, Jr. 1864, E. C. Winchell. 1867, Gillum Baley and the last under the judicial system of the old constitution.

## SUPERIOR COURT

1880, S. A. Holmes. 1884, J. B. Campbell. 1887, M. K. Harris (appointed to the newly created Department two of the court and in November 1888 elected to a full term). 1890, S. A. Holmes. 1894, J. R. Webb previously appointed to the additional Department three, and E. W. Risley elected to Department two. 1895, Stanton L. Carter appointed, vice Holmes deceased. 1896, George E. Church elected to fill out that unexpired term. 1900, H. Z.

Austin and George E. Church, both on the bench in Departments one and two and reelected thereafter. 1918, D. A. Cashin appointed by the governor to the Third Department judgeship created at the legislative session before. 1919, H. Z. Austin, reelected; D. A. Cashin, elected, Departments one and three; M. F. McCormick, elected, Department two.

### COUNTY SUPERVISORS

(There has never been published a complete, correct and reliable county official roster. The early records are incomplete and perplexing. The provision of filing a bond as an official qualification was often neglected, and by the early supervisors apparently ignored—at any rate none are of record. Not until after 1862 was there record of election returns or of official declarations of results. The first name for every yearly grouping that follows is that of the board chairman.)

- 1856—John R. Hughes, John A. Patterson, John L. Hunt.
- 1857—J. R. Hughes, James E. Williams, Clark Hoxie.
- 1858—Clark Hoxie, James Smith, James W. Rankin.
- 1859—H. E. Howard, C. D. Simpson, A. C. Bullock.
- 1860—J. B. Royal, L. J. Carmack, Justin Esrey.
- 1861—G. B. Abel, J. B. Royal, L. J. Carmack.
- 1862—W. H. Parker, John L. Hunt, Reuben Reynolds.
- 1863—John L. Hunt, James Blackburn, J. G. Simpson.
- 1864-65—John L. Hunt, J. G. Simpson, W. W. Hill.
- 1866—J. L. Hunt, J. G. Simpson, S. S. Hyde.
- 1867—J. G. Simpson, S. S. Hyde, H. C. Daulton.
- 1868—S. S. Hyde, J. G. Simpson, H. C. Daulton.
- 1869—H. C. Daulton, J. G. Simpson, John Barton.
- 1870—J. G. Simpson, John Barton, H. C. Daulton.
- 1871—John Barton, H. C. Daulton, Michael Donahoo.
- 1872—H. C. Daulton, Thomas F. Witherspoon, J. N. Musick.
- 1873—T. F. Witherspoon, H. C. Daulton, J. N. Musick.
- 1874—H. C. Daulton, Austin Phillips, J. N. Musick.
- 1875—H. C. Daulton, J. N. Musick, A. Phillips.
- 1876—J. N. Musick, A. Phillips, I. N. Ward.
- 1877—Austin Phillips, J. J. Hensley, T. P. Nelson.
- 1878—T. P. Nelson, J. J. Hensley, Thomas Waggener.
- 1879—T. P. Nelson, Thos. Waggener, T. J. Dunlap.
- 1880—Thos. Waggener, T. P. Nelson, T. J. Dunlap.
- 1881-82—T. J. Dunlap, T. P. Nelson, Austin Phillips.
- 1883-84—H. C. Daulton, W. L. L. Witt, A. T. Covell, Thomas Waggener, D. C. Dunagan.
- 1885-86—A. T. Covell, J. J. Dickinson, Stephen Hamilton, John Yeargin, D. C. Dunagan.
- 1887—A. T. Covell, W. M. Raynor, S. Hamilton, C. L. Walter, D. C. Dunagan.
- 1888—S. Hamilton, W. M. Raynor, T. C. White, C. L. Walter, D. C. Dunagan.
- 1889-90—D. C. Dunagan, W. M. Raynor, T. F. Letcher, T. C. White, C. L. Walter, William Hanke (elected June 1890 on the death of Dunagan).
- 1891-92—T. C. White, J. Myer, T. F. Letcher, R. B. Butler, W. Hanke.
- 1893—T. F. Letcher, R. B. Butler, J. Myer, F. P. Wickersham, J. H. Sayre.
- 1894—T. F. Letcher, R. B. Butler, F. P. Wickersham, T. R. Foster, J. H. Sayre.
- 1895-96—F. P. Wickersham, T. F. Letcher, J. H. Sayre, M. S. Rose, C. W. Garrett.

1897-98—J. H. Sayre, C. W. Garrett, W. P. Manley, A. E. Smith, James A. Ward (appointed by Governor Budd April 1907 upon the accidental death of Smith), M. S. Rose.

1899-00—J. H. Sayre, H. E. Burleigh, W. P. Manley, Phil Scott, Thomas Martin

1901-04—Phil Scott, H. E. Burleigh, E. J. Bullard, Thomas Martin, W. D. Mitchell.

1905-06—Thomas Martin, H. E. Burleigh, G. W. Beall, J. B. Johnson, W. D. Mitchell.

1907-08—G. W. Beall, Thomas Martin, Chris Jorgensen, J. B. Johnson, W. D. Mitchell.

1909-10—Thomas Martin, C. Jorgensen, M. D. Huffman, J. B. Johnson, W. D. Mitchell.

1911-12—Chris Jorgensen, M. D. Huffman, J. B. Johnson, Thomas Martin, W. D. Mitchell.

1913-14—Chris Jorgensen, M. D. Huffman, J. B. Johnson, Thomas Martin, W. A. Collins.

1915-16—Chris Jorgensen, M. D. Huffman, J. B. Johnson, Charles L. Wells, W. A. Collins.

1917—Chris Jorgensen, Robert Lochead, J. B. Johnson, C. L. Wells, W. A. Collins.

### SHERIFFS

(Up to 1889 the sheriff was also tax collector.)

1856-57—W. C. Bradley. 1857—George S. Harden (appointed on resignation of Bradley). 1858—W. Y. Scott. 1859—J. S. Ashman. 1867—J. N. Walker. 1871—J. S. Ashman. 1873—Leroy Dennis. 1874—J. S. Ashman on the death of Dennis. 1877—E. Hall. 1882—M. J. Donahoo (the first Republican elected in the county as a public official). 1884—O. J. Meade. 1890—J. M. Hensley. 1892—Jay Scott. 1898—J. D. Collins. 1906—R. D. Chittenden. 1910—Walter S. McSwain. 1915—H. Thorwaldsen appointed on the death of McSwain. 1919—W. F. Jones.

### TAX COLLECTORS

1889—Achilles D. Ewing. 1890—W. C. Guard. 1894—N. W. Moody. 1898—J. B. Hancock. 1906—A. B. Smith. 1914—R. W. Baker; reelected in 1919.

### COUNTY CLERKS

(This office combined up to 1877 the auditorship and up to 1885 also the recordership.)

1856—James Sayles, Jr. 1859—D. J. Johnson. 1862—William Faymonville. 1867—A. G. Anderson. 1869—H. St. J. Dixon. 1873—A. M. Clark. 1886—A. C. Williams. 1892—W. A. Shepherd. 1894—T. G. Hart. 1898—G. W. Cartwright. 1902—W. O. Miles. 1910—David M. Barnwell; reelected in 1919.

### AUDITORS

1877—R. H. Bramlet. 1892—R. H. Austin. 1894—H. E. Barnum. 1914—Charles E. Barnum appointed in June by the supervisors on the death of his father, and at the November election popularly chosen for the next full term; reelected in 1919.

### RECORDERS

1886—Charles L. Wainwright. 1888—T. A. Bell. 1892—Smith Norris. 1894—W. W. Machen. 1898—J. M. Kerr. 1902—R. N. Barstow, whose election was successfully contested by Charles McCardle, the decision rendered in midterm so that it was divided in tenure. 1906—R. N. Barstow; reelected in 1919.

### TREASURERS

1856—George Rivercombe. 1863—Stephen Gaster. 1866—George Grierson appointed in September on Gaster's disappearance. 1867—W. W. Hill. 1874—N. L. Bachman appointed on Hill's death. A. J. Thorn elected in March to fill the unexpired term and thereafter four times. 1884—Gillum Baley. 1886—T. P. Nelson. 1894—Jacob E. Whitson. 1898—S. W. Marshall. 1906—J. R. Hickman. 1914—A. D. Ewing; reelected in 1919.

### DISTRICT ATTORNEYS

1856—J. C. Craddock. 1857—J. T. Cruikshank (resigned February 1858). 1859—Hewlett Clark (named in September). 1861—E. C. Winchell. 1864—C. G. Sayle (Supervisor of Tulare in 1854, assessor in 1855 and county judge in 1860). 1868—S. B. Allison. 1871—C. G. Sayle. 1878—W. H. Creed. 1879—W. D. Grady. 1882—E. D. Edwards. 1884—J. H. Daley. 1886—R. B. Terry. 1888—W. D. Tupper. 1892—Firman Church. 1894—Alva E. Snow. 1898—O. L. Everts. 1902—G. W. Jones. 1906—Denver S. Church. 1913—Manson F. McCormick (appointed on the resignation of predecessor). 1914—M. F. McCormick. 1919—C. E. Beaumont.

### ASSESSORS

1856—J. G. Simpson. 1859—W. H. Crowe. 1861—William Faymonville (named in February), Thomas J. Allen (in September). 1863—W. W. Mathews. Alexander Kennedy (in April). 1866—W. S. Wyatt (resigned before term expired). 1868—T. W. Simpson. 1875—J. A. Stroud. 1879—W. H. McKenzie. 1882—W. J. Hutchinson. 1894—J. P. Vincent. 1898—J. W. Ferguson. 1900—G. P. Cummings (appointed on predecessor's death). 1902—G. W. Cameron. 1906—G. P. Cummings; reelected, 1919.

### SURVEYORS

1856—W. W. Bourland. 1857—O. M. Brown. 1858—T. C. Stallo. 1859—M. B. Holt. 1863—J. C. Walker. 1872—M. B. Lewis. 1878—C. D. Davis. 1884—H. B. Choice. 1886—C. D. Davis. 1889—J. S. Bedford. 1892—George L. Hoxie. 1902—Scott McKay reelected thereafter; Obit May 14, 1918 and Chief Deputy Thomas R. Harrold appointed by supervisors to fill unexpired term. 1919—Chris P. Jensen.

### SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENTS

1860—E. C. Winchell. 1861—E. S. Kincaid (appointed in October). 1862—H. M. Quigley. 1863—S. H. Hill. 1868—T. O. Ellis (held same office in Tulare County in 1865). 1870—S. H. Hill. 1872—T. O. Ellis. 1876—R. H. Bramlet. 1882—B. A. Hawkins. 1890—Thomas J. Kirk. 1898—George S. Ramsay. 1902—G. N. Freman. 1906—E. W. Lindsay. 1919—C. E. Edwards.

### CORONERS

(The records are very confusing as to the coronership and public administratorship, the coroner often acting in ex-officio capacity in the other office. As to the coroner there is no straight record until after 1883. From scattered data, it would appear that the following named have filled the two offices.)

1856—H. A. Carroll. 1857—Dr. H. du Gay. 1860—Ira McCray. 1868—Frank Carroll. 1870—Ira McCray. 1871—W. J. Lawrenson. 1874—C. A. Heaton, followed by Thomas R. Lowe. 1875—T. W. Simpson. 1877—N. P. Duncan. 1879—E. C. Cram or Crane. 1882—A. J. Witthouse. 1883—J. J. White, followed by S. B. Bresee. 1886—E. J. King. 1888—W. N. Bishop (resigned in June 1890). G. N. Freman appointed. 1891—E. E. Brown. 1892—L. O. Stephens. 1894—Dr. G. L. Long. 1902—Dr. A. B. Cowan. 1906—W. A. Bean. 1919—John N. Lisle.



## PUBLIC ADMINISTRATORS

1856—Joseph Smith. 1864—N. L. Bachman. 1866—Clark Hoxie. 1868—J. R. Jones. 1869—William Faymonville. 1872—T. W. Rich. 1877—N. P. Duncan. (Here follows a long lapse in the record.) 1882—A. J. Witthouse followed by J. J. White. 1885—E. J. King. 1888—W. N. Bishop, who resigning was succeeded by G. N. Freman. 1891—J. M. Johnson. 1892—G. A. Everts. 1894—L. H. Church. 1898—W. O. Miles. 1902—R. D. Chittenden. 1906—G. R. Andrews.

## SPECIAL ISSUES

County Seat Removal Election held March 23, 1874, Fresno receiving 417 out of total vote of 757.

S. A. Holmes elected delegate from this county on June 19, 1877 to the constitutional convention.

Constitution ratified in this county at the election on May 7, 1879. For 975, Against 398; total 1373.

County divided into five instead of three supervisor districts in June 1882.

Courthouse bonds issue of \$100,000 defeated at election in November 1892: Yes 2903, No 3247. Again failed to carry by necessary two-thirds at election in September 1893—Yes 1010, No 904.

Hall of Records proposed bond issue defeated at November 1908 election lacking the necessary two-thirds.

"Wet" or "Dry" election in May 1912 on the question, Shall the Liquor Business be Licensed in the County Outside of Incorporated Towns? The vote according to supervisor districts was:

District	Yes	No
One .....	415	763
Two .....	398	865
Three .....	87	177
Four .....	437	1,731
Five .....	801	1,425

All county liquor licenses were cancelled beginning August 14, 1912.

At the November 1916 election the vote on the two constitutional amendments was:

	Yes	No
Prohibition .....	14,906	12,463
Second Amendment.....	16,165	11,093

A proposed county bond issue of \$3,600,000 for "Good Roads" was defeated at the special election held on October 25, 1916 by the following vote:

Yes .....	9,421
No .....	7,136
Total .....	16,557
Necessary to carry.....	11,038
Defeated by .....	1,617

The welfare department was created to go into operation January 1, 1918, taking charge of all the eleemosynary work of the county under the most modern, scientific and practical lines as well. Before the close of the 1917-18 fiscal year, it had dispensed with the county orphanage, putting the children out to board in families on the theory that it will make them better citizens not to hamper them by the shortcomings of an institutional training. The department was working so well that Miss Beulah Miller, assistant secretary, was given six months' leave of absence to introduce the system by invitation in Humboldt County.

In June, 1918, was made to the supervisors, after a preliminary survey by W. H. Lynch as senior engineer of the U. S. office of public roads and rural engineering, report of a system of county highways contemplating 170.75 miles at an estimated cost of \$2,393,192, including the so-called Coalinga lateral to the state highway from the valley to the sea coast with Fresno's share of construction cost \$425,842. No need of going further into details of this proposed system. The recommendation was that while the county needs very much a system of improved roads a bond election for permanent road improvements is not advisable until after the war, and if conditions then permit steps be taken to start the construction of the planned roads to place the county on an equal basis with adjoining counties and give it the type of roads that its traffic demands.

### POSTMASTERS

The following named are the presidential appointees who have served as postmasters at Fresno from the establishment of a post office at that place in 1872 with dates of their appointments:

Russell H. Fleming.....	August 28, 1872
Charles W. De Long.....	November 14, 1873
Otto Froelich.....	March 29, 1880
Nathan W. Moodey.....	July 6, 1882
Wesley E. Hughes.....	April 14, 1886
Mary C. Hughes.....	March 10, 1887
Mary C. Hughes.....	December 21, 1889
Nathan W. Moodey.....	March 29, 1890
William L. Hedrick.....	May 5, 1894
John W. Short.....	May 5, 1898
E. E. Hughes.....	June 6, 1913

(Wesley E. Hughes died in office; his widow was appointed to fill the unexpired term and reappointed with the name of the postoffice changed from Fresno City to Fresno, January 31, 1889. These Hughes and E. E. Hughes, grandson of T. E. Hughes, "the Father of Fresno," are no kin.)

# FRESNO CITY

(Incorporation Election September 29, 1885. Polling place at Courthouse. Total vote 462—For 277; Against 185. Incorporated October 27, 1887, under state law of March 13, 1883 and as amended. First named trustee until the 1901 election acted as the mayor.)

## 1885

Trustees—William Faymonville, Dr. W. L. Graves, T. E. Hughes, J. M. Braley and A. Tombs, Graves and Hughes drawing 4-year terms, the others in for two years each.

School Board—J. F. Wharton, W. W. Phillips, Dr. C. D. Latimer, George E. Church, M. K. Harris.

(Appointed)

Clerk and Assessor—W. B. Dennett. Marshal—C. T. Swain, resigned August 1886. J. H. Bartlett. Treasurer—W. H. McKenzie. Recorder—S. H. Hill. Attorney—H. S. Dixon. Engineer—J. S. Eastwood. Office vacated October, 1886, John Stevens succeeding as street superintendent in November and J. C. Shepherd as engineer in December, 1886.

Health Board—Drs. A. J. Pedlar and C. D. Latimer, Louis Einstein, W. T. Riggs and Engineer Eastwood (Secretary). Board organized January, 1886.

## 1887

(Election April 11, 1887. Polling place at Courthouse.)

Trustees—Dr. W. L. Graves, A. Tombs, Dr. A. J. Pedlar, H. P. Hedges, A. M. Clark (Chairman, October, 1887), J. H. Hamilton vice Graves deceased.

School Board—J. F. Wharton, Colin Chisholm, George E. Church, J. W. Short vice Wharton.

Clerk and Assessor—W. B. Dennett. Marshal—J. H. Bartlett. Treasurer—W. H. McKenzie. Recorder—Phillip Stewart succeeded by James H. Daly. Health Officer—Dr. Lewis Leach (April, 1887). Fire Marshal and Chief—A. H. Cummings (November, 1887).

## 1889

(Election April 8. Five polling places.)

Trustees—Dr. A. J. Pedlar, S. H. Cole, John N. Albin, Tombs, Clark, Fulton G. Berry vice Clark. B. T. Alford vice Albin in 1890.

School Board—T. J. Kirk, M. K. Harris, Frank Laning, 1890—J. D. Gray vice Church. George E. Church vice Kirk.

Clerk and Assessor—W. B. Dennett. 1890—Louis E. Prusso vice Dennett assessor. Marshal—J. H. Bartlett. John Barker vice Bartlett adjudged insane. Treasurer—W. H. McKenzie. Recorder—Dante R. Prince. Fire Chief—E. R. Higgins (March) vice Cummings resigned.

## 1891

(Election April 13)

Trustees—S. H. Cole, Firman Church, J. C. Herrington, William Fahey (resigns October, 1891, resignation declined and held up and he is reappoint-

ed when eligible in residence qualification, being a new comer from Merced, B. T. Alford. This was the celebrated "Triangle Board" with Cole, Fahey and Alford in control.

School Board—O. J. Woodward, George E. Church, H. Z. Austin. Clerk—W. B. Dennett. Treasurer—W. H. McKenzie. Recorder—Frank Laning. Marshal—John D. Morgan. Assessor—C. C. Lyon. Fire Chief—Tim Walton vice Higgins on a department shake up by the "Triangle." Library Board—M. K. Harris, T. L. Heaton, Colin Chisholm, Mrs. J. R. White and Mrs. Emily E. Phillips.

## 1893

(Election on customary April date.)

Trustees—Firman Church, C. J. Craycroft, E. C. Adams, Joseph Spinney, J. C. Herrington. (The four last named made the board Republican in politics.)

School Board—G. P. Cummings, W. W. Eden, J. P. Vincent, S. F. Hadsell.

Clerk—J. W. Shanklin (April 17, 1893) vice Dennett, a Democrat. Treasurer—W. H. McKenzie. Recorder—A. M. Clark. Marshal—J. D. Morgan. Assessor—C. C. Elliot.

## 1895

(Election April 8)

Trustees—Craycroft, Spinney, W. F. McVey, F. M. Chittenden, E. L. Austin.

School Board—George E. Church, George H. Monroe.

Clerk—J. W. Shanklin. Treasurer—W. H. McKenzie. Marshal—M. L. Woy. Recorder—A. M. Clark. Assessor—J. M. Collins. Attorney—L. W. Moultrie.

Library Board—M. K. Harris, C. Chisholm, T. L. Heaton, Mrs. E. R. Higgins, Mrs. Cassie S. White. Offices vacated, though the last named resigned previous to the order of May, 1896. Succeeded by H. Z. Austin, Eleanor M. Risley and Caroline P. Webster, the ladies resigning later and being succeeded by J. W. Short and J. Q. Anderson; A. M. Drew and F. E. Cook.

## 1897

Trustees—Craycroft, Spinney, McVey, Chittenden, Austin.

School Board—L. O. Stephens, Samuel L. Hogue, George B. Noble.

Attorney—Lewis H. Smith. Marshal—M. L. Woy. Assessor—J. M. Collins. Treasurer—Charles H. Swett. Recorder—A. M. Clark. Clerk—J. W. Shanklin and Theodore Madsen tied on vote of 686 each. At the special election on September 27 Shanklin was elected—582, against Madsen 499. The special election cost no less than \$502. George O. Duncan appointed April 3, 1899 on Shanklin's disappearance. Fire Chief—T. G. Hart resigns and E. R. Higgins is appointed.

## 1899

(Election April 10. Total vote 1705. Charter is adopted at election October 19. Vote—Yes, 844. Noes, 107.)

Trustees—Craycroft, Spinney, John C. Moore, Taylor Albin, H. C. Tupper.

School Board—J. W. Gearhart, O. M. Thompson.

Clerk—J. B. Johnson. Attorney—Frank Laning. Assessor—J. M. Collins. Marshal—J. D. Morgan. Treasurer—C. H. Swett. Recorder—Dave Cosgrave.

Library Board—M. E. Daily, H. M. Johnston, Fred Miner, W. W. Parsons, Chester H. Rowell.

Freeholders on Charter Board—E. F. Bernhard, James Gallagher, Alex Goldstein, L. Gundelfinger, M. K. Harris, T. G. Hart, Herman Levy, W. P.

Lyon, M. R. Madary, C. S. Pierce, E. W. Risley, Edward Schwarz, Frank H. Short, Mark Webster, T. C. White.

## 1901

(Election June 14. Total vote 2,196 at fourteen precincts. Officers are the first elected and appointed under the charter approved by the legislature February 6, 1901.)

Mayor—L. O. Stephens.

Trustees—G. M. Boles, W. W. Eden, J. B. Myers, S. F. Cowan, Horace Hawes, W. J. O'Neill, J. P. Strother, and Thomas Dunn. A. D. Olney vice Hawes. J. Q. Anderson, vice Strother.

School Board—Dr. W. T. Maupin, O. M. Thompson, G. B. Noble, George W. Jones, M. K. Harris, H. C. Tupper, J. W. Gearhart and Dan Dismukes. Chester H. Rowell vice Noble. J. C. Cooper vice Maupin.

Clerk—J. B. Johnson. Chase H. Sayre appointed vice Johnson elected a supervisor.

Police Judge—Dave Cosgrave.

Attorney—J. M. Johnston. Surveyor—I. Tielman. Street Superintendent—P. Le Blanc, succeeded by W. S. Smith.

Police and Fire Commission—W. T. Mattingly, George H. Monroe, W. H. McKenzie, F. M. Miller, T. G. Hart vice Monroe resigned.

Fire Chief—James A. Ward (June 1902) vice W. F. Leavitt. The paid fire department was developed under the Ward regime.

Library Board—Chester H. Rowell, W. W. Parsons, Louis Einstein, H. H. Welsh, Charles E. Jenney, A. E. Snow vice Rowell. S. L. Strother vice Welsh.

Health Board—Drs. J. L. Maupin, G. H. Aiken, J. D. Davidson, T. M. Hayden, G. A. Hare, D. H. Trowbridge vice Aiken. G. L. Long vice Hare.

## 1905

(Election April 10. Votes cast within the city 3,365; within the school district 3,503.)

Mayor—W. Parker Lyon. Resigns March 1908, succeeded by Edward E. Bush.

Trustees—J. M. Collins, F. W. Keisker, J. B. Myers, J. D. Statham, William Shaw, Grant Falkenstein, J. Q. Anderson, A. E. Sunderland, J. Wrightson vice Shaw resigned to become police chief. John Suglian vice Sunderland. E. E. Bush vice Anderson, resigning to be named mayor on the same night. Ernest Klette vice Wrightson. C. M. Chalup vice Keisker appointed license collector. F. J. Nolan vice Bush.

School Board—A. B. Clark, W. B. Holland, A. B. Smith, O. M. Thompson, Dan Dismukes.

Clerk—William H. Ryan. Police Judge—H. F. Briggs.

Attorney—D. S. Ewing. Street Superintendent—Wright Spencer. He resigns and P. J. Reardon is not confirmed. W. L. Hills. Engineer—George L. Hoxie, resigns and is reappointed. License Collector—J. H. Coleman (deceased). Ben Drenth. F. W. Keisker. Electrician—C. T. McSharry (resigns) Perry Brown.

Police and Fire—Henry Pratt, J. W. Cate, F. M. Chittenden, E. W. Risley, H. H. Welsh, vice Cate. A. J. Hill vice Welsh. J. P. Bernhard vice Risley.

Health Board—Drs. G. L. Long vice T. M. Hayden, P. N. Russell, W. T. Burks, J. H. Parsegian, A. N. Loper, J. L. Martin vice Long. W. T. Barr vice Parsegian. J. L. Maupin and J. D. Davidson vice Burks and Loper. H. J. Craycroft vice Davidson and resigns to become assistant health officer and is succeeded by Dr. Aiken.

Library Board—W. P. Thompson, Henry Brickley, James Gallagher, G. M. Boles, Lee D. Coates. J. W. Gilkyson vice Thompson. S. B. Goodman vice Coates. Willis M. Pike vice Gilkyson.

Park Commission—Charles Chambers, G. C. Freman, S. George.

### 1909

(Election April 12—total vote 3,996. Saloon license referendum carried—1,821 to 1,764. Playgrounds \$60,000 bond election March 19, 1910, carried—847 to 2,999. Freeholders elected January 16, 1912. Charter election July 26, 1912, defeated—660 to 1,064.)

Mayor—Dr. Chester Rowell. May 28, 1912, A. E. Snow vice Rowell deceased.

Trustees—J. M. Collins, J. C. Pottle, E. Klette, S. F. Cowan, H. F. Martin, O. V. Cobb, G. W. Pickford, A. E. Snow, G. W. Jones vice Cowan died August, 1909. J. C. Ferger vice Snow. T. G. Hart vice Klette.

School Board—L. L. Archibald, W. J. Kittrell, F. A. Homan, Robert Lohead, J. L. Beall.

Freeholders—Truman G. Hart, Robert Lohead, L. O. Stephens, Joseph P. Bernhard, W. W. Eden, H. E. Barbour, A. E. Snow, E. S. Van Meter, W. H. Ryan, George H. Aiken, Louis Gundelfinger, W. T. Mattingly, W. H. Alexander, Charles Miller, J. T. Anderson.

Attorney—Frank Kauke, resigns June, 1912, E. Klette succeeds. Street Superintendent—Thos. T. Thorn. Engineer—Chris P. Jansen. License Collector—Frederick Mortimer. Electrician—Thomas M. Robinson (September 1910) vice Brown.

Police and Fire—T. G. Hart, Jos. P. Bernhard, W. G. Holland, L. O. Stephens, Henry Pratt (June, 1912) vice Hart.

Library Board—James Gallagher, W. W. Parsons, D. A. Cashin, A. O. Warner, William Glass.

Park Commission—Thomas Dunn, Louis Gundelfinger, Charles Chambers. (January, 1913) J. S. Jones vice Dunn deceased.

Health Board—Dr. L. R. Willson vice Aiken chosen Health Officer. (March, 1911) Dr. A. H. Sweeney vice Bert B. Lamkin. Assistant Health Officer—Dr. Floyd L. Burks.

### 1913

(Election April 14—total vote in city 8,965, in school district 9,149. Referendum on "dry" town after September 1 defeated—3,202 against 5,060: on "near dry" ordinance 2,533, against 5,144.)

Mayor—A. E. Snow.

Trustees—George S. Waterman, G. M. Boles, T. G. Hart, J. D. Statham, F. L. Irwin, O. V. Cobb, George Pickford, J. C. Ferger. (June, 1914) G. W. Jones vice Statham deceased.

School Board—D. D. Allison, H. D. Carver, H. T. Humphreys, A. E. Sunderland, J. R. Walker. Harry Wilbur vice Carver deceased. W. A. Conn vice Humphreys.

Clerk—W. H. Ryan.

Police Judge—H. H. Briggs.

License Collector—Frederick Mortimer. Attorney—Lewis H. Smith. Street Superintendent—E. H. Chapin. Engineer—Bert E. Cronkite.

Police and Fire—Calvin S. Hill, H. A. Pratt, T. F. Saunders, L. O. Stephens. Robert Lohead vice Hill.

Park Commission—Charles Chambers, Louis Gundelfinger, J. S. Jones (September, 1915), W. S. Marshall vice Chambers. Aubrey Frink vice Jones deceased. Charles E. Jenney vice Frink. E. J. Crawford vice Jenney.

Health Board—Drs. W. T. Barr, J. L. Maupin, A. H. Sweeney, George H. Bland, C. Mathewson (April, 1915), H. H. Hopkins vice Sweeney ap-



pointed Health Officer. C. F. Dickenson vice Mathewson (July, 1915). K. J. Staniford vice Barr.

Health Officer—Dr. L. R. Willson.

Playgrounds Commission—Mrs. George H. Taylor, Miss Ruby E. Gracier, J. O. Anderson, F. M. Lane, Benjamin Epstein, W. D. Eastman, C. C. Starr. Mrs. S. S. Hockett vice Gracier.

City Planning Commission—Miss Frances A. Dean, Mrs. W. J. McNulty, Charles E. Butner, Miles O. Humphrey and G. M. Boles.

This commission was a successor of an informal City Beautiful Committee of ladies and gentlemen named by the mayor to employ moral suasion in an improving and beautifying of the city on sanitary lines, in the planting of flowers and trees, in a clean-up day, in the removal of tawdry cloth awnings and especially in the prospect obstructing wooden balcony awnings of a day gone by style of architecture, notably in the landmark sidewalk covering, pillared balcony on the J and Mariposa Streets frontages of the Grand Central Hotel. Its activities were prognostic of what the future had in store in the city planning and zoning commission with the authority of the reform immigration and housing laws of the state.

### 1917

(Election April 19. City vote 9,859; School district, 7,755).

Mayor—William F. Toomey (2,696) as against L. O. Stephens (2,849), Edward Jones (2,222) and C. Anderson (92).

Trustees—G. S. Waterman, S. M. Ballard, A. W. Goodfellow, W. S. Johnson, F. L. Irwin, George Pickford, T. M. Anton and L. W. Wilson for the eight wards in the order named. Ballard relinquished his seat in the contest instituted on the ground that he was not a resident of the ward at the time of the election and therefore disqualified. W. L. Cole, who was a candidate for the trusteeship at the election, was appointed to the vacancy. Wilson resigned 1919, succeeded by O. V. Cobb. Cole resigned April, 1919, succeeded by Henry M. Dermer. Irwin resigned in June, 1919, succeeded by J. J. Creem.

School Board—George Cosgrave (chairman), W. A. Conn, Berton Einstein, Elma P. Giffen, Dr. J. R. Walker. Jerome O. Cross of Pasadena was chosen by the board city superintendent of schools and inaugurated an enterprising and most satisfactory administration.

City Clerk—William H. Ryan (6,065). Upon his death Charles Dillon, license collector, was appointed to the vacancy.

Police Judge—H. F. Briggs.

Police and Fire Commission—Mayor, J. E. Davis; T. G. Hart, William Shaw, Andrew Duncan.

Park Commission—Mayor, Thomas E. Risley; C. B. Harkness, E. J. Crawford and City Engineer Clarence Murray. Risley resigned, succeeded by Roy L. Payne chosen chairman; Crawford resigned, succeeded by George C. Roeding.

Library Trustees—William Glass, Ray W. Baker, John A. Neu, John Braves, Mrs. W. A. Fitzgerald. With the merger of the city library into the county library, the commission was legislated out of office. The supervisors are now the authoritative power. Public Librarian Miss Sarah E. McCadle.

Health Board—T. M. Hayden chairman, A. B. McConnell, J. H. Pettis, Kenneth J. Standiford and Clifford D. Sweet. Dr. Standiford resigned and Dr. H. H. Hopkins was appointed and numerous other changes followed during the war period.

Playgrounds Commission—Benjamin Epstein chairman, Mrs. S. S. Hockett, W. D. Eastman resigned, H. J. McFarland named; Mrs. G. H. Taylor, F. M. Lane, J. O. Anderson resigned, J. H. Henderson named and also resigned, Berton Einstein succeeding (June, 1918), Bart A. Harvey. R. L. Quigley superintendent. Clerk of Commission, Miss Flossie Kidd.

Board of Freeholders elected June 11, 1918, to frame a city charter—Robert Lohead (900). Charles Dillon, Alexander Bartlett, A. V. Rowe, H. A. Breusing, H. E. Barbour, L. O. Stephens, W. B. Munson, Alva E. Snow, Mrs. S. S. Hockett, Ben Epstein, Mrs. W. J. McNulty, R. F. Felchin, B. O. Warner and A. J. Kemalyan (732).

City Planning Commission—Miles O. Humphreys, Charles E. Butner resigns to enter the war and is succeeded by LeRoy R. Payne, City Trustee A. W. Goodfellow succeeds Trustee G. M. Boles, Mrs. W. J. McNulty and Miss Frances A. Dean, the mayor, city engineer and attorney members of the commission; Charles H. Cheney, consulting architect. The proposed reforms of the commission were regarded as too radical for popular approval. Its activities were suspended during the war and no budget allowances having been voted for its continuance the commission went out of existence. Its work had effect, however, in popular educational results and its existence was not altogether in vain.

### FRESNO CITY ASSETS

The city balance sheet at the close of the year 1917 makes the following showing:

City hall .....	\$ 130,000
Police department .....	2,500
Fire department .....	218,200
Library property .....	75,000
Parks .....	307,500
Hospital equipment .....	500
Pound site .....	5,000
Convention hall .....	100,000
Van Ness property .....	10,000
Corporation yard .....	3,500
Playgrounds .....	100,000
Sewer farm .....	75,000
Street department equipment.....	8,500
Total .....	\$1,035,700
City sewer system.....	381,722.26
Liberty bonds .....	5,000
Cash .....	504,048.71
Total assets .....	\$1,926,470.97

### CITY LIABILITIES

Bonded indebtedness .....	\$ 767,500
Bond reserve .....	20,791.88
Unexpended income .....	208,196.09
Unexpended 1916 bond proceeds.....	275,060.74
Surplus .....	654,722.26
Total liabilities .....	\$1,926,470.97

### BONDED INDEBTEDNESS

Acquiring and Completing Sewers.....	\$ 18,000
City Hall .....	53,000
Sewers .....	125,000
1910 Playgrounds Purchase .....	46,000
1910 Convention Hall Building.....	37,500
1916 Storm and Sanitary Sewer.....	487,500
Total Indebtedness .....	\$767,000

**FIRE AND POLICE**

July 1901—John D. Morgan first appointed chief of police under the charter.

December 1901—William F. Leavitt last elected chief of the volunteer fire department.

June 1902—James A. Ward first appointed fire chief under the charter. Call system instituted and vote of thanks tendered for the very efficient services in the past of the volunteer department which passed out of existence. The basis of a paid department was laid during Ward's reconstructive regime.

June 1903—Appropriation estimate for police \$17,100; for fire purposes \$37,071.

July 1903—Police chief directed to devote entire time to the office, an officer to be detailed to collect city licenses. William H. Ryan so appointed, succeeded by N. P. Justy in November 1904, and thus the license collectorship was instituted.

March 1905—Morgan resigns and John J. White is appointed, verbally resigning in April but resignation declined by the commission.

August 1905—Fire companies reorganized with officers on service and merit basis.

January 1906—White resigns, Sergeant R. M. DeVoe left in temporary charge.

July 1906—Fire estimate \$42,650; police \$23,280.

September 1906—DeVoe resigns. William Shaw appointed.

March 1909—Ward resigns, Assistant W. C. Polson appointed chief.

June 1909—Polson resigns in Idaho while on leave of absence. Assistant John G. Wintemute appointed chief.

June 1911—Firemen's relief, insurance and pension fund created.

September 1911—Shaw resigns as police chief, Edward Jones appointed to succeed him.

June 1913—Fire estimate \$65,000; police \$35,000. Motorization of fire apparatus is begun.

July 1913—Police Chief Jones resigns.

September 1913—Assistant Fire Chief Thomas H. Baird retired on half pay because of disability.

January 1914—Police Sergeant T. F. Coyle confirmed as chief.

April 1915—Coyle resigns.

**1919 DEPARTMENTS**

Chief of Police—Frank P. Truax, appointed to succeed J. G. Goehring, who had held the position since April, 1915, but resigned in March, 1919. The appointment of Truax was ten years to a day since he joined the force April 1, 1909, as desk sergeant. He was a detective inspector at the time of his appointment as chief.

As at present constituted the force consists of chief and two patrol sergeants, inspectors (detectives) five, desk sergeants two, police court bailiff, patrol wagon drivers two, traffic officer, department clerk and twenty-three patrolmen—total thirty-eight.

Fire Chief—W. C. Berkholtz. Assistants—James E. Caldwell and W. A. Washburn. Berkholtz entered the department July 1, 1908, was appointed assistant chief October 1, 1913, and chief November 1, 1917, succeeding John G. Wintemute who had resigned. O. J. Normart entered the service August 1, 1904, and reentered May 3, 1907, became assistant December 1914, and resigned July, 1918. Caldwell entered the service June 15, 1911, was an engine company captain and on Normart's resigning was advanced to first assistant. To the vacant position of second assistant, Washburn, captain of Engine

Co. 3, was appointed. The force consists of fifty-nine regular firemen and eight callmen. The department is motorized and the apparatus consists of three gasoline pumping engines, three steamers, three hose, three chemicals and a service truck. The oldest department members in point of service and all having been connected with the volunteer department are:

W. H. Harris, engineer of Engine one, born Nov. 21, 1855; joined 1887-88.

Ezra M. Packard, captain Engine one, May 26, 1871; July 14, 1904.

H. C. Pabst, lieutenant Chemical two; May 9, 1871; May 5, 1905.

Former Chief Wintemute had for his dates August 4, 1872 and June 9, 1891.

The playgrounds department which is now a big affair, had a small beginning from a citizens' "labor of love" movement boosted into prominence by the children themselves with parades and their influence on parents and friends to vote for the bond acquisition of grounds inspired by the W. J. Dickey legacy of \$10,000. It has now seven established playgrounds taken over and opened in the following order of priority: Dickey at Blackstone and Sylvia; Holmes' Athletic Field at First and Inyo named for School Principal Holmes who sacrificed his life at the fair grounds to save injury to children under his charge by reckless horse racing, an incident that gave the playground movement much impetus; the Cosmos at G and San Diego, a veritable "melting pot" for the children of foreign born parentage in that district; the Fink-Smith Field at C and Amador, a donation to the public; the California Field at K and San Diego; the Washington as an expansion of the Washington school ground at Glenn and Thomas Avenue; and the Einstein Memorial playground on Roosevelt Avenue. The pioneer demonstration playground was in the courthouse park and it is annually resurrected during the three hot months of the summer for the small children of the down town district. Out of the bond issue that the children were instrumental in carrying by such a decisive vote was also bought the site for the municipal convention hall at Kern and M, one block from the courthouse.

The electric is another expanding department. It has in June 1918 four electrolier street districts in operation as follows: The pioneer down town business street district 488 lights, the block I and J, Merced and Stanislaus, thirteen, South I eighty-eight, South J sixty, Fresno Avenue west in course of completion 118, the extension on Van Ness (K) out to the city limits at California Avenue 108, making with two at the railroad subway a total of 877 electrolier lights.

Since the institution of the city free market at the courthouse park under the regime of Mayor Snow to bring the producer and the consumer together, the small fees charged have been up to June 1918, \$13,227.40. The market masters in charge have been: City Trustee Geo. Pickford, W. H. Haughawout, R. L. Bettis and J. P. Cole who aids also as assistant license collector.

## OBITUARY LIST

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The following data will be of interest and useful also in connection with a history of Fresno County and City. They will serve as directions for newspaper research to learn more of the personages. It is the first list that ever has been made of men and women who played a part in the history, growth and development of the county and city. It will not be pretended that the list is complete.

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### A.

Abbott, Osmer, November 13, 1917. Abbott, O. L., October 14, 1912. Akers, Henry F., November 19, 1916. Akers, Harvey, June 17, 1911. Akers, W. Albertus, September 15, 1908. Albaugh, Helen I., October 27, 1917. Albin, J. N., May 13, 1902. Allen, Thomas J., December 28, 1879. Allison, J. R., March 21, 1889. Allison, Mary (Molly Livingston), January 1, 1910. Allison, R. C., October 1, 1893. Allison, R. M., June 13, 1907. Andrews, Lyman, September 29, 1885. Anton, Charles B., April 24, 1910. Apperson, W. L., January 31, 1917. Appling, P. C., February 16, 1908. Appling, R. A., June 5, 1881. Appling, William M., August 24, 1894. Arrants, J. G. S., October 23, 1914. Ashman, H. G., November 14, 1889. Ashman, J. S., December 31, 1878. Aten, Thos., June 24, 1912. Austin, E. Lewis, January 31, 1918. Austin, Miss M. F., March 29, 1889.

### B.

Bacon, Thomas E., September 15, 1915. Baker, Lucius, June 22, 1918. Baker, Mrs. Adora B., June 29, 1918. Baker, Alice C., August 16, 1917. Baker, Thomas, November 24, 1872. Balthis, James H., May 11, 1911. Babcock, George, January 25, 1917. Ballard, James W., June 18, 1918. Bailey, W. W., May 17, 1918. Bailey, Caleb, September 8, 1912. Bailey, Margaret T., February 8, 1917. Baley, Nancy, March 6, 1900. Baley, Gillum, November 11, 1895. Bailey, W. E., February 16, 1912. Balthis, Mary J., December 14, 1915. Baird, Alfred, November 22, 1914. Baird, Andrew, November 15, 1914. Bachman, N. L. F., April 6, 1903. Balthis, John A., January 21, 1903. Bancroft, H. H., March 2, 1918. Backman, N. L., November 22, 1880. Barnum, H. E., June 15, 1914. Barron, Rev. James, June 22, 1910. Barton, Robert, May 26, 1891. Barrett, Benj. H., April 28, 1916. Bassian, John, April 18, 1901. Barron, J. A., June 24, 1915. Bates, C. M., November 18, 1896. Beall, Z. A., December 19, 1910. Beatty, Alexander, October 29, 1909. Behymer, H. M., January 4, 1912. Bernhard, E. F., March 9, 1910. Berbora, N. B., August 23, 1911. Berry, Fulton G., April 9, 1910. Bethel, James, April, 1908. Betteridge, William, December 20, 1896. Beveridge, George P., October 1, 1916. Beveridge, Mrs. Margaret M., December 9, 1918. Berbora, J. N., June 5, 1913. Birkhead, Mary A., June 1, 1898. Birkhead, J. T., March 14, 1891. Birney, John, December 14, 1898. Bigler, John, November 29, 1871. Birkhead, G. W., June 13, 1879. Blasingame, J. A., April 19, 1887. Blair, Thomas F., October 15, 1913. Blasingame, Mary J., April 30, 1908. Boles, Cornelius, February 20, 1909. Boling, John F., May 11, 1918. Boltinghouse, Phoebe, March 3, 1894. Bondurant, J. M., November 10, 1865. Bonnafton, G. H., April 23, 1915. Booth, Newton, July 14, 1892. Booker, J. W., September 27, 1914. Boole, F. A., February 17, 1908. Boutwell, B. S., January 1, 1909.

Boutwell, Margaret A., April 16, 1916. Boutwell, S. A., January 12, 1907. Borello, F. M., May 8, 1912. Boyd, Rev. Thomas, August 28, 1917. Boyd, Nellie, November 6, 1909. Boyden, J. P., January 1, 1916. Bozeman, Pres., October 16, 1900. Braley, F. E., May 23, 1892. Braverman, Louis, March 31, 1909. Bradford, James C., December 21, 1901. Bradford, A. C., February 15, 1891. Brantford, Robert, September 1, 1890. Brix, Paul, November 3, 1914. Brooks, A. B. R., January 25, 1912. Bretz, Joseph S., October 23, 1911. Braley, J. M., February 11, 1911. Bramlett, Burford, April 17, 1876. Brix, H. H., September 15, 1915. Briggs, A. W., December 16, 1915. Bruce, Joshua, January 18, 1915. Burleigh, Mrs. Mary E., June 26, 1918. Burleigh, F. J., September 6, 1914. Burleigh, F. M., March 13, 1909. Burleigh, J. M., October 29, 1891. Borgan, S. O., May 27, 1912. Burnett, C. C., October 17, 1918. Burks, Dr. W. T., October 21, 1918. Bush, Edward E., June 19, 1916. Butler, R. B., March 12, 1917. Burns, Joseph, December 13, 1918. Burnside, W. A., April 30, 1916. Burton, C. N., June 26, 1913. Burleigh, F. J., September 6, 1914. Burrough, W. H., August 4, 1914. Burks, N. B., January 8, 1901. Bullard, W. P., June 21, 1901. Burke, E., April 28, 1892. Byrd, John H., October 5, 1913. Ball, Frank H., March 4, 1919. Baker, Sands, April 13, 1918.

### C.

Cathay, John, October 16, 1894. Carter, Stanton L., December 31, 1910. Campton, Nancy R., January 14, 1912. Carey, Algernon, April 4, 1914. Campbell, James R., May 14, 1914. Campbell, James B., September 15, 1916. Calderwood, F. H., May 28, 1915. Caldwell, W. W., August 5, 1917. Carver, Mrs. H. D., November 2, 1918. Caldwell, W. C., April 28, 1873. Carlan, Hugh, May 6, 1862. Carman, Jacob, December 4, 1866. Carver, H. D., August 3, 1915. Church, Mary J., July 16, 1913. Church, Emery J., March 25, 1912. Church, John M., January 7, 1912. Chidester, J. G., March 14, 1908. Clark, Angus M., December 21, 1907. Chapman, W. S., July 1, 1906. Church, M. J., March 20, 1900. Church, Firman, December 17, 1899. Chance, William H., July 29, 1892. Clark, George F., March 13, 1918. Clark, Galen, March 25, 1910. Clark, John P., December 22, 1918. Clinch, Henry W., November 13, 1917. Cobb, Van Buren, December 7, 1911. Cobb, Minerva, December 12, 1915. Cobberly, Isaac, June 30, 1911. Coffman, William F., March 18, 1898. Cole, Jacob A., July 20, 1909. Cole, William T., June 27, 1907. Cole, George N., April 6, 1892. Collier, J. M., May 22, 1907. Colson, Owen, February 9, 1897. Colwell, G. W., June 7, 1894. Coldwell, Colbert, April 18, 1891. Colson, B. Y., February 14, 1918. Collings, James D., September 29, 1918. Conway, John, March 13, 1917. Compton, Nancy R., January 14, 1912. Compton, Warren, January 17, 1912. Conard, R. G., June 3, 1909. Conn, W. A., February 17, 1909. Corbley, P. M., July 7, 1898. Cowan, S. F., July 16, 1909. Cronkhite, James L., September 10, 1912. Craycroft, Columbus J., November 17, 1915. Cronkite, James L., September 10, 1912. Cranmer, F. J., March 15, 1876. Cranor, A. C., December 31, 1918. Cummings, John, February 11, 1892. Cummings, A. H., December 23, 1897. Curtin, Cornelius, January 23, 1918. Cutler, H. N., November 23, 1917. Collins, Hal C., April 14, 1919.

### D.

Daly, R. H., February 3, 1877. Dane, Herman, February 8, 1917. Darby, William E., January 10, 1899. Darwin, James, March 15, 1894. Davidson, Dr. J. D., November 30, 1908. Davis, C. D., October 21, 1903. Dean, William M., March 19, 1917. Deakin, Elizabeth, June 11, 1914. De Lanoy, John A., June 23, 1890. De Masters, Jasper N., March 9, 1914. Denny, J. E., November 18, 1907. Deakin, William, August 14, 1897. Dennett, Caroline, November 13, 1901. De Witt, Rev. H. G., January 19, 1918. Dennis, Leroy, April 25, 1875. Deering, Alexander, December 18, 1875. Deuel, J. C., July 3, 1901. Dickey, W. J., July 5, 1912. Dixon, Henry S., August 27, 1898. Dixon, James



P., March 25, 1882. Dixon, R. L., May 11, 1889. Donahoo, Elizabeth A., September 21, 1917. Donahoo, J. M., September 6, 1880. Dore, Benjamin, September 30, 1906. Draper, Elias J., June 8, 1914. Dunagan, D. C., May 4, 1890. Dunham, W. E., February 2, 1877. Dunn, Robert F., March 5, 1918. Dunn, Mattie E., June 11, 1916. Dunn, Thomas, January 2, 1913. Dunnagan, Crockett, March 16, 1916. Dunlap, T. J., June 27, 1917. Dumas, John W., October 8, 1917. Dusy, Frank, November 9, 1898. Duval, E. H., December 30, 1918. Dwyer, John, July 23, 1912. Dennett, William E., May 24, 1919. Dailey, Morris E., July 4, 1919.

## E.

Easterby, A. Y., June, 1893. Easton, Pulaski, November 2, 1917. Eccleston, Robert, February 1, 1914. Edgerly, A. S., June 18, 1918. Edgerly, William, September 27, 1908. Edmiston, Robert, December 17, 1918. Edwards, J. E. F., October 31, 1902. Einstein, Louis, November 9, 1914. Eilert, L. J., October 29, 1907. Eilert, Ernst, August 10, 1902. Elmore, Andrew J., July 10, 1916. Ellis, T. O. Sr., March 25, 1879. Elwood, John H., March 10, 1917. Elam, Mary S., December 24, 1916. Elwood, Jonathan, December 15, 1915. Elam, J. H., May 28, 1912. Elam, B. W. W., May 13, 1896. Ensminger, D. L., July 7, 1916. Epperson, J. K., June 20, 1909. Epperson, Jesse E., October 9, 1917. Epperson, J. K., June 20, 1909. Eshelman, Mary J., January 19, 1903. Eshelman, Isaac S., June 15, 1902. Esrey, Jonathan, December 19, 1904. Esrey, Justin, June 4, 1900. Estell, John S., September 7, 1905. Evans, Chris., February 9, 1917. Ewing, Henry N., January 5, 1892. Eymann, D. T., October 30, 1911. Eguinian, Haag, March 25, 1919.

## F.

Farley, Andrew, July 13, 1910. Faure, Edouard, February 17, 1917. Faymonville, Bernard, November 11, 1918. Faymonville, William, February 8, 1882. Ferguson, E. C., December 24, 1882. Ferguson, J. W., July 29, 1907. Ferguson, J. W., July 26, 1900. Fiester, Frank, September 26, 1900. Fike, D. P., October 21, 1900. Firebaugh, Susan, May 11, 1912. Firebaugh, A. D., June 26, 1875. Fisher, Fred W., January 7, 1910. Fiske, John D., July 26, 1890. Fleming, Frank D., October, 1918. Florin, Sister Mary (Hackett), August 10, 1910. Forthcamp, J. D., May 21, 1866. Foster, Nancy M., December 28, 1914. Forsyth, William, May 3, 1910. Fowler, Thomas, April 7, 1884. Foye, Unity A. Cranmer, June 2, 1914. Franscini, L. S., February 9, 1915. Freeman, J. W., October 10, 1890. Freman, G. C., November 26, 1916. Friselle, Ralph, September 16, 1912. Froelich, Otto, March 18, 1898.

## G.

Gailey, Charles, January 29, 1917. Galloway, Amanda M., October 26, 1916. Gallman, J. F., December 11, 1913. Galloway, J. D., July 23, 1908. Garner, W. L., January 12, 1899. Gaster, Stephen, August 8, 1866. Gearhart, Charles W., January 10, 1901. Geis, S. W., August 15, 1890. Gilmour, William E., January 9, 1918. Glass, Henry, June 26, 1878. Glenn, Richard, September 9, 1875. Glenn, G. R. C., April 17, 1915. Glassford, George H., June 12, 1910. Gordon, William B., January 29, 1918. Gordon, John H., November 27, 1909. Graff, Hans, September 24, 1918. Grant, Archie, November 16, 1915. Greeley, Margaret, December 5, 1915. Greenup, Mary E., December 25, 1907. Grebble, Thomas W., May 3, 1905. Guard, Mrs. M. A., May 29, 1909.

## H.

Haddon, James E., May 16, 1861. Hall, W. H., April 14, 1892. Hammond, Hannah, March 3, 1918. Hamilton, Steven, December 27, 1898. Haight, Henry H., September 2, 1878. Hansen, Jacob, September 29, 1918. Harbison, Abraham, February 9, 1901. Haraszthy, Augustus, July 6, 1869. Hart,

Charles A., May 13, 1913. Hart, Mrs. Ann McKenzie, November 12, 1910. Hampton, W. H., July 13, 1908. Hampton, Catherine, July 13, 1908. Hancock, J. B., July 14, 1907. Hawkins, Rev. B. A., November 8, 1898. Hawes, Horace, December 2, 1911. Havner, M. B., October 24, 1917. Hay, T. J., February 1, 1905. Hazelton, William, July 20, 1906. Hawn, James H., January 19, 1894. Heaton, Thomas L., December 31, 1918. Hearn, Nancy, March 17, 1876. Hedges, James D., November 3, 1917. Hedges, Mary A., January 23, 1916. Henry, Simon W., March 24, 1918. Herminghaus, Gustav, November 18, 1904. Hedgpeth, Joel, June 12, 1874. Hedgpeth, Hester A., January 28, 1914. Heston, Thomas M., June, 1863. Hedges, H. P., September 8, 1906. Hite, J. R., April 18, 1906. Hickman, John D., May 14, 1918. Hill, Millie, December 19, 1917. Hill, Mary W., January 7, 1915. Hittell, T. H., February 23, 1917. Hill, W. W., February 3, 1875. Hill, Calvin S., August 7, 1916. Hixson, J. F., July 15, 1913. Hinds, S. J., July 3, 1912. Higgins, E. R., March 20, 1911. Hicks, John D., April 28, 1910. Hills, W. H., February 14, 1907. Hite, John R., April 13, 1906. Hoernecke, G. H., July 23, 1903. Hodgkin, W. H., June 8, 1909. Homan, Jacob, November 28, 1915. Hopkins, Dr. St. George L., May 25, 1914. Houghton, J. S., September 16, 1909. Holmes, Marvin P., May 23, 1908. Holden, B. S., January 14, 1918. Holmes, Catherine L., June 6, 1918. Hollingshead, Daniel, August 27, 1909. Holmes, S. A., December 10, 1894. Hoxie, Susan, May 16, 1889. Hoxie, Clark, 1866. Hoxie, John C., November 21, 1918. Huffman, Milton, October 24, 1910. Hunt, Thomas H., October, 1909. Hyde, Isaac N., August 13, 1900. Hyde, J. D., April 15, 1897. Hyde, S. S., April 15, 1869. Hargrove, Robt. L., April 28, 1919. Harlan, Elisha, February 27, 1919. Harless, Margaret, April 16, 1919. Hatfield, William R., May 1, 1919. Helm, William, April 10, 1919. Hughes, Thomas E., April 20, 1919. Hutchinson, B. E., May 11, 1919. Hague, Berry M., June 30, 1919.

## I.

Imperatrice, Giacomo, June 23, 1889.

## J.

Jack, Mary E., June 8, 1918. Jagger, W. E., December 8, 1906. James, C. W., April 22, 1916. James, Jeff G., March 28, 1910. Jensen, Francis, February 13, 1878. Jensen, Martin, January 27, 1913. Jones, J. R., May 1, 1877. Jones, J. S., September 17, 1915. Jonsen, John, January 5, 1916. Johnson, R. S., October 31, 1908. Johnson, J. Neely, August 31, 1872. Johnson, D. J., October 23, 1862. Johannsen, Henry L., June 16, 1914. Jorgensen, Boletta, April 20, 1918. Judy, O. M., August 25, 1900. Justy, N. P., November 18, 1912. Jenney, Charles E., April 7, 1919. Joplin, Mary A., May 8, 1919.

## K.

Kanawyer, P. A., January 30, 1908. Kearney, Dennis, April 29, 1907. Kearney, M. Theo., May 26, 1906. Kelley, Rev. D. O., January 12, 1918. Kerr, William H., February 26, 1918. Kerr, William H., February 16, 1918. Kinsman, Joseph M., December 6, 1916. Kirby, F. W., August 30, 1912. Kirby, C. K., Sr., April 5, 1870. Kittrell, J. R., February 1, 1915. Kittrell, Mrs. Elvina A. H., May 8, 1909. Knepper, C. A., January 28, 1916. Knepper, Emily A., December 18, 1907. Knepper, A. B., March 20, 1912. Klette, C. J. M., June 8, 1909. Kutner, Joseph, June 27, 1910. Knepper, Hugh, March 26, 1919. Kern, John J., May 24, 1919.

## L.

Lane, J. P., December 6, 1878. Latimer, Dr. C. D., January, 1887. Laiferty, Mary, February 9, 1917. Lane, Polly, August 7, 1912. La Rue, J. H., September 16, 1917. Lassere, Faustin, April 30, 1917. Lawson, Mary Emma,

December 22, 1917. Le Blanc, Perry, June 3, 1904. Leach, Dr. Lewis, March 18, 1897. Letcher, F. F., September 8, 1900. Levis, Mahlon November 10, 1914. Levy, Herman, March 6, 1918. Levy, M., September 16, 1909. Lewald, Herman, November 14, 1912. Lewald, Jacob, March 3, 1913. Lewis, M. B., February 13, 1913. Lillis, S. C., January 12, 1917. Littlefield, Alonzo, April 30, 1913. Lindsay, Tipton, March 2, 1884. Lloyd, Nancy E., July 7, 1916. Lowden, Mehitable W., December 26, 1895. Lonsdale, Mrs. Hannah L., June 7, 1918. Loinasz, P. R., July 14, 1913. Long, A. B., November 9, 1912. Loucks, Wallace E., May 7, 1908. Locan, Frank, February 4, 1903. Lux, Charles, 1887.

### M.

Martin, John W., December 2, 1908. Marshall, William H., December 3, 1908. Manning, E. A., January 27, 1918. Maxwell, Z. T., September 21, 1912. Markarian, Henry, November 14, 1918. Madary, Mrs. Julia A., September 19, 1918. Manning, E. A., January 27, 1918. Manley, G. P., October 9, 1914. Martin, J. Fount, December 6, 1918. Markarian, M., November 21, 1914. Martin, Rev. W. H., July 15, 1914. Manson, Dr. P., December 29, 1914. Machen, W. W., August 18, 1913. Mace, Mrs. Jennie E., July 17, 1916. Maupin, Dr. W. T., June 19, 1911. Malsbary, Job, May 21, 1910. Marlar, J. C., February 14, 1912. Marshall, S. W., April 15, 1909. Martin, John W., December 2, 1908. Mace, R. P., April 24, 1894. Markwood, Wm., August 15, 1876. Mekeel, D. L., February 13, 1918. Medley, Joseph, July 7, 1917. Merriam, C. C., December 14, 1917. Melvin, Isaac A., November 25, 1917. Messick, T. W., March 14, 1916. Merriam, E. D., April 8, 1913. Meux, J. P., February 6, 1899. Miller, Henry, October 14, 1916. Minturn, J. B., May 27, 1917. Minard, J. H., July 16, 1909. Mock, Moses, March 29, 1912. Monaghan, P. H., December 13, 1910. Mowat, A. H., October 18, 1905. Monross, David, May 23, 1891. Morrow, Jesse, April 10, 1897. Moore, Gabriel, May 26, 1880. Moody, W. A., February 14, 1917. Moulthrop, Isaac, September 5, 1916. Muir, John, December 24, 1914. Musick, Isabelle, October 12, 1915. Musick, H. L., July 7, 1912. Musick, J. D., January 29, 1903. Musick, J. J., March 10, 1901. Musick, Jeremiah J., 1904. Musick, Thomas L., February 8, 1893. Munn, Rev. C. A., June 27, 1910. Mullins, Amasa, February 26, 1914. Myers, J. B., September 19, 1912. Myers, Darius, September 14, 1897. Musick, Jasper N., June 4, 1918. Miley, Julian J., June 19, 1919.

### Mc.

McClelland, George, September 24, 1884. McCardle, James, February 11, 1898. McCray, Ira, October 5, 1877. McDonell, Amanda J., June 23, 1914. McDougall, Gov. John, March 30, 1866. McElwee, Rev. W. B., November 19, 1918. McKay, Scott, May 4, 1918. McKenzie, William H., December 21, 1909. McKenzie, E. P., 1888. McKeown, Charles S., September 1, 1871. McKenzie, James, January 1, 1864. McLeod, John, July 11, 1866. McSharry, J. P., September 12, 1916. McSwain, Walter S., December 6, 1915. McWhirter, L. B., August 29, 1892.

### N.

Napier, Andrew, February 5, 1910. Nelson, Thomas P., January 1, 1910. Nelson, Mrs. Helen B., December 22, 1909. Nesbit, Rev. A. Z., March 26, 1907. Newell, Robert, October 13, 1913. Nidever, Mark L., January 12, 1918. Norris, C. H., May 7, 1899. North, J. W., February 22, 1890. Nourse, Mrs. Aby E., June 1, 1913. Nourse, G. A., June 30, 1901. Nye, S. G., April 2, 1906.

### O.

Odom, Alexander, February 20, 1916. Olufs, O. B., December 7, 1914. Oothout, William N., July 11, 1893. Otis, George B., April 30, 1918.

## P.

Packard, Mrs. S. A., December 19, 1917. Paddock, Cassander, March 9, 1906. Parkes, Louisa, November 10, 1916. Parlier, Allen, June 5, 1916. Parlier, I. N., February 20, 1916. Parkhurst, D. W., December 31, 1899. Parsons, Wick B., June 16, 1903. Patterson, T. W., March 14, 1916. Patterson, I. H., August 14, 1914. Patterson, Mrs. Margaret M., January 1, 1919. Payne, T. J., May 18, 1873. Patterson, Mrs. Rebecca, June 13, 1910. Peckham, Joshua, January 30, 1915. Perrin, Robert, May 5, 1918. Perry, John W., June 14, 1913. Pettit, George, June 3, 1914. Phillips, Mrs. Emily, May 30, 1907. Phillips, Newton, January 28, 1916. Pierce, Chas. S., April 18, 1919. Prather, B. F., March 18, 1910. Prather, W. J., September 7, 1907. Price, Joseph D., March 13, 1907. Perry, Amanda, March 23, 1919.

## Q.

Qualls, D. C., November 13, 1909. Qualls, N. E., November 7, 1906. Qualls, R. M., May 27, 1910. Qualls, W. H., May 26, 1891. Qualls, Mrs. Mary, May 10, 1919.

## R.

Raynor, W. M., April 18, 1894. Reed, Sarah R., April 18, 1903. Reed, Mrs. Amanda A., June 17, 1916. Rehorn, Frank, August 3, 1916. Reddy, Pat, June 28, 1900. Reese, John, September 15, 1895. Reichman, John, June 24, 1898. Reyburn, J. D., January 15, 1914. Renfro, C. K., December 21, 1916. Rhodes, Raleigh M., February 25, 1915. Rice, H. M., January 28, 1918. Rice, W. T., May 7, 1914. Riggs, William T., March 7, 1912. Ridenour, W. W., December 11, 1891. Risley, E. W., December 15, 1918. Roberts, Return, September 18, 1917. Robinson, J. T., October 15, 1917. Rosenberger, J. A., August 15, 1916. Rosendahl, F. D., August 16, 1915. Rogers, James J., March 6, 1904. Roeding, Frederick, July 17, 1910. Rose, J. M., March 3, 1906. Rose, Mat S., January 28, 1903. Roney, Hugh, January 5, 1873. Rountree, E. C., June 16, 1892. Royal, J. B., August 15, 1863. Rowell, Dr. Chester, May 23, 1912. Rowell, George B., December 27, 1907. Ruschhaupt, Karl W., December 22, 1917. Rutherford, Harrison, January 27, 1917. Rumble, William T., March 31, 1883. Rutherford, James, May 16, 1910. Ryan, Jere, August 23, 1909. Ryan, William H., March 6, 1918. Rapelji, Hiram L., July 4, 1919.

## S.

Sachs, A., December 22, 1910. Saffell, Mary, July 9, 1892. Sample, Mrs. Sallie Cole, December 27, 1917. Sanders, Winfield S., March, 1910. Savage, Maj. James D., August 16, 1852. Sayre, James H., July 26, 1906. Sayre, A. L., December 17, 1917. Schulz, M. A., November 24, 1876. Scott, Phillip, January 18, 1919. Scott, W. Y., February 28, 1861. Seropian, Jacob M., October 6, 1883. Sewall, William G., March 15, 1912. Shaver, Mary E., November 22, 1915. Sherman, Minnie Eshelman, April 21, 1913. Shannon, William R., June 17, 1910. Shaver, C. B., December 25, 1907. Shannon, Jeff M., June 8, 1902. Shanklin, J. T., October 18, 1901. Shipp, W. W., January 16, 1900. Silverman, H. D., August 18, 1877. Simpson, J. G., September 24, 1877. Simpson, Sarah M., May 3, 1918. Sliter, Ben F., June 8, 1918. Sledge, Martha, December 12, 1913. Smith, C. L. (Dad), October 10, 1907. Smith, A. E., October, 1897. Smith, J. B., December 23, 1893. Smith, Mrs. Julia A. Fink-, January 14, 1919. Smith, Orson K., February, 1871. Smith, James, December 7, 1862. Snodgrass, D. S., April 13, 1912. Sontag, John, July 3, 1893. Spencer, W. C., October 27, 1903. Spinney, Joseph, September 28, 1903. Spence, W. Y., December 19, 1918. Stoneman, Gov. George, September 5, 1894. Steaddam, Jas. M., October 26, 1863. Statham, J. D., May 28, 1914. Statham, A. H., February 6, 1909. Strombeck, T. T., November 6, 1910. Streeter, Jarvis, March 24, 1910. Story, William H., May 3, 1908. Strother, S. L., May 25, 1907. Stonerod,

W. P., August 17, 1904. Studer, Louis, January 1, 1882. Stiddam, Eugene, October 1, 1861. Sutherland, John Sr., August 26, 1881. Swift, L. P., January 29, 1901. Swoap, W. C., February 6, 1901. Sweem, J. B., December 5, 1888. Swift, Harvey W., April 11, 1915. Shelley, Luke, April 23, 1919.

#### T.

Taft, George W., March 17, 1916. Taplin, Joseph, October, 1909. Taylor, John W., March 19, 1891. Terry, David S. August 14, 1889. Thom, Robert C., December 25, 1912. Thornton, H. I., February 25, 1895. Timmins, L. P., April 1, 1915. Tinnin, W. J., November 24, 1910. Traber, Charles P., June 5, 1878. Trevelyan, H. A., September, 1900. Tucker, E. H., April 18, 1912. Tunzi, Norberto, July 16, 1917. Tupper, W. D., October 7, 1906. Tinnin, Mrs. Anna I., May 10, 1919. Tabor, George C., May 13, 1919.

#### U.

Urquhart, James, May 22, 1909.

#### V.

Vanderburg, I. K., January 23, 1900. Vandro, Mrs. Pauline, May 7, 1907. Van Valer, Peter, October 28, 1917. Van Meter, Harry S., February 21, 1907. Veith, W. A., May 31, 1915. Vernet, Joseph, July 16, 1908. Vestal, Sarah A., September 5, 1913. Vincent, Dr. F. O., October 27, 1893. Vincent, Annie L., December, 1890. Vlahusic, C. B., December 27, 1908. Vogel, Mr. and Mrs. Jacob, February 11, 1915. Vorce, O. A., May 17, 1908.

#### W.

Wakefield, Wm., January 25, 1919. Wall, Sidney J., December 26, 1918. Walker, J. N., January 22, 1916. Walton, John Tim, November 2, 1917. Wallace, Miles, February 24, 1917. Walton, Josiah, October 2, 1918. Warlow, George L., October 17, 1918. Waterman, Catherine S., February 22, 1915. Wainwright, Chas. L., August 22, 1908. Warlow, J. B., January 28, 1901. Waggner, Thomas, April 7, 1897. Walker, C. F., June 28, 1877. Weaver, Mrs. Nancy J., May 19, 1909. Weilheimer, Aaron, December 28, 1900. Weller, Gov. J. B., August 17, 1875. Webb, J. R., July 29, 1916. West, M. M., May 16, 1915. Wells, Lee W., February 7, 1917. Weldon, A. J., May 17, 1918. Weyant, John W., June 14, 1917. Weyant, Woolsey, October 10, 1902. White, J. R., May 6, 1907. Whitson, Jacob E., July 29, 1906. Wharton, James F., March 17, 1889. Whitmore, L. A., March 18, 1859. Whitney, Walter, January 22, 1917. Williams, Ben. May 28, 1918. Williams, James E., November 17, 1917. Williams, Percy, October 2, 1890. Williams, J. W., November 3, 1898. Willis, R. V., December 25, 1906. Wickersham, F. P., March 14, 1900. Wiseman, Geo., October, 1909. Wiener, A. J., July 27, 1897. Winckle, Ben W. Van, February, 1908. Winchell, E. C., July 23, 1913. Wing, R. W., October 9, 1900. Wightman, Alex. C., March 3, 1896. Winkleman, Jane M., November 22, 1874. Witham, F. E., December 18, 1916. Wittmack, C. J., December 27, 1914. Wood, Geo. W., February 9, 1917. Woods, Geo. W., February 10, 1917. Wooley, William R., September 16, 1915. Wootton, William, February 1, 1894 (about). Wolcott, Oliver, June 3, 1905. Wolters, J. C., October 9, 1917. Wristen, A. C., August 24, 1894. Wristen, W. D., January 3, 1901. Wright, Elisha, November 11, 1914. Wyatt, J. T., July 26, 1873. Wyatt, W. M., November 24, 1908. Wyrick, J. L., October 10, 1915. Winnes, Harry F., March 1, 1919. Woodward, Mrs. Anna L., April 28, 1919.

#### Y.

Yancey, Charles A., July 23, 1909.

#### Z.

Zapp, John, December 4, 1918. Zapp, Mrs. Leota I., May 23, 1919.

## COUNTY TABLOIDS

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The big fire at the Sanger Lumber Company plant at Hume, sixty miles in the mountains from Sanger broke out during the forenoon of November 3, 1917. Reported loss was half a million. The mill had closed down for the season two weeks before, the season's cut was 20,000,000 feet of board lumber.

Will the Fresno Canal and Land Company as a private corporation, or as a public utility, have right to the water in the canals of the Fresno district after 1920 is a question. If the decision of the courts is that the contract between water user and company is inviolable, that those of the old Fresno Canal and Irrigation Company are valid as long as they stand and that the utility view does not prevail, the new corporation first named will have no grip on the water at the expiration of the old fifty-year contracts, September 1, 1920, or possibly February 21, 1921.

Tuesday, April 30, the day for the annual Fresno Raisin Day celebration, was for 1918 officially designated as "California Raisin Day Patriotic Demonstration" in keeping with the war spirit of the times and to find the more detailed expression in the fact that little money was spent upon features to make for pleasure alone. The feature was the parade on furlough of Fresno soldiers in training at Camp Kearny at San Diego, Cal.

Formal acceptance of the new \$55,850 annex to the county hospital was had by the supervisors March 8, 1918.

The California Associated Raisin Company began in the spring of 1918 the erection of the first unit of nine buildings on its twenty-acre tract on the Southern Pacific line between the Fresno Cooperaage Works and the California Products Company plant. This seeder plant will be of reenforced concrete, four stories in height, 100x300, costing equipped nearly \$300,000. It was to be finished by October 1 to take care of the season's products. The seeding plant will be the center unit. Tributary to the twenty-acre plant construction was ordered of five new packing houses to be located at points in the valley to be designated. The Fresno city plant will be a model industrial plant, representing a million-dollar investment.

The first verdict in the county with women as members of the jury was rendered before Judge H. Z. Austin March 5, 1918, in the case of Tom Ryan for robbery. The women jurors were Mrs. Marguerite W. Lopez of Fresno city and Mrs. Jennie E. Barclay of Fowler. The latter was the foreman.

The second annual balance sheet of the California Peach Growers Incorporated, presents a record for the handling of the 1917 crop to be proud of. Quick assets are: \$1,556,928.42; total assets, \$1,998,105.12; current liabilities, \$830,395.14; total liabilities \$1,998,105.13; total reserves \$101,555.29; total surplus \$216,139.38; net worth per share sixty-six dollars as against fifty-three dollars the year before. Amount invested in real estate, buildings and plants \$480,974.66 with \$57,000 owing and reserve for depreciation of structures and equipment \$38,027.10. Investments in buildings and packing and grading facilities have been practically doubled, and likewise the quick assets over the liabilities. Figures showed that eighty and three-tenths per cent. of the selling receipts were returned to the producer, leaving nineteen and seven-tenths per cent. as the cost of selling and marketing a crop thirty-three per cent. larger than that of 1916. Out of the operating allowance, there has been placed in surplus \$163,497.04. The 1916 crop returned growers seventy-seven per cent. of sales.



In 1918 for the first time in its history, the county organized systematic fire protection in the country districts against destruction of crops, grazing land and stubble and other property during the summer fire season with selected points in various sections where fire fighting equipment is maintained and wardens and volunteers patrolling the main roads favored by Sunday picnic parties.

General Grant Park covers four sections of land, located half and half in Fresno and Tulare Counties. Its Big Trees are not the least of its many attractions. It is the national park nearest to Fresno city. The crowd that visited it during the May 1—November 30 season of 1917 is the largest in its history. During that season 21,657 people entered the park—a little more than 6,000 more than entered it and Sequoia Park in 1916; 2,828 cars entered the park and nearly forty per cent. of these a second time; 17,496 people visited it in autos and 4,161 came in other conveyances.

Doomed is the old town site of the first county seat, Millerton; also the site of the older Fort Miller and in fact all the immediate neighboring, hill-enclosed territory in the river gorge, today in the county the earliest, most interesting and historic ground down to and including the sulphur springs gushing out of a cleft granite boulder in the one time channel of the stream. Futile the long nurtured hope of the Native Sons of the Golden West to have some day the old courthouse for a museum of pioneer antiquities and the ground there, or perhaps the fort property with its ancient buildings, set apart for a public memorial park. The Madera district contemplating irrigation of a large acreage of land in that county has been organized, and its plan involves the construction of a great dam to impound the flood waters, submerging all the hallowed ground of the forefathers and the stage setting of the county's earliest history. Such a body of water will be impounded that Millerton's townsite will be under 100 feet of water.

During the first half of the month of February, 1919, there was a recording of 6,250 new raisin contracts by the association under the new regime, each record fee being two dollars. It took thirteen volumes of 500 pages each to contain them. On one day 2,716 contracts were filed for record, the greatest filing day in the history of the county. The extraordinary recording feat resulted in bitter litigation contesting the claims of ten women copyists each for \$599.10 for work done in February and March charging six cents per folio for the printed matter of the recorded contracts.

Fresno is a county with a reputation for the large number of owned automobiles, paying into the state more than \$160,000 annually for licenses. The return contribution for the upkeep of the roads for 1917 was \$54,523.01. A branch office for the registration of motor vehicles has been established by the state in this city, county receiving half of the turned in money, less cost of administration.

Figures of the vital statistics show that the rural population is increasing. Records outside of the nine incorporated towns are:

Year	Deaths	Births	Marriages
1917 .....	673	1,278	1,155
1916 .....	633	1,093	1,059
1915 .....	642	1,194	895
1914 .....	623	1,116	986

Fresno County constitutes one of the largest hunting and fishing districts in the state. Fees for licenses in 1917 were \$12,654—\$6,404 from anglers and \$6,250 from hunters, 6,185 paying the dollar license.

Treasurer A. D. Ewing handling the money of the county as well as that of the city paid out in 1917 \$695,012.76 of city and \$4,224,746.96 of county money—a total of \$4,919,759.72, the largest aggregate in the history of the office, due to the natural and material increase and enlarged business of county and city. November, 1917, was the largest one month of record;

next largest was January, 1917, with \$339,512.07; and next July the third as another interest paying month with a total of \$326,506.23. The lightest month in the year was September with \$223,862.69.

The November, 1917, grand jury returned indictments against John G. Wintemute and Arthur Ellenberg. Wintemute as the victim of "money sharks" confessed to a padding as city fire chief of the department pay rolls at various times in an aggregate amount of \$855.50, pleaded guilty, made restitution that bankrupted him, and was liberated on probation. Ellenberg was an attorney accused on one of several charges of the embezzlement of money entrusted into his keeping by clients. He was found guilty by jury and sentenced to an indeterminate sentence of one to ten years. At San Quentin he was assigned as teacher of the prisoners' school.

The January, 1918, drawing by the three judges of thirty names eligible for grand jury duty comprised those of eight women. They were Mesdames H. H. Alexander, Minnie R. Fitzgerald, Geo. H. Taylor, L. L. Cory and the Misses Marguerite and Breeze Huffman of Fresno, Mrs. Florence B. McAllister of Sanger and Dr. Flora Smith of Kingsburg. It so happened that the grand jury of nineteen was accepted and sworn in on St. Valentine's day before Judge Cashin and the six women chosen were: Mesdames Alexander, Taylor, McAllister and Smith, and the Misses Huffman and Humphreys, the latter the secretary of the body. In 1915 Mrs. Taylor, Miss Frances A. Dean and Mrs. Marie E. McMahon were on the grand jury venire, Mrs. Taylor was excused and the other two served.

What is said to be the largest jury award of damages for personal injuries sustained and returned in this county and in this state—and some claim in the United States—was the one of \$100,000 of December 31, 1906, in the case of Willard R. Zibbell against the Southern Pacific Company. Zibbell was run over by a switching train on the night of July 12, 1906, while crossing the reservation on Tulare Street between G and H. He was literally ground to pieces, and after months of agony and various amputations survived his fearful mangling a cripple and a physical wreck, though before the accident in perfect health and unimpaired in body, earning much as a trainer of fast horses. He sued for \$102,883.25 damages and J. E. Burnett was the foreman that returned this unparalleled verdict. The railroad asked for a retrial. It was denied if the plaintiff remitted \$30,000 from the verdict award. The reduction was consented to and the appeal followed by the company on a judgment for \$70,000. That judgment was affirmed on appeal and in the end the railroad paid \$92,335.82 in satisfaction of it. Zibbell is a real estate agent. He must have aid to assist him in every physical want. Having lost one hand and the other being crippled, he has a mechanical contrivance that permits him to operate his auto. The lawyers that undertook his case are said to have done so on a contingent fee of half what might be recovered. After the accident but as a convalescent, Zibbell was the principal in a sensational marriage in an automobile, the incident being a culmination of a romance, whose ending was hastened on by his helpless state by the bride offering herself in sacrifice. The married life of several years was broken by her death.

Kerman had a costly fire on the morning of November 20, 1917. The Fresno Farms Company block was destroyed with the cutting off of all telephone communication with the wiping out of the local exchange. Fresno sent a motor engine in the afternoon but it was useless because there were no water mains. The Kerman Hardware Company was a heavy loser carrying a stock of \$30,000. The fire damage was more than \$75,000. The town had a hand drawn chemical but the fire had too great headway when discovered to make use of it.

The home place of George C. Roeding, three miles east of the city and located between Belmont and Ventura Avenues, comprising almost the entire Section 3-14-21 was sold in May, 1918, for \$300,000 on long term pay-

ments. The Roeding property was one of the show places, one of the most beautiful and best maintained in the state. Within a year the three-story residence of substantial proportions was destroyed by fire at estimated loss of \$20,000, though many of the prized contents had value far beyond their intrinsic worth. The purchasers were a group of eastern dealers in oriental rugs. One of these bought at this same time the 160-acre vineyard of the Mount Whitney Vineyard Company of ex-Supervisor Phil B. Scott and others, two miles northeast of Malaga and about five miles from Fresno. Consideration was \$102,500, or \$640 an acre, gross income of the property last year \$30,000. Another big deal of June was the sale in the Orangedale and Centerville districts of 435 acres of the D. L. Bachant grape and fruit ranch for \$170,000. It is a great producer and Bachant had taken first prize for Emperor grapes at the district fairs for five consecutive years. It is noted that in the last few years all the large sales have been to Armenians, many of these on long term payments, with little cash passing in the transactions and payments under the contracts to come out of the crop proceeds.

Phenomenal weather characterized January and February, 1918. The latter, however, raised desponding spirits. Crops and cattle were thought to be lost. The rainfall raised the seasonal from the lowest to almost the normal. That seasonal normal was passed March 7—seven and fifty-seven hundredths—and from the driest season up to February 14 in three weeks the normal and more was made up. The aspect of the crop situation changed. Snow in the mountains was not sufficiently heavy or lasting to warrant high hopes for irrigation. This absence of snow was taken advantage of by the light and power company to base a plea for the raising of rates for the reason that on account of the shortness of water fuel oil more costly on account of the war would have to be employed in the operation of the mountain power generating plants. Because of the drought there was loss in cattle and the necessity of feeding high priced hay. February rain was timely and a godsend; for the season seven and fifty-seven hundredths, the normal six and eighty-six hundredths, for the same period the year before six and thirty hundredths, the seasonal more than for the entire season of 1916-17 closing with seven and twenty-five hundredths, June 30.

At the biennial Central California Conference of the Seventh Day Adventists in tent encampment at Recreation Park, May, 1918, growth in church activities was reported. Income for the last two years was \$79,602.82, and the interest in the doctrine was shown by the sales of literature in the conference amounting to \$11,256.01; 536 pupils are in the intermediate parochial schools in the local field as against 252 in 1915, five schools and ten teachers having been added in two years. Young People's societies have grown from twenty-eight to thirty-seven and in membership from 561 to 812; Sabbath school membership from 1,602 in 1916 to 1,886 in 1918 and offerings \$16,709.14.

The Southern California Edison Company has expended sixteen and one-half millions of dollars in the development of its power generating property in Central California. It made in January, 1918, application to the state water commission for the appropriation of more water from the San Joaquin River for the generation of more electric power in two new plants to be erected at a cost of several millions. Also for the storage of water of Pitman Creek in this county, the impounding dam of the latter to cost \$842,900. The applications are parts of one project. With the storage of Pitman's waters, it is proposed to divert a portion to the reservoir on Big Creek, the remainder to go to conduits leading to plants below. The Pitman reservoir dam will be 103 feet high, 860 long on the top and fifty at the bottom, of reinforced concrete, multiple arch-buttress type storing 3,780 acre feet. The dams at Huntington Lake are being raised several feet to add many thousands of acre feet to the capacity and increasing the flow to the lower plants, two plants now using the water of the lake. The Edison company as the successor of the Pacific Light and Power Company will build two additional plants

below the present lower ones. The water will be used in the operation of the quartet and having served its purpose will be returned to the San Joaquin. 1930 has been set by the Forest Service as the time limit for the completion of the project.

Report was in the summer of 1917 of a project for the organization of an irrigation district under the Wright law to be known as the Tierra Loma Irrigation District, embracing 144 sections of prairie land, bounded on the north and east by the line of survey for the Panoche and Kings River Canal Company ditch and on the south and west bordered by the foothills taking in all the plain lands under an elevation of 700 feet. This district would be below the junction of the San Joaquin with the Kings Slough, comprising one-ninth of the territory entitled to water from the San Joaquin. That stream's estimated annual flow, including flood waters, has been for seven years as measured at Hamptonville 1,800,000 acre feet a year, the one-ninth applied to the district equalling a little more than 200,000-acre feet. The plan for conducting this water and distributing it is by a concrete aqueduct and lateral with one foot meters on all section lines, thus supplying every quarter section. The point of diversion will be four and one-half miles above Fort Miller at an elevation of 700 feet above the sea. The mountain will be tunnelled at this point for almost a mile, tapping the bed of the river after the aqueduct leaves the tunnel, passing through open country, laid well under ground, extending southwesterly and passing diagonally across the district. The main aqueduct will be fifty-two miles and the lateral over 283 miles. The district proposes to join others in the impounding and regulation of the river's flow contributing a ninth part of the \$9,000,000 estimated cost of impounding the San Joaquin's storm water. Cost of the main aqueduct with its laterals is estimated at about \$3,000,000, added the million for impounding the water, bringing the cost to about four millions, or near forty dollars an acre. The system will be a gravity system, good for all time, with system belonging to the land. There are 290 land owners in the district, requiring a two-thirds vote to organize and a majority to vote bonds for construction work. No tax on the land until the bonds are issued.

The state public employment bureaus filled 92,959 positions in 1917, an increase of 100 per cent. over the 46,442 of 1916, the first year of their existence, or a total of 138,003 if the 45,044 placements of the city of Los Angeles are added. The Fresno office was in operation a little over four months placing 6,999 persons, 289 of them women. Fresno city took 1,895 and the others went into the country; agriculture took 171 of the women, the hotels sixty-seven and private homes forty-seven. Of the 6,070 men, 3,307 went into agriculture, lumber taking 668 and building construction 623. Of the 138,000, only 13,425 or less than ten per cent. were placed on farms, where the labor demand was the greatest. Fresno holds the record with fifty per cent. agricultural placements, showing that the nearer the bureaus to the farming communities the more assistance they are. The bureau helped to supply labor to harvest the largest raisin crop on record.

The Riverdale Farm Center announced a rabbit drive for Saturday, February 2, 1918, under the auspices of the Fresno County Farm Bureau, with the proceeds from the kill going to the Red Cross fund, and publicly announced: "Warning is made that the rabbits are for human consumption and should not be bruised unnecessarily."

"The Garden of the Sun." This is the adopted slogan so far as concerns the publicity work of the Fresno Chamber of Commerce and especially in drawing attention to the valuable commercial asset that it has in the sun's caloric. The committee that was responsible for the decision in the competition was William Glass of the Republican, Chase S. Osborn Jr., of the Herald and C. A. Paulden. In the consideration of the designs offered, all were rejected as a whole with exception of the slogan, suggested by Grovine Hadsell of 1311 Ferger Avenue. The design is the work of M. V. Donaldson

of the chamber who borrowing the slogan worked out the idea, his own rejected slogan having been "In the Center of the Sun." The design reveals the outline map of California, the sun-kissed Golden State in the center of the orb, Fresno County in the center of the state and Fresno City in the center of the sun blessed county, the most fruitful section of the earth. For more effective use of design and slogan, the sun's disk and rays will be printed in gold, the central state in deep red, with the lettering in black and the county and slogan in gold.

Owing to the large increase in business, the Fresno postoffice was placed January 1, 1917, in the 200,000 class, with increase of salaries for postmaster and higher officials.

Fresno with 521.7 miles of post office rural delivery service covered daily ranks second in the United States. Indianapolis, Ind., ranks first with 693 miles, but serves partly by horse while Fresno's ten routes are covered by automobiles. This rural service was extended 125 miles in July, 1917, and revolutionized by automobile delivery, aided by the level country and the fairly dense population on the rural routes. Each extends from fifty to fifty-four miles, and 15,000 persons representing 4,000 families are served by the city office. Capacity of a car is 800 pounds and eighty cubic feet space.

December was the climax month in the steady business increase in 1917 of the Fresno postoffice. The total was \$34,356 as against \$23,025.73 for the same period the year before, an increase of forty-two per cent. For the comparative years, the increase was about twenty per cent., the increase in postal rates only covering the last two months of the year. The quarterly business returns for two years are shown in the following tabulation:

	1917	1916
First quarter .....	\$54,970.37	\$44,543.51
Second quarter .....	54,798.76	46,862.19
Third quarter .....	53,416.00	49,797.39
Fourth quarter .....	84,028.25	65,128.68
	<hr/> \$247,213.38	<hr/> \$206,231.77

Firebaugh is unique in that it has no city taxes but the saloons and other licenses run the town government. The revenue is about \$5,000 of which the saloons contribute \$3,200, the restaurants \$300 and about \$1,000 by other lines. Eight saloons pay \$100 quarterly and three restaurants twenty-five dollars. The town assessed property valuation is some \$68,000.

The "Sun Maid" raisin brand of the California Associated Raisin Company has been changed for a new carton design. The former picture of a pretty girl trimming a raisin pie aroused infringement complaint by a mince meat maker. The new picture shows head of a pretty girl set in the light of a rising sun.

Despite the loss of sixty-five sections of land to Kings County, figures of the county assessor show an increase of 300 per cent. in assessment roll valuations in fifteen years; 1900—\$26,879,811; 1910—\$58,929,496; 1911—\$61,483,833, the year that operative property was withdrawn from local operation. 1912—\$69,716,137; 1913—\$80,920,688; 1914—\$82,652,510 and 1915—\$84,096,506.

Distribution of the M. Theo. Kearney estate to the state university was made in June 1910. It was inventoried at \$1,471,118.06 and the executor charged with \$1,542,238.53. In the distribution \$1,075,790.40 in stock was transferred and \$338,795 of property was on hand—the Chateau Fresno Park and stock in syndicate.

The historical Grand Central Hotel block, 100 feet on J and 150 on Mariposa, was sold January 27, 1918, by Judge J. A. Cooper to Radin & Kamp for \$300,000. It was and is the first three story brick building in the city erected about 1882 by J. W. Williams, who had conducted a blacksmith shop

on the site. Fulton G. Berry bought half interest in the property in 1884 and in 1888 acquired a full interest. He paid \$55,000 for the property and in November, 1905, sold to Cooper and his brother, Dr. J. C. Cooper, for \$147,500. The latter sold back a half interest to brother, the valuation about doubling in a dozen years. J. and Mariposa holds the title of "the center of Fresno."

The Fresno Canal and Land Company was authorized in February 1917, to sell to the Fresno Canal and Land Corporation for \$1,000,000 its stock and entire property, excepting only the interests in the Laguna Lands Limited. The corporation was authorized to issue 10,000 shares of \$100 par value in payment executing a trust deed and issue \$600,000 bonds at not less than ninety per cent., the proceeds to discharge the first mortgage bonds of the company. The latter sold water for irrigation in Fresno and Kings to owners of approximately 200,000 acres of land. It is a public utility and has outstanding \$1,250,000 capital stock owned by the United Guardian Company, Ltd., an English corporation, and its total indebtedness of \$1,573,862 is mortgage secured. It was incorporated in January, 1917, for the purpose outlined, capitalized at \$1,000,000 and \$600,000 of the bonds to be substituted for the mortgage indebtedness, the balance to be paid by the original company stockholders.

According to the will of William H. McKenzie, dated October 19, 1907, a trust was created to include the Fort Miller ranch and adjoining lands (Millerton site) in Townships 10 and 11-12 and lot 2 in the S. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 6-11-12, with instructions that it shall not be sold unless by unanimous judgment it is for the best interests of the estate, "it being in fact my desire that if possible said property be not permitted to go out of the family."

In the spring of 1918 sale was reported to E. V. Kelley and W. J. Simpson of Fresno of the 160-acre Alta Sierra vineyard and fig orchard in the Clovis district for \$110,000, also about the same time of the Glorietta Vineyard for \$100,000 and the Wawona for \$70,000, besides a half section of the Webber lands. A few years ago all this land was in grain.

Fresno raised from \$13,000 to \$14,000 as its share of the Methodist state fund of \$1,125,800 for the University of Southern California to endow professorships, purchase equipment and erect buildings.

A gigantic enterprise is involved in the proposed Kings River Irrigation and Conservation District. It is the plan to form a lake of the sinuous channel of the Kings above Pine Flat with construction of a \$9,000,000 reservoir, backing the water into the hills sixteen miles and impound 600,000 acre feet. The dam site would be only twenty-eight miles from the city and be a horse-shoe shaped wall 300 feet high, letting the water out at spillways and gates 100 feet below the surface of the water. It rivals the much vaunted Roosevelt dam project. It is proposed with the stored water to irrigate 1,000,000 acres in Fresno, Kings and Tulare during entire season with never danger of a dry year. The dam would be between two hills and of rock and concrete. The little place known as Trimmer Springs and the flumes of the Sanger Lumber Company to convey lumber from Hume to Sanger would be under water. Report is that in event of the construction of the reservoir the mills may be removed to the head of the reservoir. Not only is it intended to irrigate but also to drain the lands and lower the water levels. Ten districts are proposed and the estimated cost of construction varies in them. It is the project also to cement eventually all the canals in the district. There are 242,000 acres in the Fresno district and about 200,000 under water rights. Irrigation companies have 258 miles in canals, property and water rights are valued at \$4,805,382.78 and a \$1,500,000 option has been given. The Pine Flat project will give water to irrigate 600,000 acres and sufficient power will be developed to irrigate 400,000 more by drainage, the present alkali land can be reclaimed and all the land be made productive. Incorporated



cities will be not asked to contribute but to give their moral aid and support. The district when organized will place the entire area under public control and ownership.

Notable land purchase among many that might be recorded is the one in January, 1918, for \$125,000 by J. C. Forkner and associates of 1,700 acres including the railroad townsite of Herndon, near the San Joaquin River.

The destructive fire at the Eggers winery, east of town, was on January 14, 1913. Excepting the Eisen vineyard, it was the oldest in the county. It was purchased in 1897 by the California Wine Association and consolidated with its other wineries located at Selma, Wahtoke, Calwa, Reedley, Smith Mountain and Fresno. The combination of "Cal W A" gives the name to the town and Santa Fe switching yards at Calwa.

Advantageous, noteworthy and significant was the reported sale closed June 24, 1918, by W. N. Rohrer to John B. Newman of Los Angeles and Visalia of 500 acres of raw land in the proven Mount Campbell orange district for something over \$40,000. The land is between the Alta Canal and Wahtoke Park on the one side and Mount Campbell on the other, about six miles north of Reedley, at the foot of the mountain, sloping gently and soil dry bog and of unusual depth and fertility, the seller retaining eighty-five acres in oranges for a home. Rohrer took up the tract in 1900 when from the mountain could be seen miles of grain fields and a dozen or more combined harvesters operating in the field at a time and the soil thought fit only for grain. The Mount Campbell section has made a reputation for grapes, oranges and deciduous fruit and the plain has been transformed into vineyards, fruit orchards and orange groves, with Navelencia bordering on the tract, a lively and thriving community. The Navelencia orange crop of the Rohrer home place brought in eastern markets eight dollars a box this year. The section is ideal for the orange and lemon and is one of the county's largest citrus belts.

The largest number of women to sit in the county in a civil action for damages on account of injury received in a collision between a bicycle rider and auto in a demonstration was in the case in which a verdict was returned June 27, 1918, for \$5,000 damages. The number was six and the jury women were Mesdames L. M. Cross, J. B. Guinn, Gertrude Hewitt, Alice Powell, Leona Christensen and Fannie Berry, with the first named as the forewoman of the jury.

First step in a series of formal preliminaries in the formation of a great irrigation district on the West Side and embracing the counties of Merced, Stanislaus and Fresno was taken in July, 1918, at Merced when petition signed by freeholders of Merced was presented to the supervisors to pass on the sufficiency of the signatures. If sufficient to meet local demands, copy of the petition was to go to the state engineer for approval and back again to the supervisors to settle the boundaries before calling an election to organize the district. And so as to the other counties in turn. As the greater acreage is in Merced County, proceedings were initiated there. Acreage and valuations in the three counties are these:

	Acres	Valuation
Merced .....	297,553	\$5,137,730
Stanislaus .....	70,562	2,915,652
Fresno .....	58,012	1,659,695
Total .....	426,127	\$9,713,077

The territory embraces all the land under the service of the San Joaquin and Kings River Canal & Irrigation Company (Miller & Lux) and organization contemplates the purchase or condemnation for public use of the company's rights. Of the land included in the proposed district, less than half is under water or cultivation. The Miller & Lux monopoly has protested against

the district enterprise and pursued the ancient camouflage of inducing signers to withdraw their names from the filed petition on the plea that they signed under a misapprehension of the effect and nature of the enterprise. The Southern Pacific Railroad has fifty miles of reservation in the district and it also has protested against taxing it on a basis equal to that governing irrigation taxes of farm lands. The proposed district is said to be second only to the one organized last year in Imperial Valley and embracing one-half million acres.

After having been in operation for eight years, Coalinga discontinued July 1, 1918, free delivery of mails. The reason was that the government only pays carriers thirty-five dollars a month and men could not be secured at that wage in these times when man power is in such demand. The matter was taken up with Washington but no larger appropriation was to be secured.

Coalinga went dry May 19, 1918, leaving in the county as the two "wet" towns Fresno and Firebaugh. It was a woman, Genevieve C. Baumbach, that was the first offender arrested for a violation in the sale of liquor in dry territory. The jury deliberated two hours before finding her guilty and the fine imposed was fifty dollars.

The big excursion to Berenda to meet President Theodore Roosevelt on coming out from the seclusion of a visit to Yosemite Valley was on Monday, May 18, 1913. Eleven coaches of welcomers went from Fresno alone.

December 27, 1890, the rain storm for the season was reported to have had no equal since the winter flood of 1861-62. The day after, the canal head gates at Centerville washed out and there was flood damage all over the county.

Picnic with barbecue at Sanger September 3, 1890, marked the completion of the Moore & Smith lumber flume from Millwood in the Sierras, a noteworthy accomplishment of the times.

Report was made December 12, 1890, of the discovery by S. L. Packwood and I. N. Barrett of the remains of a petrified man in the Cantua Canyon. The sensation was great. Geologists, who examined the alleged petrification, pronounced it a genuine one of a giant. The find was exhibited for a time and hawked the country over. The hoax was in the end exposed. It was manufactured from cement for speculative show purposes and buried to be conveniently "discovered" in due time. The expose was complete, even to the person who was the mould for the "petrification."

Coalinga voted April 8, 1918, dry by a small majority out of a total of 1,304 votes. At the same election, \$20,000 bonds were voted to complete the water works system.

On the 30th of May of the Centennial year—forty years ago—a newspaper item recorded the fact that J. E. Longacre and J. C. Berry riding across the plains from Fresno to Kingsburg observed a band of antelope huddled in consternation. A coyote had been surrounded by the antelope, striking at him with their fore feet while he snapped in every direction in self defense. The combat was watched for a distance of two miles and the coyote finally escaped.

A. J. Law advertised forty years ago in June, 1876, in Fresno city that he had received an invoice of forty-eight coffins "of all sizes, styles and prices." He received them direct from the factory, he sold a coffin as low as six dollars per and announced his ability "to supply this entire section of the valley."

At the Sanger town incorporation election in April, 1908, the vote was ninety-six against, seventy-seven for and seven did not vote on the question.

Forty years ago at the close of the month of May, 1878, the record is that the steamer Clara Belle, Capt. Jack Grier, unloaded lumber and posts for Gustavus Herminghaus at Parker's Old Store, fourteen miles below the railroad at Sycamore, the highest point on the river ever reached by a steamer and the only time that one had come up so far since 1867. Herminghaus owning a large tract on the river and Fresno Slough had then received 250,000

feet of lumber by steamer from San Francisco to fence in 15,000 acres of grazing land. The fence followed the line of the surveyed road from White's bridge to Fresno for seven miles and diverted travel from the long used route along the river.

It was in May, 1898, that there was excitement over the discovery by J. M. Lowe of gold bearing quartz at Trimmer Springs, and there was a "rush" and considerable of an exodus from Selma. It was a pocket, which as stated at the time "may turn out \$50,000 or it may peter out." It did peter out.

It was about the middle of May, 1898, that fig growers were interested in the arrival from Naples and receipt by George C. Roeding from the agricultural department of a consignment of Capri or wild figs containing the blastophaga or fig wasps for the pollenization of the female or Smyrna fig.

At the special election held in May, 1908, in Kingsburg, the vote was seventy-two for and thirty-four against incorporation and a "dry" board of city councilmen was elected. The town was the second in the county to vote "dry."

There were many, but they were late comers, who believed that the 1898 season was the hardest in the history of the state as a drought year. Edward Lane of Lane's bridge who came to the valley in 1869 and drove sheep over the territory now within the city limits recalls that the drought year of 1877 was much more severe, there was comparatively little feed in the valley, the supply was not more than to last about six weeks and the price of sheep dropped from three dollars a head to twenty-five cents. Nearly all the sheepmen of the valley were bankrupted that year.

At the school election in Easterby district in April, 1908, Mrs. William Forsyth, Mrs. Hector A. Burness and Mrs. James Y. Beveridge were elected trustees, defeating by a vote of fourteen to six Burness, Beveridge and L. R. Rogers, being the first time in the county that a school board of women was elected. They served their term but never again has the experiment been tried, though women are members of many school boards in the county.

The Margherita vineyard of 307 acres was sold in July, 1918, by Mrs. E. B. Rogers for \$150,000 and the deal was the largest about that time. Vineyard was one of the best known in the county, located about four miles east of the city and was one of the show places of the county. The sale was to New York, San Francisco and Fresno capitalists.

There was a registration in the county for the August, 1918, primary election of 34,883, of which 15,574 were Republicans and 13,688 Democrats, as against 28,465 in 1916.

With from 7,000 to 8,000 acres signed up in August, 1918, for the California Alfalfa Growers' Association Fresno County became the banner county of the state as the result of the organization campaign. The state has about 20,000 acres in alfalfa.

The first woman constable in the county is Miss Rae Gayton of 482 San Pablo Avenue, appointed in August, 1918. She had been doing clerical work for Township Constable George E. Machen and was deputized to serve civil attachment papers.

Another notable vineyard sale of August, 1918, was that of the Glorietta of 160 acres for approximately \$128,000 or about \$800 an acre. The buyer was an Oakland American-born Chinese. The sale of the vineyard was its second during the year, and the buyer in spring bought the quarter section Wawona vineyard across the road from the Glorietta which is three miles north of Clovis.

A vineyard section of the Alvina Land Company, about ten miles south of Fresno, was for \$180,000 another August, 1918, sale. The buyers were the Kamikawa Bros. Five hundred forty acres of the section are planted to vines and peaches. The land lies near Monmouth, one mile west of the Santa Fe Railroad. One hundred acres were to be planted and payments will cover a period of eight years.

The first formal reunion picnic of the Fresno County Pioneers' Association was held at grass-carpeted and tree-shaded Riverview Saturday, June 20, 1914.

Of interest was the sale in August, 1918, of twenty acres in alfalfa, one mile east of the county fair grounds, by Mrs. M. E. Carlisle to B. N. Hall of Madera for \$14,000, the price of \$700 per acre considered reasonable in view of the location so near town. The ranch is a noted one in Fresno annals, once a part of the Fresno Winery Company tract and when first seeded the pioneer alfalfa tract in the county. Transfer was to take place January 1, 1919, and seller had for years advance sales for the crops.

An August, 1918, sale that was remarkable for the price involved and for the history of the property was the passing of the noted Glen Ellen orange and lemon grove of N. W. Moodey, one mile north of Centerville, to Mrs. May Perkins McKinnon of Oakland, Calif., daughter of George C. Perkins, former governor of California and later United States senator from this state. The sale was for a little over \$2,000 an acre for twenty-nine and three-fourths acres. This property is noteworthy as the pioneer citrus grove in the Centerville district established after years of persistent and costly effort in the demonstration of the adaptability of the soil and climate of Fresno for the cultivation of citrus fruit. The twenty-two and one-quarter-acre old place includes the twenty-four-year-old lemon orchard and one of the oldest in the county. The fruit has always taken first prize when exhibited, and in the market brought fancy prices because of quality and superior picking and hand packing. Sales of the crop were always in advance to eastern dealers.

Notable incident was the closing August 21, 1918, of negotiations for the purchase from the California Associated Raisin Company of over half a million dollars' worth of Fresno raisins by the British government, J. S. Marple representing the British Food Ministry conducting the negotiations with the co-ordination and purchasing department of the U. S. Food Administration. The purchase was of Sultanias wholly, contract called for immediate shipment and purchase practically cleaned out the 1917 Sultana crop. The British government has always bought San Joaquin Valley raisins through the spot markets but this was its first great purchase direct from the association. A large part of the purchase was to be rationed to the soldiers in the army.

Opportunities yet offer themselves in Fresno, notably in the real estate line, witness the September, 1917, experience of David Andreas in the sale of a 160-acre vineyard to Mrs. Alfreda Verwoert of San Francisco who is largely interested in realty in the Hanford, Kings County, neighborhood. The sum of \$93,000 was paid for an eight-year-old Muscat vineyard, located nine miles east of Fresno city. One year before, Andreas added the property to his holdings paying \$64,000. In the interim, he harvested a crop valued at \$20,000. With the \$29,000 difference between buying and selling prices and the crop return a net increase of \$49,000 was enjoyed on the one year's investment. The estimated crop for 1917 went to the buyer.

July 7, 1917, ground was broken at Piedra in the foothills on the Kings River, above Sanger, by the Piedra Magnesite Company for one of the most modern calcining plants in the country, if not in the world. The mine of which there is a mountain and the equipment represented an investment of nearly a quarter of a million of dollars, financed by former Portervillians who have had experience in this line. The capacity of the plant is over a carload per day. Magnesite is used in manufacture for various purposes but is essential in the making of fine steel for cannon and rifles and cannot be substituted because of its heat resisting qualities. The kiln is eighty-three feet long, tapering to eight in diameter and weighed over eighty tons when ready for burning, filling two cars in the transportation of the parts. The trunions supporting the kiln are erected on thirty-two cubic yards of con-

crete bases. The cooling tower rises to a height of sixty feet and is fed by 125 feet of chain buckets, another chain automatically distributing the calcined product to various parts of the shipping building. The fire and heat in the kiln to burn out the ore adulterations are so intense that the flames can be viewed only through heavily smoked glasses, being too bright for the naked eye. The machinery is driven throughout by electric motors of special design. The plant began operations September 21, 1917.

The California Associated Raisin Company has become an immense business corporation. According to its published financial report made in November, 1917, the 1916 raisin crop of 103,800 tons was sold for \$13,595,070.50, good progress was being made in the marketing of the new crop to be about 35,000 tons in excess of that of the year before and the final payment of \$1,739,503.70 on the 1916 crop was ready to be made, making the record price for raisins. The expense was \$3,381,105.82 for packing, selling and maintenance of the association, leaving a net balance of \$10,213,964.68 for division among the associated growers. The figures on tonnage were:

Variety	Tonnage	Receipts Gross
Muscats .....	75,049	\$9,226,467.65
Thompson's Seedless .....	19,235	2,992,247.39
Sultanas .....	5,911	822,899.91
Malagas .....	312	42,531.88
Feherzagos .....	499	39,802.57
Northern Bleached Thompson's....	2,783	469,640.63
Northern Bleached Sultanas.....	11	1,980.47
	<hr/> 103,800	<hr/> \$13,595,070.50

The financial statement showed:

#### ASSETS

Quick assets .....	\$3,991,753.18
Invested assets .....	556,428.18
Deferred charges .....	10,742.02
Total assets .....	<hr/> \$4,558,923.38

#### LIABILITIES

Current liabilities .....	\$3,040,263.95
Special reserves .....	92,205.38
Capital and surplus .....	1,426,454.69
Total liabilities .....	<hr/> \$4,558,923.38

The grape industry of California is an immense one. According to the bulletin of the State Board of Viticulture Commission \$63,000,000 is the value placed on California's 1917 grape crop and \$150,000,000 on the state's grape industry. 1916 was the greatest in returns that the industry has experienced, the raisin crop was 30,000 tons above normal and amounted to 155,000 tons, the wine production of 37,000,000 was almost normal and the grape crop the greatest known.

The first all woman jury in the county and all married impanelled before Justice C. C. Hudson of Fowler found guilty on the night of February 21, 1917, Apel Tikijian, aged twenty-two, as the first of eight co-defendants accused of sabotage in the wanton burning and destruction of 8,000 raisin trays on the A. Rustigian vineyard, located two miles east of Fowler. The offense was committed January 24 and 25, 1917, during the height of the "drive" for signatures to continue the corporate life of the raisin association, Rustigian being a non-signer. The formal accusation was malicious mischief.

The value of the trays was ten to fifteen cents each but with prevailing labor and material prices, they could probably not be replaced for less than eighteen cents each. The women were not moved by the sophistry of the appeal to sentiment and prejudice of the community in the virtual plea that the end justified the means. The fine imposed was a nominal one, afterward remitted and all were permitted to go free. The trial was the sensation of the district. The jurors were Mesdames A. B. Armstrong, J. W. Jones, L. Crawford, George James, R. R. Giffen, T. L. Brown, J. S. Manley, T. W. Fork, C. E. Flack, C. E. Powell, R. H. Ramsey and A. L. Donahoo. The tray burning was only one of many overt acts that accentuated the campaign for association contract signatures and committed by hot headed individuals in the county and publicly denounced and repudiated by the association.

Two large plants estimated to increase the waterpower taken from Big Creek in the Sierras in this county to a total of more than 700,000 horse power is part of the project of the Southern California Edison Company according to formal announcement. These plants will be an addition to the construction work planned, announced and well under way. They will use over again the water impounded by the dams above in Huntington Lake and passing through the upper power house. To double the size and capacity of the Big Creek power producing plants, the dams were raised thirty-one feet giving them a maximum height of 160 feet. This project added \$2,000,000 to the Edison undertaking at the lake, bringing the total cost up to \$17,000,000. Besides the two plants, a nine-mile tunnel will divert the water of the San Joaquin through the mountain and run it through the lower power houses. This power development would deliver a total of double the power now utilized in Southern California. The plants are the outcome of the belief that the price of fuel oil will not materially decrease and that waterpower must supplant in large part oil generated power, this substitution releasing annually for use by the government in its navy upwards of 600,000 barrels. The company will besides save annually \$1,000,000 and thus pay the cost of the improvement in two years. A small army of men began work in September, 1917, on this enlarged project in the raising of the three dams from 129 feet. Approximately 100,000-acre feet would be stored in the lake for the generation for electric power and illumination in Southern California 240 miles from the mountain seat of operations, 1,250,000 inhabitants in the south to be served, 150 cities and towns and approximately 175,000 consumers. An idea of the magnitude of the work in the mountains may be gathered from the fact that daily during the work 1,600 yards of concrete were poured, that 52,000,000 pounds of cement were employed on the work and that the cost of the sacks containing it was alone \$70,000. Three concrete dams and two power plants with 40,000 horse power capacity each are the original plants. The raised dams will double the storage capacity of the reservoir. The huge project involves a greater power development than the famous Keokuk dam on the Mississippi River with a fall of twenty-three feet in twelve miles. The fall of Big Creek is 4,000 feet in six miles; the drainage basin covers eighty-eight square miles, the rainfall is eighty inches and the run off fifty. The water is led off through a tunnel and steel pipe line to the first power house half way down. Here it gushes out of six-inch nozzles at 350 feet per second or 240 miles an hour against the impulse bucket wheels of ninety-four inches in diameter. From these it escapes into a creek blocked by dam and diverted into a second tunnel four miles in length and through a long series of conduits to the second power house.

It was a jury before Judge H. Z. Austin in the case of William Loukonen, accused in six counts of an assault upon a female minor, that on October 4, 1917, exercised for the first time in this county the then recently acquired right to name in verdict the place of confinement of the accused.



It declared for county jail instead of penitentiary incarceration. The accused was a married man and the prosecutrix a kin.

With the institution of Department 3 of the Superior court in October, 1917, and appointment of D. A. Cashin as the presiding judge, the latter occupied the bench rostrum and desk from which in the county courthouse a quarter of a century before the life sentence was pronounced in the same apartment on the bandit, Chris Evans. The jury box is the same that was occupied by the twelve men that listened to the testimony on the trial of the famous Evans and Sontag cases. Bench and box are placed in the same positions as they were then. In the long interim, they had been used as the furnishings of Township Justice G. W. Smith's courtroom down town.

The second all woman jury in the county was the one that before Justice of the Peace L. S. Beall of Clovis failed October 1, 1917, after deliberating for two hours, to agree upon a verdict in a case between two women for a malicious diverting of the water from a lateral irrigation ditch. A jury of men also disagreed the month before in a similar case before the same magistrate. The later case was one of a jury of married women, namely Mesdames C. M. W. Smith, Percy Magill, Carl S. Merriman, Milo Hole, Sterling Williams, William Otts, Edyth Hyatt, Ovid Ingmire, Iva Sprague, Chris Castner, William Heiskell and H. E. Armstrong.

Fresno bank clearings for the month of October, 1917, disclosed an increase of \$5,000,000 over the month previous and of more than 235 per cent. over the corresponding month of 1916. The 1917 figures were \$14,118,389.92 as against \$9,241,729.80 for September of that year, and \$6,139,991.26 for October, 1916. Bank officials declared the increase a remarkable one, probably unequalled in the state. It was a record not easy to duplicate by any city of equal population with Fresno. In monthly bank clearings Fresno has consistently exceeded its old-time rival, Stockton.

The county's record for phenomenally large damage awards by court juries was a second time cinched in September, 1917, before Judge H. Z. Austin with an award of \$64,000 in the case of Mrs. Harriett C. James against the Campbell Electric Company of Lynn, Mass., and the Bowman Drug Company of Oakland, Cal., for the fatal poisoning of her dentist husband with barium carbonate, administered preparatory to an X-ray demonstration during the state medical society meeting in this city in 1916. The judgment prayed for was for \$100,000 and on one of the informal ballots by the deliberating jurors four voted for the full award. March 28, 1919, the appellate court in San Francisco ordered the judgment reversed and the case remanded for another trial. Next day the attorneys appeared before the Fresno superior court and Judge Austin and on the testimony given at the former trial a stipulated judgment for the widow was entered for \$25,000 and \$700 costs. The entire proceeding with regard to the reduced judgment award beginning with the reversal on appeal was the result of a compromise stipulation. The judgment was paid in court with check. The rapidity with which final proceedings were had was the feature in the matter. Lawyers declared that this original verdict in the case for damages for accidental death is the largest ever returned by a jury in the county and also in the state. The larger verdict in the Zibbell case was for injuries received for being run over and mutilated by a railroad switch engine.

Twenty-six years ago in November, 1892, workmen were erecting the frame work foundation support for the new dome of the county courthouse. Some of these timbers were sixty feet in length and heavy in proportion. The dome was several times larger than the one preceding it, being forty feet wide at the base, octagonal and rising 120 feet above the courthouse roof. From the ground to the apex of the dome, the height is 180 feet.

Under date of August 24, 1917, record was made of the gobbling up by the Southern Pacific Company of the forty-two and seven-hundredths-mile

feeder line in the Hanford & Summit Lake Railway Company. The stated purchase price was \$58,305.26.

Contract was placed of record under date of April 16, 1916, by D. J. Guggenlime of San Francisco of the sale to Joseph E. Foster of Fresno and Berthold Guggenlime and Bert Katz of San Francisco of a portion of the Home ranch for \$125,000 and of the Fortuna for \$75,000 as land described in a trust deed to the seller from the Abraham Gartenlaub estate. The contract stipulated that the interests shall not pass from control of seller for five years from date of contract and establishing prices of sale in the event of the death of any.

One of the largest lease transactions in a long time was the one consummated August 2, 1917, involving the Kings County vineyard holdings of West & Son of Stockton—the Lucerne, Little Lucerne, Felicia and Central Lucerne—embracing 1,880 acres of Muscat and seedless grapes. The lease was to Wylie M. Giffen of the California Associated Raisin Company, paying \$55,000 for a five-year leasehold, part of said sum secured by crop mortgage. The lease was made with the approval of the San Joaquin County Superior court for the West minors.

The crop in 1913, which was the first year that the associated raisin company did business, amounted to about 70,000 tons, a practical average for the preceding five years. In 1914 it was about 98,000 tons, in 1915 about 130,000, in 1916 about 132,000 and would have run to 150,000 had it not been for the loss on account of rain. The 1917 crop was as much. In five years that the association has been in business, the crop has practically doubled, due in a measure to increased planting of Seedless Thompson vines and in a large measure to better cultivation of old vineyards with double production in many instances.

It is a long stretch for the imagination to play upon between the financial statement of the county for the fiscal year 1917-18 and that for the July 1-December 1, period of the year 1856 when the county was organized. During this latter period, the receipts were \$6,281.15, and also \$1,200 monthly collected as foreign miners' tax; the expenditures, \$4,268; the value of the taxable property, mainly stock, \$400,000. The 1917-18 receipts were \$5,085,256.50 less a balance of \$1,394,947, and \$551,532.93 of the total city money. Total disbursed was \$4,014,450.54 and of this sum \$827,334.06 city money. Balance at the end of the year in various general and special school funds was \$1,070,805.06. Many a present school district handles more money than did the county during the first years of its political existence. During the period covered by the report, the county used in its various departments \$5,080.75 alone in postage stamps. The War Exemption Board cost \$7,438.98. The schools cost \$1,437,223.95.

Articles of incorporation of the California Fig Company with a capitalization of \$500,000 were filed October 4, 1917, to finance the fig culture experimenting on the Bullard tract by the incorporators with 1,400 acres already planted, including all standard varieties with the Smyrna as the specialty.

The following tabulation is of interest as showing the final crop price paid for the varieties of raisins to members of the association since its operation as their selling agent:

Variety	1913	1914	1915	1916
Feherzagos .....	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$60.00	\$ 61.00
Malagas .....	60.00	50.00	60.00	76.49
Muscats .....	69.30	66.20	72.72	84.18
Sultanas .....	65.66	77.28	88.81	118.10
Thompson's .....	78.27	92.50	99.67	131.51

Not in twenty-five years had two successive crops sold for so high an average as the last two; never a crop larger than the last and never a more

favorable season for curing. The associated members were urged to invest their settlement money in Liberty bonds.

It was a little more than ten years ago that court officials came from Los Angeles and packing up the last court property in the county court house for removal prepared also the new quarters for the May, 1908, session and first sitting of the federal tribunal in the completed postoffice building.

It was in October, 1917, that mining lease under date of August 22 was recorded by the Copper King Mining Company of Texas with option to buy 225 acres from the Wabash Mining Company, a corporation that had forfeited its franchise in 1909 for failure to pay the corporation license tax. The valuation of the leased property was placed at \$175,000, a figure named as the purchase price, if the Copper King people should exercise the right to buy during the life of the three-year lease. They were to pay twelve and one-half cents royalty on net smelter returns, expend \$6,000 in improvements during the first year and \$12,000 during the second and third. The property in this county includes thirteen Wabash and Lode mining claims of 224.97 acres.

As far back as the year 1888 when the boom was yet at its zenith, the county rated sixth among the eight leading counties of the state for property values. The assessed value of real estate and improvements in the state was returned at \$900,440,491 and the personal property at \$170,661,836. Fresno's figures were \$30,112,433 and \$3,381,896.

The first orange trees planted in the county were seedlings set out in 1867, nearly fifty-two years ago, on the Kings River at Centerville by William Hazleton.

There were in 1889 in the Fresno district twenty-three commercial raisin packers. During the year cooperative packing houses were established, notably two in Oleander and one each at Fowler, Selma and Malaga. Fresno alone had fourteen packing houses, four large ones employing from 300 to 400 hands each and boxing 100,000 each. The largest and finest raisins were undoubtedly packed by the larger home growers. The crops and packing of the Butler and Forsyth vineyards and others were never surpassed even in Spain. It is of historical interest to enumerate some of the larger packers and the brands that they made known in the markets in the establishment of a new industry in America and which in the end crowded Spain out of the field. They are these: Fresno-American Raisin Co., Eagle and Star; A. D. Barling, El Modelo and Golden Gate; A. B. Butler, Butler's and Gordon's; California Raisin and Fruit Co., Seal and Eclipse; H. E. Cook, Cook's; William Forsyth, Imperial, Tiger, Forget-me-not; Fresno Fruit and Raisin Co., Lion and Golden Gate; Griffin & Skelley, Griffin & Skelley's; Geo. and John H. Leslie, Liberty and Royal; J. W. Reese, Cartons; Barton Estate Co., Peacock; James Miller; Mau, Sadler & Co., Sierra Park and Parrot; Malaga—E. H. Gould, Olivet and El Monte; N. Vian, Vian's; S. P. Vian; Oleander—Curtis Fruit Co., Greyhound and San Joaquin; Fresno Raisin Co., American Flag; Fowler—Fowler Fruit & Raisin Co., Pride of California and Comet; Rodda & Nobmann, Maple Park; Selma—S. B. Holton, Golden West; Tulare—Page & Morton, P. & M. and Brown & Co.

Fire destroyed November 12, 1889, what was declared to have been at Centerville the first two-story house erected in the county.

June 26, 1889, decision was rendered by the late Judge James B. Campbell giving so much elation that the residents of Selma and vicinity fired a salvo of 100 guns. The decision found in the celebrated Laguna de Tache grant case that judgment should be entered rescinding and cancelling the agreement of the contestants of date May 1, 1880, upon the payment by the plaintiffs to the defendants of \$154,400 and upon payment restore to the plaintiff, Jeremiah Clarke, possession of the lands described in the agreement. Clarke was the holder of the title to the ranch, the only old Mexican land grant to a vast domain in this county on the Kings River and like all such grants the subject of litigation. The grant is now the possession of

a corporation with an English lord as its main financial representative. On the trial of the case 239 witnesses were examined and 100 more were subpoenaed but not called as their testimony as to facts already established was admitted.

A \$30,000 fire September 8, 1912, wiped out Coalinga's red light district located on Whiskey Row, facing the railroad depot. It was only a temporary purification and fumigation.

As an aftermath of the excitement and litigation and criminal prosecution following the effort in 1907 to divide the county with all the Coalinga oil field territory to be annexed to Kings County, Fulton G. Berry, Emanuel Katz and Sheriff R. D. Chittenden brought suit in March 1909 against Charles King, one of the pro-annexationists to recover \$1,500 on his endorsed note made at Hanford, December 10, 1907, and deposited with the Laton Bank to cover a wager on the election but repudiated by him December 15 when that wager was lost on the result of the election. The case went to trial February 25, 1907, before Judge H. Z. Austin and the plea of the defendant was the claim was for a gambling debt, therefore against good morals and public policy. The contention was sustained. Berry had never an idea of recovering judgment and, as he stated, his reason for bringing suit and pressing it to trial was to publish King to the world as a "welcher" and "trimmer." The public feeling over the attempted land grab by Kings County was intense. Fresno's representatives in the legislature were caught napping when the scheme was put through.

April 30 has been set for the annual Fresno Raisin Day celebration and the first year's campaign was in 1909. The celebration is a part of the county advertising campaign to popularize the raisin as a food product. The celebrations have been uniformly held in Fresno city in splendid parades and symbolic pageants. An incorporation has been formed to promote the annual event.

The two greatest days in the life of County Treasurer A. D. Ewing (best known as "Chill," short for Achilles) were January 7 and 8, 1890. On the first he drew on the Fresno Loan and Savings Bank a check on himself as county tax collector for \$200,000 and on the next he tackled the problem of removing to the courthouse, two blocks off, the \$195,000 gold in sacks and the \$5,000 currency in his pocket. Ewing was the county's first tax collector, the sheriff having been the tax gatherer before him, and Sheriff O. J. Meade the last collector. Ewing was closing the first year of his term of two and the money must be physically transferred in settlement of 1899's taxes into the hands of Treasurer Major Thomas P. Nelson. The bank was given four or five days notice of intention to draw the money in lump sum and the young collector, who was just a man in years, considered his check-drawing the most momentous event of the decade and that when he removed that money he would leave the financial centers of the country dry. The money was on hand on the 6th, the late W. H. McKenzie was the bank cashier and the sacks of gold were ranged along the floor as they had come from the mint for the count on the 7th, because there must be assurance that \$200,000 was there before it was moved and he personally responsible for every dollar. Trust was reposed in only four men to make the transfer. These were David S. Ewing, brother of the collector and deputy in his office, and Nathan Hart, expressman in the employ of Bartlett & Ewing, draymen of the city, H. N. Ewing, father of the collector, and J. H. Bartlett, city marshal. Three were armed, Ewing on watch at the dray while the others transferred the twenty-dollar and ten-dollar sacks from the bank into the dray. The intention was to approach the courthouse at the rear and there make transfer to the treasurer in same fashion as at the bank. But the count at the bank had delayed matters until five o'clock, night was coming on and a mist and fog gathering. The risk was too great to reach the courthouse by circuitous route so the dray was ordered driven up Mariposa Street and via the main approach

direct for the front steps of the courthouse and arrived as the supervisors and county officials were leaving for the day and wondering what a dray was doing at the front of the courthouse, one block in every direction from the nearest street. The orders were to answer no questions after leaving the bank, but to shoot the first man to approach the dray in menacing mien. The money was transferred but at so late an hour that a verification of the count could not be made until the following day. That night Treasurer Nelson and two deputy sheriffs slept in the little dark office of the treasurer on the ground floor, the courthouse then not being the large one of today. But with the last sack in, a great weight was lifted from the shoulder of the collector. That same boy tax-collector after thirty years entered on a second elected term as county treasurer. The full story of that exploit was not given to the world until June 14, 1908.

August 16, 1911, was the date on which the supreme court on appeal sustained the judgment of Judge G. E. Church in the case against Andrew F. Abbott and some 2,800 others to liquidate the affairs of the California Raisin Growers' Association and on account of the raisin crop of 1903. Approximately \$100,000 tied up by the litigation and more to be collected on execution saw distribution. The decision in the case was to adopt as judgment the referee report of W. S. Johnson. The case had been in litigation since September, 1906. With this decision about sixty per cent. of the face value of the claims was realized. The decision on appeal was to hold that there was nothing in the record or in the evidence to show that the association was a trust in restraint of trade. The trustees at the time of the 1903 crop for which accounting was sought were Robert Boot, A. L. Sayre, A. V. Taylor, D. D. Allison and T. C. White. The 600 in behalf of whom the appeal was taken gave up the contest and abandoned further proceedings on the notification of their attorneys under dated circular of September 14, 1911.

A landmark, in the fermentation room of the Eisen winery on Belmont Avenue, eight miles from Fresno, and the oldest wine making plant in the valley, was destroyed by fire on the afternoon of September 21, 1911; loss about \$75,000. The fire followed explosion upon explosion of wine vapor in a sherry tank entered by a Chinese employe of twenty years' standing, with a lighted candle to clean it out. There was a loss of 50,000 gallons of fermenting must which flowed at loss in absorption in the soil. The fire burned for four hours.

On a June day of 1914 were recorded in this county five sale contracts of April, 1908, confirming deals involving Coalinga oil lands for \$1,406,000 as the principal sums of purchase price, saying nothing of accumulating interest paid off in blocks as high as \$24,000 at a clip. One of these recalled sale of land for \$2,000 an acre which two years before was unproductive but had risen in value to \$10,000 an acre, not taking into account the improvements placed to make it productive. One contract was for the sale by H. U. Maxfield, A. V. Lisenby, and H. H. Welsh to E. L. Doheny and Norman Bridge of Los Angeles 253.3 acres described in Section 30-20-15 for \$506,600 or \$2,000 an acre. Another was dated two days prior and was for the sale by the Pleasant Valley Farming Company to the American Petroleum Company of 320 acres described in 6-20-15 and 320 in 18-20-15 for \$900,000 and at time of recording there were indorsements of \$200,000 paid on principal and \$45,000 as interest. The deeds called for by the contracts were held in escrow by Los Angeles banks to be delivered when full payments shall have been made. The tale is told that Mr. and Mrs. Lisenby riding about Los Angeles one day passed the Doheny residence and Mrs. Lisenby thought the place a replica of fairyland and went into ecstasies over it. Her enthusiasm abated after her husband informed her that while Mr. Doheny owned this section of fairyland he, the husband, had paid for it in selling to him for \$2,000 what was then worth \$10,000 an acre.

The mountain natural and artificial lakes in the Sierras and the streams arising therefrom or fed by the snows of winter are the fisherman's paradise for trout as are the lazier streams and sloughs for salmon, bass and cat-fish. The mountain fastnesses are the lairs of the nimble footed deer and of the carnivorous, wild and predatory animals that the huntsman pursues, while the foothills are the hunting grounds for the mountain and valley quail, the orchards the favorite places of the little quail and the cooing dove and the marshes and the sloughs of the honker and the quacker. The Fresno district is the largest and most accessible hunting and fishing ground for the city resident in the state. Fish planting operations in the Sierras are frequent happenings to overcome the over-zealous activities of an ever-growing army of anglers. The operations that were conducted during the summer of 1914 were on a scale unprecedented and of a magnitude never since equalled. The famous Golden trout was transplanted to various barren waters in the Fresno Sierras from Volcano Creek and the few minor streams in the Mount Whitney region which was the exclusive home of this wonderful and most beautiful of the species of the trout. The Wawona hatchery was drawn upon for spotted trout fry. In Yosemite National Park fish were planted in waters that were barren; twenty pack-mule loads of the golden hued trout were brought down to the Kings River water shed, miles upon miles of the unstocked mountain territory were covered and the range of the Golden trout extended for a full 100 miles northward from his native habitat. The season's operations were under the direction of District Deputy Fish and Game Warden Andrew D. Ferguson, consuming from two and one-half to three months in time and completing that season what he could not otherwise have hoped according to the usual mode to have accomplished in ten years. The expansion of this fish planting work was made possible by the increased revenue from the new dollar angling licenses. It also made possible increase of the capacity of the state hatcheries for the propagation of fish.

It snowed on New Year's day in 1910. It was the first time in twenty-eight years. The other fall was in January, 1882. Before that, it snowed at Millerton December 3, 1873. The 1910 and 1873 snow falls lay on the ground a very short time. That of 1882 stayed longer. There may have been other light snow falls but the oldest settler cannot recall them. The 1910 snow was preceded and followed by rain, in fact the rain was interrupted by a sudden cold wave turning it into snow.

In May, 1909, the Redemptorist Fathers launched an enterprise which in time will develop into a large modern college for Fresno on a par with Santa Clara and St. Mary's Colleges at Santa Clara and Oakland. Two blocks of land were bought west of town on Kearney Avenue, a grammar school was built as the first unit of the educational institutions and a chapel was erected which has been named St. Alphonsus' Church. Report had it that the enterprise involved about \$250,000. Fresno was chosen as the site because of complaint to the archbishop that youths from this portion of the state desiring to pursue their higher education in the Catholic schools are required to go to the bay or Los Angeles schools. The same argument as affecting the public schools resulted in the institution of the Fresno Normal state school in a Fresno suburb with school opening in the city high school in September, 1911, until gift of site and appropriation by the legislature provided for the erection of school buildings and for improvements. Charles L. McLane, former city superintendent of schools and later head of the high school, was chosen president of the Normal school board.

Who is the largest single taxpayer in Fresno County? The cattle raising and land owning Miller & Lux Inc. According to the 1917-18 tax roll its total was \$51,643.94 on direct assessments on property owned in the county. Its ownership of the Kings and San Joaquin Irrigation & Water Company as a subsidiary concern enlarged that tax. Second largest corporate tax-



payer was the Southern Pacific Land Company, a holding company. It paid \$46,841.38. The Kern Land and Trading Company materially increased the railroad's county tax bill on account of Coalinga oil land holdings. The California Associated Raisin Company through its holding Associated Warehouse Company was listed high among larger taxpayers with \$26,541.35.

The group of buildings for the Coalinga union high school district was erected under a contract of September 11, 1917, for \$78,106 to be finished in 200 days after signing of contract.

The first bale of cotton of the 1918 season and grown in Fresno County was in the gin October 22, 1918, of the California Products Company. The grower was G. F. Bias of the old Malsbary place, near Conejo, and the species grown the Durango. Specimens of the cotton showed lint in the bowl of the plant over two inches long.

Fire believed to have resulted from the bursting of a feed pipe in distillery engine room caused August 29, 1917, a \$50,000 loss at the St. George winery, three miles east of Fresno on Tulare Avenue. Forty thousand gallons of wine and several thousand gallons of other liquors were destroyed.

The closing week in November, 1908, witnessed the completion of the reinforced concrete dam in the Sierra mountains at the new lumber town of Hume. The construction of dam cost approximately \$35,000. Dam created a lake of eighty-seven acres in area impounding the water flow of Ten-Mile Creek, draining an area twenty-five square miles. Lake has a depth of fifty feet at its greatest. The dam was the conception of Civil Engineer J. S. Eastwood and it is the first of its kind. The new settlement of Hume is a model lumber town, the enterprise in a virgin lumber district of the Hume-Bennett Lumber Company which with later changes in share holdings became the Sanger Lumber Company of Michigan with flume terminus at Sanger.

If according to the saying that "justice delayed is justice denied" the late George Pettit had a well grounded grievance. He was the man who while enriching others with his invention of the raisin seeding machine suffered "the oppressor's wrong" and all "the law's delay" in being denied his share of the profits of that invention which revolutionized the raisin industry. It was in August, 1900, that he brought suit against the late William Forsyth, who first commercialized the invention, seeking to recover his share in the commercialization of the invention. Years passed with the case slumbering because Pettit was too poor even to prosecute the case. After many years it came to trial before a jury and Pettit won the case. During the month of July, 1914, the supreme court granted on appeal a rehearing on the decision of the appellate court of the month before sustaining the Pettit judgment for \$7,581.76. The jury had given him judgment for \$16,000 but Judge H. Z. Austin reduced the award to the smaller sum with interest from October 25, 1907, date of judgment, on the theory that the stock involved was not of par value when Pettit lost it. His contention was that he was made to lose his stock in the Forsyth Seeded Raisin Company with loss of employment and sale of his guaranteed shares to meet assessments in the process of "freezing him out." The reduced judgment was in the end paid with interest. Pettit invested the major portion of the money in a home and freakishly constructed dwelling which after his death was occupied by the Salem Rescue Home. But after having borne "the whips and scorns of time" and in his declining days reduced to day labor, it was not to be wondered at that Pettit embraced Socialism as a panacea against "the slings and arrows of outrageous fortune." In the Chaddock & Company raisin seeder machine patent infringement case heard and argued before United States Judge Olin Wellborn, was read an affidavit of 200 pages of typewritten matter by George S. Pettit Jr., as he once called himself, giving a history by the man whom the courts have declared was the original inventor, with his associates, of the raisin seeder as a physical creation, theoretically, mechanically and commercially.

It was on Monday, March 23, 1908, that the postoffice opened for business in the federal building at the corner of Tulare and K Streets, one block east from the old location on the ground floor quarters in the Edgerly building at Tulare and J Streets, whither it had been removed under the second administration of N. W. Moody as postmaster in 1890. Fresno's first postoffice in 1872 was a cracker-box or something very little better in the Einstein general merchandise store at Mariposa and H in the days before the railroad. Fresno was hardly more than a cluster of shacks and as described "a typical cow town without the cows." The real growth of the office was under De Long, still in the Einstein store but in an alcove with half a dozen post boxes and a drawer or two for stamps and cash and a stamp or two. De Long moved the postoffice during his term to the Donahoo building at Mariposa and I. Moody moved the office to the building erected by the late E. C. Winchell at the corner of Fresno and J at a cost of \$22,000. It was at this time that the force was increased from one clerk and two carriers to five and ten. Upon Moody's second term succeeding Hughes and wife, the office was moved to the Savings Bank on Tulare Street and then to the Edgerly corner, also on that street. The office force was then increased to ten clerks and twelve carriers. In all the years of the Fresno postoffice, there has been only one case of fraud or theft in the postoffice proper. It was the case of a young man who had opened a few registered letters and purloined the contents. There being extenuating circumstances connected with the case, he suffered only a fine. Save in additions in rear, the federal building has no room for the growth of the postoffice business.

The year 1909 is recalled as one not so much for startling or picturesque incidents but rather as one for "clearing up old scores," dealing with and removing the effects of the depression of 1907 and clearing the way for a year of progress such as would have been impossible a year or two before. Especially noticeable had been the growth of such towns in the county as Selma, Fowler, Sanger, Clovis. Most surprising was the expansion of Coalinga. It had doubled its permanent population in a little over one year. It became a city of 5,000 people with business houses approaching the standard for one of the greatest oil fields in the world. The most important financial problem of the year 1910 was the success or failure of the agitated "million dollar" raisin growers' cooperative company headed by Wylie M. Giffen. The year 1909 was a most successful one from the promotion standpoint. President William Taft was entertained for a day on his visit to Fresno that year.

The "Fairweather Raisin Pool" collapsed January 12, 1909. The packers would have nothing to do with it. The Consolidated Seeded Raisin Company in San Francisco declared that such a pool arrangement would be a violation of the Cartwright law and they could not touch it. R. K. Madsen of Parlier then attempted to secure a power of attorney contract from enough growers to handle the raisin market. After a fortnight of publicity effort the project was abandoned. February was at hand with an unsold holdover crop of 1907 and 1908 in the hands of growers of about 30,000 tons, a dead market and no one wanting raisins at any price. While the campaigns were on came a Mississippian with a commission to organize California into the Farmers' Educational and Cooperative Union of America, establishing headquarters at Kingsburg. Locals were formed and out of them was evolved the commercial branch known as the Farmers' Union Inc. It was too late in the season for profitable operations as the eastern raisin market had subsided. California Raisin Day—April 30, 1909—was "invented" and people talked raisins from Maine to Texas and from Florida Keys to Puget Sound. There was never another such an experience on record. In a few weeks the raisin hold over was taken up and disposed of and new life and hope warmed up the raisin grower. The "eastern trade" played Fresno County producers of other fruits the same trick as it did the raisin men of the valley. But there

was no "Dried Fruit Day" to save the day and situation. And so the way was paved for the Million Dollar plan for uniting the raisin men under a contract for a period of five years. And that successful plan has been followed by the peach, the apricot, the fig and the alfalfa men.

One result of the failure of the "Fairweather raisin pool scheme" of December, 1908, and January, 1909, was an agitation for the repeal of the anti-trust law of George W. Cartwright, state senator from Fresno. Although this law had never been invoked in the county and for that matter to no appreciable extent in the state, the repeal movement met with little popular support and subsided soon.

Sylviculture had its awakening in Fresno and adjoining counties in 1909. Holdings from twenty acres to quarter sections were planted to eucalypti notably about Wheatville and west of Fresno bordering on the White's-bridge road. The plantings were mostly of the blue and the red gum. The growth of these plantings of 1907 and 1908 were satisfactory but that is all that can be said of the fad, except that there was never a cent of return on promotion stock subscriptions in the incorporated ventures that zealous agents boomed.

The county fair of October, 1909, was a financial success for the first time in the history of the Fresno County Agricultural Society.

Fresno County was given shabby treatment at the hands of the legislature during the first three months in 1909. The strong plea for a normal school at Fresno, heartily supported by all the counties of the valley, was disregarded in the two houses. That of Kings County to the south for the annexation of a slice of the larger county was approved and 150 square miles were severed. There was decided difference of opinion north and south of the Kings River as to this severance, but the matter was not submitted to a referendum. Assessed valuation of the territory for the year before was a little over \$2,000,000. It included a considerable portion of the Laguna de Tache grant with the town of Hardwick.

Notable event of the legislative session of 1909 was the introduction of the "alien land bill" of Assemblyman A. M. Drew of Fresno, who by reason of his opposition to the increase of the Japanese population on the Pacific Coast gained a nation wide name. The measure was aimed at preventing the further acquisition of land in California by Japanese. The measure was killed or at least emasculated by administrative pressure wielded from Washington by President Roosevelt and supported by Governor Gillett. The representation was made that the bill's passage would embarrass the national government in the effort to solve the immigration problem by agreement with the Mikado's government. An attempt in San Francisco to exclude Japanese from the white schools, it will be remembered, was also defeated through the same means and agencies.

The top record figure paid by the Danish Creamery Association for butter fat on the October output was seventy-one cents, four more than paid for September, 1918, and nineteen more than for the September, 1917, output. The latter was then the highest ever paid in the San Joaquin Valley and checks aggregating \$79,496.37 were given the association creamery men.

The proposition to bond the county for \$100,000 for a hall of records was defeated at the election November 3, 1908, lacking a two-thirds majority on the vote cast. Total vote was 5,669; for 3,555; against 2,114; failure to pass was by 223 votes.

The various bans placed on the population, including the wearing of gauze masks to cover the mouth and the nostrils, during the six weeks continuance of the "Spanish influenza" epidemic were lifted Sunday, November 23, 1918. In Fresno County, the report was of about 3,000 known and reported cases and of 128 deaths, eighty per cent. of the cases classified as of a mild type. Two weeks before, the deaths in the United States in forty-six large cities having a population of 23,000,000 totalled 78,000, these cities

representing less than one quarter of the population of the country and the epidemic far from running its course. It was thought a low estimate to double the figures and make the death toll over 150,000. On the other hand, the figures then given out of the killed and deaths from wounds in the American army in the war was 36,154, less than the deaths from influenza alone in the army in the camps in America. The influenza had killed of the population certainly at least five times as many Americans than had the Huns. It was actually safer to be in the battle line in Europe than in the comfortable, sanitary and dangerless army cantonments in America under the best care. The New York Scientific American observed: "It is certainly a disconcerting fact that at the very time when the country had organized itself through the Red Cross and other famous organizations to fight disease and prevent suffering, we should be smitten with a visitation which caused more casualties and deaths in the home land than occurred among our troops in the great world war."

November 26, 1918, Fresno County saw the first two bales ginned from home grown cotton of the short staple variety, the California Products Company having ginned the first cotton crop in the valley. It was a significant exhibit in view of the hope of the valley becoming a cotton producing area. The company hoped to deal with the total product of the valley counties and had confidence enough in the future to erect a quarter million dollar plant. Ginning plant has a capacity for sixty bales of short staple cotton and twelve of Egyptian staple, and is large enough to double the capacity in production. Fresno will be the center for the cotton and the by-products, with cotton gin and receiving house located at Bakersfield and another plant at Corcoran. When the business is under way, a cotton spinning mill may be erected. The first cotton to be brought in for ginning was grown by A. J. Malsbary and G. F. Bias on a thirty-acre field, fifteen miles south of Fresno and yielding over a bale to the acre.

The federal postoffice and courthouse building at the corner of K and Tulare Streets was practically completed early in January, 1908, for occupancy on the first of the following month. It is a structure of steel, stone and brick after the conventional governmental style of such structures. The cost of construction was \$122,000 out of an appropriation of \$150,000. Work on building was begun in July, 1907, though contract was let to W. H. Maxwell in April to be completed in December. The building stands on part of a corner lot and measures 90x100, is two stories high and has a basement. The postoffice occupies the entire ground floor with a work room 60x80. It compares favorably with those of the other cities of the state, larger than the one at Stockton and a little smaller than the one in Oakland. The federal courtroom upstairs is 40x60. The building is none too large for the steady growth of the postoffice business.

The Fresno Chamber of Commerce had in December, 1918, begun on after-the-war activities. The question of good roads is one of these, emphasized by the geographical position of the county and the city in relation to the scenic beauties, national parks and undeveloped resources to be found within a radius of 100 miles from the county seat. In a conference with the grand jury on the subject, it was pointed out that the people of the county had subscribed \$13,000,000 in war work and the sentiment was general to favor spending some money at home in a bond issue heavy enough to give the county roads the equal of any in other sections of the state. A map illustrating the geographic relationship of Fresno demonstrated that with accessible roads all national parks have their place within the 100-mile encircling radius. The highest Sierra Nevada peaks are within the range including Mt. Whitney, the highest peak in the United States; the largest and oldest group of sequoias in the world is in reach of the city; within the radius is also one national monument, the Devil's Post Pile; that these sights are not more frequently visited is because of the inadequacy of the

road system; the lack shuts out the Kern and Kings River Canyons admittedly the grandest scenic wonders in the land. Commercialized these natural wonders should be exploited as a part of the resources of the valley. An air plane mail service is another activity. Another project involves an industrial survey of the city to make it a manufacturing center and to ascertain what industries to locate and just where. Until the irrigation question is settled, it is impossible to do more than speak of the land already accessible for irrigation. For the placing of returning soldiers on the land, the proposed irrigation plan involving such enterprises as the Pine Flat irrigation district holds out prospect of opening thousands of acres of valuable land for cultivation.

The final payment of the California Associated Raisin Company on the 1917 crop was made December 5, 1918, amounting to \$1,250,000 at the following rates: Muscats \$7.04 per ton, Thompson's \$17.70, Sultanas \$10.88, Malagas \$13.80 and Feherzagos \$11.50. The "C" grade of raisins turned out better than the three and one-fourth price formerly named. The rains of the season cut the crops twenty per cent. is the estimate. The rainy days were considered the "most disastrous spell of weather ever experienced in the raisin business." The 1918 crop was estimated at about 160,000 tons, the largest in history excepting in 1917. As ten per cent. of the crop had been sold when the rains came, it was impossible to raise the price. Two years before the price was raised one cent per pound, with only twenty per cent. of the crop sold at the time. Moreover in 1918 the government denied the request of the association to raise the price on unsold Thompson's.

The trial before the federal court at Sacramento of the forty-six defendants in December, 1918, for plotting violent opposition to the United States war program was of particular interest to Fresno, especially in reference to "the cat" which is alleged to be the I. W. W. symbol for sabotage. The prisoners were accused of unlawfully circulating pamphlets, newspapers and song books included among the treasonable documents. In the progress of the trials the following were matters of investigation:

- History and structure of the I. W. W.

- Strikes and sabotage as methods and tactics.

- Attitude toward war, registration and the draft.

General strikes to release men from jail and for other unlawful purposes. Testimony was given with regard to a series of costly fires in this county during the summer of 1918 and the destruction in this city of the Fresno Planing Mill, the Hollenbeck-Bush Planing Mill, the Madary Planing Mill, the plant of the California By-Products Company, the Fresno Hay Market and the large merchandise store of the Kutner-Goldstein Company, and in the country of hay stacks and barns. The city fires were all from the exterior of the structures. The *modus operandi* was to employ a handful of matches and in the center of the bunch insert a Turkish tobacco cigarette that burned until entirely consumed. The match bundle was placed in combustible matter raked up against the doomed building. The cigarette was lit by the incendiary and its combustion until it reached the heads of the matches, when a flare-up resulted, was so slow that the fellow had ample time to make tracks from the vicinity and present himself at some place in time to furnish the basis for an alibi. The secret service had spies in the ranks of the I. W. W.'s who kept it informed of the Hun plots and boasted deeds of sabotage.

The three months' notes given by the California Peach Growers' Association as part payment for crops were to fall due in February, 1919. They aggregated about one million, bore seven per cent. interest but were not renewed at the end of three months. During the first year of operations the association gave renewable notes and it was glad to have the growers leave the money in the hands of the treasurer to finance the association. It is now on its feet and does not need the additional funds. This is a marked departure

from the way the peach business went begging a few years ago. The payment was in part of the eight cents on peaches sold in the fall of 1918, growers netting about eleven cents.

It was twenty years ago on December 18, 1898, that the late Judge Carroll Cook of San Francisco sentenced Myron Azhderian and Mrs. Elsie Williams to imprisonment at San Quentin for five years for conspiracy in extorting \$2,000 from the late Capt. William A. Nevills, then a wealthy Fresno vineyardist and mine owner of Jamestown. The sentence was the maximum under the law despite the recommendation of the woman by the jury to the mercy of the court. The trial of the case was a sensational and salacious one. Azhderian was a vineyard foreman of Nevills: she a kept housekeeper and an attractive woman. Azhderian died of consumption contracted during the long jail confinement awaiting the end of the protracted prosecution.

The county seal of Fresno is a nondescript affair. The design is a circle within a circle and in the space between the inscription: "Board of Supervisors. Fresno County, California." In the center of the smaller ring is an escutcheon with a four footed animal courant that may be taken for a horse, mule or bull; above the escutcheon is an uplifted arm holding evenly balanced scales and below a swallow tailed ribbon encircling the escutcheon with the quadruped and flaunting the hog Latin sentiment, "Rem Publicam Defendimus." When that seal was palmed off on the board anything in the line of hog Latin could have passed muster on the supervisors with no one the wiser.

As a 1918 Christmas present stockholders of the California Raisin Association received an eight per cent. dividend aggregating \$80,000 on the original million of stock and distributed among some 3,000 stockholders. This dividend is an annual feature, most of the money going to growers and all else to business men who subscribed at organization of the association.

Two dates of historical interest worth remembering are that the overland telegraph from west of the Missouri to San Francisco opened for operation October 22, 1861, and the Central Pacific Railroad in California began operating trains in May, 1869.

The big fire that destroyed the county hospital was on the night of October 17, 1900. Until the hospital was rebuilt the patients were housed in the rented brick Tombs Hotel block at Merced and J Streets in town.

The county school system was organized with three districts in February, 1860, the districts being Scottsburg, Kingston and Millerton. Hazelton was next organized in February, 1865, Lake in August, 1865, and Dry Creek in June, 1866.

It was in March, 1870, that C. P. Converse exploited his project to make use of the Kings River for the floating of lumber logs from the forests in the Sierras and made practical demonstration of the fact. Capital did not bite at the bait to do away with teaming from the mountains via Tollhouse.

In November, 1876, the county bought from Charles Crocker block 153 bounded by Tulare, Mariposa, R and S for a hospital site. The price was \$300. The site was considered far out of town. It is today within a stone's throw from the Santa Fe passenger depot and not purchasable for many times \$300. The hospital building that was erected was limited in capacity to twenty-five patients and not to cost more than \$3,500. Built in March, 1877, it cost in fact \$3,527 and was accepted in June.

In July, 1874, the county assessor placed a valuation of sixty-three dollars on Fresno city lots.

The first county horticultural commissioners were: Thomas Gourley, Andrew Jackson and W. M. Williams, appointed February, 1882.

W. F. Plate promoted a scheme for the incorporation as a town of the populous Washington Irrigated Colony and an election was held December 1, 1883. The scheme was defeated—245 against, 77 for. E. J. King, W. J. Dickey and W. S. Wyatt were the precinct election officers.



The first license operative in Fresno city before it was incorporated was enacted by the county supervisors in May, 1883. Incorporation was defeated at an election May 3, 1883—215 to 161. In May one year later, a sanitary and police district was formed to regulate the town but an election held voted down the proposed sanitary tax—eighty-five to forty-three.

For the general election November 4, 1884, sheriff and constables were given special instructions to enforce the state law against electioneering within the 100-foot limit at any polling place.

The county horticultural commission of 1882 was abolished because it had resulted in no substantial good or benefit.

The first lithographic map of the county was published in March, 1887, by J. C. Shepard at a reported cost of \$1,249.

In March, 1887, the county purchased for \$4,000 the Yosemite Turnpike Toll road from Fresno Flats to the Mariposa County line.

Fresno's first civic organization was in March, 1887, in the inclusion of the town site in a pound district with W. R. Neil, J. R. Allison and T. L. Reed as the trustees. That same month the county was given its second department of the Superior court.

J. L. Smith was awarded the contract in February, 1888, to build an enlarged hospital building for seventy-five patients for \$25,240.

The county jail building in the courthouse park was built under a contract with A. J. Meany awarded in September, 1877, for \$24,195.

The first public use of electricity was made in September, 1887, when four sixty-foot electric light masts were erected in courthouse park. Today the park is lighted by a system of electroliers in style the same as those about the city.

The important announcement was made in April, 1919, of the sale by the California Wine Association of 3,700 acres of vineyard land for \$1,300,000 to a Fresno syndicate for subdivision into twenty to 160-acre tracts for early colonization. The land is more particularly known as the Great Western Vineyard, the second largest in California and one of the largest in the world. The Great Western embraces 1,250 acres of wine grapes located north of Reedley. W. B. Nichols and J. H. Lindley of Dinuba were reported to be two members of the purchasing syndicate. A total of 2,551 acres is planted to wine grapes, Muscats and Thompson's, and while much of this is in bearing there are some 1,100 acres of virgin land. The deal had been under consideration for a month before. Surveys had been made and the work of cutting up the largest wine grape vineyard in this section of the state was to have begun April 25. Those who claim to be in close touch with the situation aver that the great sale portended that the California Wine Association was "getting out from under" on account of the prohibition situation, as in fact announced in one of its annual statements to stockholders and to the trade. The purchasing syndicate plans to make the vineyard property the center of a colonization community and has set aside 160 acres for a townsite. The belief is entertained that the wine grapes will not be a financial loss with prohibition because they will be picked green for shipment as table grapes, or will be dried into a class of raisins. The selling agency through which the deal was negotiated had completed about this time the subdivisions of the Alamo and Riverside vineyards, a tract of 470 acres near Reedley, and previously the Smith Mountain Vineyard of Dinuba. These sales were considered as indicative of the times by reason of the prohibition enactments.

Expansion of the California Associated Raisin Company with an increase of capital stock by \$1,360,000 in three years, making a total paid up capitalization of \$2,500,000, is foreshadowed with the recording of second amended articles of incorporation April 15, 1919, reducing par value of shares of stock from \$100 to \$1 each but increasing the number of shares from 25,000 to 2,500,000. Under the new contracts the signing grower obligates himself to

accept a small percentage of payment for raisins in capital stock. The reduction in par value is made to enable payment in stock of sums as small as four dollars and five dollars. According to this arrangement, the estimates are that the sales of stock will be so general that the paid up capital now \$1,040,000 will be \$2,500,000 in three years, the estimate to be raised in 1919 \$750,000. As a part of this campaign of expansion, three-quarters of a million will be expended during the present year in enlargements and improvements of the association's plant, popularly known as "Sun Maid City," to handle the production this year and the succeeding years as the business thrives and enlarges under the successful regime of the association. These improvements are not to be restricted to the parent plant in Fresno City, but include the packing plants at Fowler, Selma, Kingsburg, Hanford, Armona, Dinuba, Reedley, Del Rey, Lone Star, Sanger and Clovis. The association has become one of the established financial institutions of the county managing a great business, and upon the profitable and successful handling of it the prosperity of the county in a large measure depends. Reference need be only made to the circumstance that on the first payment for raisins at the rate of seventy dollars a ton on Sultanas and Thompson's Seedless, the outgo into circulation was \$3,500,000, the second was \$2,500,000, checks were mailed to over 5,000 members and there will be a third and final payment in the fall. The industry is growing amazingly. The proof is that the second payment in 1918 was greater by \$500,000 than that in 1917. The total budget for 1919 for the sales and advertising department is \$440,000 and of this sum \$260,000 will go into publicity, the budget exceeding the 1918 allowance by \$65,000. The directorate of the association is the following: Wylie M. Giffen, president; F. A. Seymour, assistant; Hector Burness and F. H. Wilson, vice presidents; C. A. Murdock, secretary; George C. Taber, cashier, and Milo F. Rowell, treasurer.

According to Bulletin 271 of the U. S. Department of Agriculture there are three sections in the United States classified as regions where the date palm will grow and ripen fruit. Fresno is one of the three. To determine where the temperature is high enough to ripen the edible date the sum of the daily temperatures from May 1 to October 31 was taken. Accordingly Fresno has a higher temperature (with a total of 1,054 degrees centigrade) than Orleansville in Algeria, where early dates mature and ripen and which for the fruiting period noted has a total temperature of only 788 degrees centigrade. The other regions are the semi-tropic plains of Arizona and the Salton Basin or Coachella Valley of California, where dates are grown commercially. At Tempe, Ariz., date palms grow on alkali land where not even weeds nor grass will grow as a cover top between trees. Such conditions in Fresno would make it necessary to provide for the overhead for four or five years, because a date orchard of any type will produce little income under that period. Only early varieties could be counted upon to mature fruit in the Fresno region. The date palm is known to be more resistant to alkali than ordinary field crops but it is by no means able to grow in the worst alkali lands. While it may grow with a considerable alkali percentage on the surface, unless the roots can penetrate strata with no more than six per cent. alkali the date will not successfully fruit.

In the month of April, 1919, work commenced on the power plant of the San Joaquin Light and Power Company on the San Joaquin River about one-half mile above Big Sandy, near Auberry, in the western foothills. The estimated \$2,500,000 cost of plant is exclusive of the distributing lines and will cover the preliminary work and the erection of power house. When completed, the plant will develop from 27,000 to 28,000 horse power. The preliminary work is in the building of roads to reach the site for the transportation of material. Start was made on the tunnel that will tap the river six miles from the plant; it will be nearly two miles long and cut off the bend in the stream; dam is also being made at the tunnel entrance. As a

reason for choosing the tunnel as a means for feeding the power house, it was stated that from the point where the stream is tapped the fall is from fifty to seventy-five feet per mile and by tunnelling across the land the grade is reduced and at the point where stream is again met by the tunnel exit there will be a vertical fall of 400 feet. The construction of the plant is made necessary to meet a demand which is greater than the capacity to supply. It will take one year to erect the plant.

Tuesday, April 1, 1919, became effective General Order No. 28 of the U. S. Railroad Administration authorizing a flat increase to three cents a mile in all state and coast passenger rates, the object of the tariff being to establish the mile rate as a general one as basis of cost. Exclusive of the eight per cent. tax, some of the more important increases in rates from Fresno were the following:

Destination	Old Rate	New Rate
Berkeley .....	\$5.70	\$6.15
Bakersfield .....	3.10	3.25
Coalinga .....	2.40	2.55
Goshen Junction .....	.90	1.05
Lathrop .....	3.40	4.15
Los Angeles .....	8.25	8.40
Oakland Pier .....	5.70	6.10
Sacramento .....	5.05	5.15
San Francisco .....	5.70	6.20
San Jose (S. P.) .....	7.20	7.65
Stockton .....	3.60	3.70
Tracy .....	3.75	3.70

The Pullman war tax was reduced also from ten to eight cents with no tax on passenger fare charge of forty-two cents or less.

In March, 1919, the regents of the state university announced for sale 480 acres of the Kearney estate on terms of 25 per cent. down, the remainder in one year and all proceeds to be expended on the estate. The section offered for sale was that bounded by Pierce, Cleveland, California and Madison avenues, running from \$250 to \$400 an acre and with the Kearney Boulevard (officially platted as Chateau Fresno Avenue) running through the offered tract. The 400 acres sold April 2 brought \$125,000. The largest purchaser was Lester L. Eastin, 140 acres for \$48,000.

Contract of sale recorded April 3, 1919, confirmed sale of 520 acres of vineyard land three miles east of Reedley by James Madison, formerly vice president and manager of the California Associated Raisin Company, to a syndicate of Fred Nelson, E. V. Kelley, W. J. Simpson, A. L. Nelson and W. W. Parlier for \$250,000 payable \$50,000 cash and the balance in \$25,000 annual payments. Six years before, it was claimed, the property could not have been sold for half that sum, evidence, it was asserted, of the enhanced value of property in the development of the valley and of the county with the stability of vineyard land prices by reason of the success of the raisin association. Forty acres of the land is in Producers' Colony and the remainder near or adjacent to Reedley. Sixty acres are set out to figs, twenty to eucalyptus and the remainder to vines. The property will be subdivided into forty and eighty-acre tracts for sale. The disposal of the entire vineyard at a price of nearly \$500 an acre was one of the largest deals in the county up to that time for the year. Owners of other large holdings were planning also to subdivide them into twenty to eighty acres for popular colonization. The Madison vineyard was known as a "two ton" vineyard and as one of the heaviest producers. The 520-acre holding was divided for the sale on sealed bids into seven parcels of 160 to forty acres, ranging in prices from \$100,000 to \$16,000 according to productivity of soil, the total

asked \$375,000. The sale was on one day, bids opened on the ranch and awards made then.

Another large sale in the month of April, 1919, was that of the improved Alta Sierra ranch, near Clovis, for \$126,000 to A. E. and F. H. Holmes of San Jose and E. Roediger of Oakland. The 160 are forty in eight to twelve-year-old figs (Smyrna) and the remainder in Thompson's seedless, Emperor and Malaga grapes. F. H. Holmes has been a packer and fruit grower in the Santa Clara Valley for upwards of thirty years. The brothers have also an orange grove near Porterville.

The S. E. Black 120-acre vineyard on Ventura Avenue, nine miles east of Fresno, with fine residence and all save seven acres planted to producing vines and peach trees, was sold in April, 1919, under contract to Alexander Lion of Fresno for \$90,000. The Black vineyard was one of "the show places." Its purchaser will use the place as a country residence, not expecting to move on the place until 1920. The vines are from seven to twelve years of age, seventy-two acres planted to Muscats, twenty to Malagas and twenty to peaches. The sale enabled the seller to move to Long Beach for his health.

The 100-acre Gordon vineyard, one-quarter of a mile east of the city limits, was sold about the middle of the month of April, 1919, to Arthur Perkins of the Barrett-Hicks Company to be developed into an exclusive and restricted residential tract to be known as Gordondale. The sale was for \$60,000 by Alexander Gordon, who was a Fresno County settler of 1874, coming to California in December, 1869, soon after the completion of the overland railroad, settling in San Joaquin County where he entered the partnership with W. C. Miller in the sheep business with about 2,000 head, moving to Fresno in the same business and flocks averaging 10,000 to 12,000 and continuing the partnership for seventeen years. Mr. Gordon was a factor in the early building up of Fresno City and made the sale to retire from active life after recent expiration of his term as railroad commissioner for this district to spend the remainder of his days quietly on part of his former ranch. For his use he retained twelve acres for a permanent home. The Gordon vineyard had been cultivated for thirty-one years and as one of the large holdings east of the city was noted for the richness and productivity of the soil. Eighty acres of the place were in alfalfa and the other twenty in Muscats. The strip was said to be the largest residential addition to the city, with which it must necessarily be connected at some time, accessible as it is by the Ventura Avenue street car line and close to the county fair grounds at Butler and Cedar Avenues. The purchaser has been active in other residential property development, notably a subdivision near the normal school.

The 1919 fig crop of the Kearney Estate was sold April 20, 1919, to the Roeding Fig and Olive Company on a bid of fifteen cents a pound, estimate being that the crop would range from eighty to 100 tons. At this price the 100 tons would bring \$30,000. The year before the 100-ton crop with ten of culls brought the record price of \$33,000. There are 2,400 fig trees at Kearney Park and all save five acres are border trees, making the return therefore in larger part "velvet."

The Holstein-Friesian heifer, "Dora Walker," the property of Mrs. Annie Donders of Fresno, set a new state record for combined milk and butter production in the senior two-year-old class. That record is stated to be the second highest in the world. It was for seven days in April, 1919, a product of 664.4 pounds of milk and 24.144 of butter. On her best day during the test conducted under the supervision of the University of California this heifer produced 99.7 pounds of milk and 4.24 of butter. The test was conducted on the W. J. Higdon Tulare-Holstein farm. Mrs. Donders owns a small herd of registered Holstein cattle. She won in 1917 at the Fresno County fair the blue ribbon with her junior yearling bull. "Dora

Walker's" record is all the more remarkable as she gave birth to two calves within ten months and made the last test after a rest of only six weeks.

A transaction in West Side lands worthy of note was the option sale recorded April 30, 1919, to Henry E. Monroe by Emma P. Harper for 7,360 acres in the Big Panoche and Silver Creek drainage area for a stated consideration of \$130,000. This land is located in Sections 36-14-12, 28-33-14-13, 1 and 2 and 12-15-12, 5 to 9-15-13 and 11-15-12. A few days after the recording of the option, suit was brought by the assignee of the buyer against the seller for specific performance of the contract and \$100,000 damages. It was claimed that after payments made in accordance with the terms of the contract she failed to make transfer, having deeded to another February 11, 1919, for no consideration to evade the contract. The land is six miles south and twelve west of Mendota, a noteworthy locality because of the efforts to tap well-water sources for pumping to make otherwise arid lands productive.

On May day, 1919, was recorded a sale contract by the Frankenau Investment Company to Leslie Einstein, of about 200 acres, adjacent to the Fink Colony, of highly developed agricultural land northwest of Reedley, for \$150,000, payable \$20,000 cash, and balance \$20,000 annually, except the last, when the final of \$30,000 will be made. Another contract was that of the sale by the Alta Muscat Farms, a Japanese corporation, to Smith Thomas, of sixty acres in Section 19-15-24, three miles east of Reedley, for \$42,500.

Statistics of 1918 of the State Motor Vehicle Department credited Fresno with the ownership and actual operation of 16,619 machines, an average of about one for every five inhabitants. This is in marked contrast with the record of ten years before when the county was credited with 800—a striking illustration also of the increase of the automobile industry and the prosperity of this section of the state.

The report in May, 1919, was that S. A. Guiberson, Jr., formerly of Coalinga, had purchased the Coalinga Petroleum Company interests of the Bakers for over \$100,000. The purchase embraced eighty acres in the east half of the northeast quarter of section 14-20-14, with eight producing wells pumped by jack with electric power, producing close to 4,000 barrels a month, and being in shallow territory easily drilled up. Originally the property was the well known Samuel Adams homestead on which R. C. Baker secured a lease. He organized the Coalinga Petroleum and with his brothers, J. E. and A. A., took three-fourths of the stock, and Stanley Morehead, the other quarter. Guiberson had located at Dallas, Texas, where he has shops and manufactures patented oil-well machinery.

On May 6, 1919, there was voted in the county a roads' bond issue of \$4,800,000 for a system of 315½ routed concrete or other road miles, to be completed with the close of the year 1921, and first survey to have been commenced May 12, 1919. The vote on the bonds was: For, 12,187; against, 1,972; total, 14,159; necessary two-thirds, 9,432; to the good, 4,727. This was said to have been the largest road bonds ever voted by a county in the state, Los Angeles coming next with one of \$3,500,000. The Fresno roads will be forty feet in width and the paved portion sixteen feet. The routed mileage under the bond issue was stated to be only the beginning of a main trunk line to be added to and expanded with connecting and cross-roads. The routed mileage includes the Coalinga state lateral to Monterey.

First county appropriation to advertise the resources of the county and induce immigration hitherward was of \$1,000 in December, 1887, to the Board of Trade.

Much was made of the fact that in January, 1888, County Treasurer Nelson had \$120,000 surplus and disengaged funds of the county on deposit at the time in four local banks.

The United States Weather Bureau was established in Fresno in March, 1888.

The second horticultural commission was appointed in March, 1889. The personnel was of A. H. Cummings, T. W. Borchers, F. D. Rosendahl, Gus Eisen, J. W. Ferguson and Richard Wheeler. In February, 1888, S. H. Cole was appointed the first quarantine officer. In May, 1891, George C. Roeding, J. R. Baird and J. W. Wilkins were appointed commissioners and in December one year later Roeding was succeeded by Edward V. Upton and Wilkins of Madera was re-appointed.

Under an act of March, 1887, cession of territory was made to San Benito County embracing the quicksilver mines in the northwestern corner of Fresno.

In March, 1891, the county bridges were the Jenny Lind above Pollasky, at Firebaugh, Lane's, and at Sycamore below Herndon on the San Joaquin and at Smith's Ferry, at Kingston, and at Centerville on the Kings.

The Valley railroad that was to open a new era in railroad competition threaded its way through the county in May, 1891, in the construction of line from Bakersfield to San Francisco. It was a competing factor until absorbed by the Santa Fe and Fresno became a station on the second transcontinental line.

The courthouse additions on the present lines were decided upon in July, 1891, according to plans of Curlett & Eisen of San Francisco and in December the contract was awarded to Smilie Bros. of Oakland for \$99,387. The work was completed in November, 1893, and \$11,297 in new furniture was bought.

The county law library was established in September, 1891, with Judges Holmes and Harris, T. C. White of the supervisors and J. P. Meux and Newman Jones of the bar association as the first board of trustees.

In July, 1891, 7,662 school children were reported in the county.

To a ship canal convention were named as delegates in January, 1892: T. E. Hughes, F. G. Berry, S. N. Griffith, Return Roberts of Madera and E. B. Perrin but nothing substantial came out of the project.

For county participation at the Chicago Columbian exposition an appropriation of \$7,500 was made in April, 1892. The personnel of the commission after many individual changes was: W. M. Hughes, J. M. Collier, D. T. Fowler, L. J. Miller, J. H. Harding, W. M. Williams, George Wilson, Mrs. M. B. Stuart, and the Misses L. H. Hatch and Nellie Boyd, the actress.

Dr. Lewis Leach, who almost since the organization of the county had been in charge of health matters as county physician, resigned the office in January, 1893, and was succeeded by Dr. W. T. Maupin.

First town in the county outside of Fresno to incorporate was Selma in March, 1893. The vote was 124 to fifty-four.

First reclamation district organized in the county was in March, 1893.

W. S. Badger, S. B. Marshal and D. T. Fowler were named in August, 1893, commissioners to arrange for county participation in the Midwinter Fair in San Francisco.

Fritz Paatsch has the distinction of being the first Boniface convicted under an ordinance for a violation in keeping his saloon open on Sunday April 1, 1894.

The 100,000 Club of Fresno city saw the light of day about April, 1895. It was a boosters' organization. Its name was wish and father to the thought of the day when the town would have a population of 100,000.

F. A. Rowell was under appointment in April, 1895, the first county game and fish warden, succeeded by W. H. A. Shaver in September, 1896, and by Andrew D. Ferguson in January, 1897, he continuing in the office for many years thereafter, and then as district field deputy under the state commission. The game and fish stocking of the county is due largely to the work of this official, who has made the subject a life study and a labor of love.



The presentation to the county of the Salvation Army fountain at the entrance of the courthouse park was made by D. E. Nichols in May, 1895. It was a boon as thousands have slaked their thirst here during the hot and sweltering summer months. The city long afterwards erected four spout drinking fountains about the city. All are iced in the summer.

The fifty-year franchise to the San Joaquin Electric Company was granted in September, 1895.

The spectacular fire that created such havoc in the central and original portion of the courthouse building and in the topping bronze cupola broke out on the night of July 29, 1895. Defective electric wire insulation was the cause of the fire in the dome. The flames were at such a height that the fire department could not do anything in subduing them. It rendered efficient service in salvage and the volunteer department was made a gift of \$500 by the county in appreciation of its services. An appraisement report was that it would cost \$36,256 to repair the damage and in January, 1896, contract for the repairs was awarded the Pacific Bridge and Construction Company for \$46,700 and in the reconstruction the corridors were wainscoted with Ellis pink Tennessee marble slabs. The completed work was accepted in November.

The revived rock pile with prisoners in the chain gang like so many wild beasts breaking granite was abolished in May, 1896, but reestablished for a time one year later.

The residence of the late George A. Nourse with its surrounding ten acres on Ventura Avenue was purchased by the county in February, 1897, for an orphanage in charge for many years of a board of trustees of women. It continued until the year 1918, when all charities were placed in the hands of a Public Welfare Department, the orphanage abolished and the orphans boarded out in private homes. The mansion was thereafter to be used as the almshouse.

The first application to lay an oil transportation pipe line was by J. A. Chanslor in November, 1898, from Oil City and Coalinga.

Coalinga's incorporation election was on March 26, 1906—ninety-nine for and twenty-eight against.

To secure the sittings in Fresno of the federal circuit court, tender was made by the county of courtroom facilities in the courthouse in February, 1900, and the offer was taken avail of until the completion of the postoffice building.

Following the 1900 fire, there was rebuilding of the county hospital on substantial lines and on estimates in January, 1903, of \$19,700 for the main structure and \$23,700 for the wings—total \$43,400. Various departures were made from the original plans as emergencies and the cost was \$48,450 with departures and emergencies calling for \$28,441. In 1917-18 various additions and enlargements were made to meet the crowded conditions at the hospital and the frequent turning away of patients because the institution was full.

The first arched concrete bridge in the county, the one at Pollasky or Friant, was erected in July, 1905, to replace the pioneer Jenny Lind wooden bridge below Millerton. The cost was \$49,583. The second at Skaggs Crossing below Herndon was erected in July, 1907, at cost of \$44,297. The old Kings River bridge at Reedley was also rebuilt in May, 1906, at a cost of \$12,500, being the county's two-thirds share of the reconstruction cost. Every ancient bridge has been reconstructed, even Lane's in 1917 after a band of cattle had tumbled through the flooring into the San Joaquin in the weakened condition of the structure and overtaking its carrying possibilities. The bridge on the Kings at Hardwick erected November, 1907, cost \$14,983 and the other at Kingston in April, 1908, \$8,900.

In the year 1889 there was set out four miles south from Reedley and just over the line of Tulare County a little plant, ten inches high and of knitting needle size. For rapid growth it is given the world's record and

is said to be the largest known tree of its kind and age in existence. It is an eucalyptus viminalis, a branch of the gum tree, semi tropical and native of Australia but different from the so-called gum tree of the southern states. This tree is a curiosity. It has been photographed hundreds of times and has been illustrated more than twenty-five times in newspapers, magazines and booklets. Thousands of visitors, many from distant parts of the world have gazed upon it enraptured and amazed over its grandeur and beauty. A register has been placed in a case for visitors to inscribe their names. The tract of land on which the tree stands has been sold but a clause in the deed reserves the tree from destruction. This tree at the age of twenty-seven years measured September 12, 1916, seventeen feet and eight inches in circumference three feet above the ground and twenty-three feet three inches at the ground. Measurements were begun in August, 1896, and data covering them are on file in the office of the U. S. Forestry Service at Washington, D. C. The tree in question is popularly known as the Manna gum. Having planted the tree with his own hands at a time when the district began transition from the desert and having observed its unparalleled growth, it is natural that a seeming personality on its part should at times cause J. C. McCubbin of Reedley to experience a feeling not unlike that engendered by ties of parental consanguinity. The Australian gum was a favorite planting in the early colonization of Fresno, because of its rapid growth and shade where there was no vegetation or wood growth save on the creek and river banks, and also for their economic value in firewood with frequent topping and trimming. A greater combination of more favorable conditions in soil, water, sunshine and absence of strong winds for the growth of the eucalyptus is found in the San Joaquin Valley than elsewhere in the world, saving perhaps in Australia where the tree is indigenous. In 1909 when the Reedley tree had a circumference of eighteen feet six inches above the ground four inches, it was 120 feet tall with a spread of bough of eighty-eight feet six inches. On account of its spreading habit, it has form unlike the ordinary gum tree, and for that reason was discernible by the traveller miles away on the approach.

The freighter and the stage coach driver were picturesque personages in the mining days of the county and for years thereafter. The story of them has yet to be written. The principal early stages ran from Sacramento and Stockton, which were then as now water terminal points from which all interior travel started from San Francisco. Stages conveyed passengers, baggage, mail, express matter and bullion in quantities ranging from \$10,000 to \$20,000 per coach. As may be supposed stage hold-ups were many. There was a record of over 400 of them. The Mariposa journey was the longest, 120 miles, and it took two days to cover them. In 1850 the fare was thirty dollars, and ten years later twelve dollars, the average fare being ten cents a mile. Staging was a nerve racking, long and tedious experience with every inconvenience of summer heat and dust or winter rain and mud, besides the ever present danger of an enforced contribution on the journey by some intercepting "road agent." The stage business fell into the control of monopolies; on the northern routes to the California Stage Company and on the southern to Dooley & Company and Fisher & Company. In the 50's the mining camps consumed the major portion of food products and of material and the freighting business was the employment of thousands of commission men, teamsters and animals. From Sacramento to the Northern and from Stockton to the Southern mines transportation was by pack mules. Fifty to 100 animals composed a pack-train. Later wagons were used because costing less, saving time and better securing freight. Mountain trails were widened and graded and the "prairie schooner" became the vogue. Six hundred tons were transported weekly to the Southern mines and over 1,800 teamsters and 3,000 mules and horses were in the work.

During the cold and frosty spell in December, 1918, Fresno broke on the last day of the year a record with a minimum of eighteen degrees at seven A. M., the lowest since January 6, 1913.

Call was made for a long distance reference on the county free library for books on fruit canning and the like, the inquiry coming from Wellington, Cape Town, South Africa, under a December, 1918, date. The inquirer was Mrs. Isabel Bensburg, nee Hoover, formerly of Fresno and the wife of Ferdinand Bensburg, superintendent of one of the seven big farms in the Cape territory and the books for the company. The inquirer was a former assistant in the local library and removed to Africa in September, 1915.

Forty years ago the Gould was one of the notable farms and the boast of the county as "an illustration of what can be done by a little effort on Fresno County's plains where a supply of water can be obtained for irrigation." The farm was of about 600 acres, four miles north of Fresno and was laid out by J. L. Gould of Santa Clara in 1873. Of the farm 300 acres were in orchard, vineyard and nursery, the remainder used as pasture, grain and hay lands, with water obtained from the Kings River and Fresno Canal Company's ditch. The Gould was considered "some ranch" with 7,000 almond trees, 2,400 of assorted peaches, 2,400 pear, 1,000 plum, 1,200 oranges, 600 lemon, 700 apricot, 500 cherry, 400 prune, 200 pecan and 100 English walnut, with a young forest of eucalyptus, pepper and other ornamental trees.

According to a decision of June 6, 1919, by the state railroad commission, water service rates by the Fresno Canal and Land Company were fixed at 62½ cents per acre annually. All other rates were ordered abated as discriminatory, excepting that certain customers who had enjoyed free service in return for granted water rights may continue to receive that special consideration. The further order was that the practice of collecting an initial charge of \$500 to \$1,600 on every 160 acres, for so-called water rights, is absolutely illegal and the decision was to hold the company a public utility. The decision was of public interest, in settlement of a case initiated by the company more than three years before. Some 300 users had their rates increased. Some 30 would continue to enjoy the free water privilege. The 300 paying as low as 16 cents an acre faced the standard 62½ cents charge to prevent discrimination. This was a ruling favoring the canal company as was that which declared it a public utility, and that its rates are subject to adjustment by the commission. Fifty "free-water-right" users operated their own community owned irrigating ditches and systems years ago, but deeded them to the corporation in consideration of perpetual free-water rights. The public utility ruling was of special moment. There had been discussion and debate what the rates would be after the expiration in 1921 of the present contracts. It is now settled that the commission will have the fixing of them. The canal company declared that there were only about 1,100 acres involved in the free-water contingent; 300 would pay the standard rate and some had been paying as low as \$25 for a quarter of a section, while the regular rate is \$100. Others paid \$37.50. The installation charge was of no great moment, as under the new management, as successor to all previous interests, the company was not collecting that charge.

The Japanese community furnished evidence of the prosperity that it enjoys in the county when, June 5, 1919, the Industrial Bank of Fresno, a Nipponese financial concern doing exclusively a business with that race, filed notice, in accordance with the decision of the stockholders on May 17th, of the increase of its capital stock from \$28,300 to \$100,000, and the number of shares from 283 to 1,000. Paid capital is \$60,000. The bank is in the Chinese quarter in its own building at F and Tulare.

A largely attended meeting of the Armenian population held at the city auditorium, June 1, 1919, resulted in pledges of \$30,000 for immediate aid for the Armenian refugees in the old country who were being decimated by the after-the-war starvation process. The contribution was to have been doubled

by committee canvass and the total within a fortnight cabled to the Armenian delegation at Paris, to be transferred to the relief committees operating in conjunction with American relief committees. The executive committee that had for weeks prepared for the meeting was Rev. Theodore Isaacs, H. Mirzolian, Richard Yezdan, H. Vartanian, George Elanassian and Arpaz Setrakian.

On the night of May 24, 1919, closed the centenary anniversary of the Methodist churches and the observance of it in a nation-wide effort to raise \$105,000,000 to place the churches and their institutions on a financial basis for the coming five years. For a century previous, the financing of the Methodist Church has been by appeal to sentiment and generosity, as missionaries returned from foreign shores and told of the needs for carrying on the work among the benighted. The reports were that the drive proved successful. In the San Francisco area, with quota of \$3,300,000, there had been raised \$4,452,510; in the Fresno district, quota \$268,210, there was raised \$240,000, not all churches reporting; in the Fresno church group, \$62,000 was raised on a \$53,000 quota; Bakersfield group, \$43,567 on \$37,895; Lindsay group, \$54,969 on \$50,840; Hanford group, \$24,975.

According to a statement put out in May, 1919, by the Fresno Irrigation District, sub-irrigation of the soil will soon be a thing of the past because of the drainage and the pumping of water, with resultant lowering of level in the county. Organization of the irrigationists under the Wright law was declared to be the solution of the problem for owners of arid land or sub-irrigated land that will become arid. The fact was noted that not so many years ago it was difficult to dig a cellar under many houses in Fresno city without encountering water, whereas the Bank of Italy put down its foundations over twelve feet without touching water. Alexander Gordon, living just outside of town, told how, a few years ago, he could dig in his vineyard three to four feet at most and strike water, but that in boring wells for lands just sold the first water was reached at ten feet. If this lowering of the water level continues, sub-irrigation is doomed. Experts declared that something more than a light rainfall must account for the low water table. Pumping and drainage were declared to be the causes. With seventeen pumps at work supplying the city alone and hundreds of pumps going in the county over, the answer to the question must be evident, and the waste water from the Kings River must be conserved.

One historical tree of the county is the giant fig at the I. N. Parlier home, a landmark of the county and one of the largest trees in the United States. It was thirty-two years ago that the pioneer farmer and town-builder of Parlier (named for him) planted the cutting for shade, and he made the journey to Centerville, then a village in its prime, to secure the cutting, of nameless variety, but since called Calimyrna. He planted it near his house and little did he dream of the size it would attain. Three times was the house removed that it might not embarrass the growth of that tree! The third removal was to such a distance that it was thought that a future removal would never be necessary, while yet furnishing shade from its luxuriant and spreading foliage. Today the tree is reaching out as if a fourth removal might have to be made. The huge tree has spread so that supports are required that the limbs may not break with their weight of fruit and foliage. Electric lights are placed in the branches and the area under the tree has been made a playground. Five years ago Mr. and Mrs. I. N. Parlier celebrated their golden wedding anniversary and 300 persons gathered under that tree at a feast, and there was room for more. This tree is the largest in this part of the valley and probably one of the largest fig trees anywhere, if not the largest. At its greatest stretch it has a spread of eighty-eight feet. The trunk is small for the great top, measuring nine feet in circumference two feet from the ground. At a height of four feet, nine large branches shoot out to support the canopy. No record has been kept of its fruitfulness, but it has

borne heavily yearly. The planter of the cutting is dead, but the tree lives on.

Miss Felita M. Smith, a teacher of the Fresno Normal School, was appointed a member of the county board of education in June, 1919, to fill an unexpired term. It was stated that she was the first woman appointee in the history of the county, but the fact is that, during the 1897-1900 supervisorship term of the late J. H. Sayre, Mrs. Carrie J. Goodwin, nee Weaver, and Miss Mollie McLaren were members of that board. Miss Smith is the sister of Mrs. Chase Sayre, wife of the son of the late supervisor. Supervisor Robert Lohead, who voted to appoint her a board member, also voted on her first appointment as a school teacher in the city department twelve years before.

During the week of June 8-14, 1919, the announcement was made of the close of the deal, under a renewal of option that had expired in January, for the purchase of the Shaver Lake milling and timber property in the Sierras, by the Southern California Edison Company, as an electric power generating project, from the Fresno Lumber and Irrigation Company which, with the deaths of C. B. Shaver and Harvey W. Swift, had undergone several stock ownership changes and was in the market for sale after the last absorption by a syndicate of Michigan lumbermen. At the time of the last sale the mill property had been inoperative since the season of 1914. Confirmation of the deal was given June 18th by the filing of incorporation papers by the Shaver Lake Lumber Company. It took over the interests of the Fresno Lumber Company and its virgin timber lands in the Dinkey Creek district, capitalized for \$1,200,000, in 1,200 shares, the incorporators holding for the electric company being Southern Californians. The sale involved 30,000 acres of land and the milling plant at Shaver Lake. The sale was said to have been for \$2,000,000. The project is to develop an \$8,000,000 electric-power generating-plant to supply Los Angeles with cheaper power, and as an adjunct, the enlargement of the Big Creek-Lake Huntington plant, and making of the combined units the largest power-generating enterprise in Central California. The outlined plans involve a notable enlargement of Shaver Lake by means of a dam 215 feet high, for the conservation of water, considerable land to be submerged, and the enterprise to vie with nature itself to change the aspect of the Shaver Lake vicinity, in the creation of a new fishing and scenic region, with twenty-one miles of railroad to the lake for construction material and transportation from Auberry. The forty-five miles of flume for floating lumber to the yards at Clovis will be abandoned, the Shaver Lake plant and another, a few miles further back in the Sierras at Big Creek and Huntington Lake, ultimately serving to supplant the steam-operated plants. The demand for electric power in Southern California, it was stated, is so great and insistent that, although there are ten plants in operation on various streams in that section, these steam plants are used to supplement the water-power stations. Two of the latter are in the San Joaquin Valley, one at Big Creek and the other on the Kern River, and the third to be at Shaver, the first and third on streams tributary to the San Joaquin. Popular disapproval followed the policy announced by the Edison Company, to exclude campers and fishermen from the territory surrounding Shaver Lake, and to close it as a public resort and playground, a privilege that the people of the county had enjoyed for a quarter of a century under the regime of the former owners of the mill property. The supervisors and other public bodies took measures to combat this policy and secure a continuance of the privilege in an exchange of concessions, the Edison Company being desirous of diverting the water from Pitman Creek by means of a tunnel across the ridge from Shaver, to the lake, to make the latter a larger water-impounding body for the operation of its power-generating plant.

What was probably the largest payment made to the state as inheritance tax, on an estate in the county, was the one of June 20, 1919, in the estate of the late Judge E. W. Risley. Value of estate was placed at \$430,957.75 gross,

and clear market value, \$426,344.75. The son, Thomas E. Risley, paid, as tax on his share, \$21,284.47, and as trustee for his married sister, Marguerite Rowe, \$3,350 additional; total, \$24,634.47. The trustee is to pay her and any children \$500 a month during life, paying all taxes and depositing mortgage, as security for payment, in the sum of \$100,000, said mortgage redeemable at any time by paying in that sum in government bonds or other collateral securities and a delivery of \$10,000 in Liberty bonds having been made.

Estimate by the officials of the California Associated Raisin Company of Fresno, as a basis for the 1919 marketing, was that there would be a crop of 200,000 tons of raisins in the lower San Joaquin Valley this year. This will be an excess of 30,000 tons over any year in the history of the industry. And although the greatest crop in history, market conditions were such that the entire product would be practically sold out in advance of drying. Controlling 90 per cent., the association had, at the close of June, 1919, made no announcement of opening prices.

The Forest Service of the Department of Agriculture has taken the initiative to make Huntington Lake, in the Fresno Sierra National Reserve, the greatest popular summer-camping resort, where people of moderate means can establish summer homes at \$15 a year and enjoy lake-boating, lake and stream trout-fishing and backwoods hunting of big game. The Forest Service and the county are building a six-and-one-half-mile scenic road around the lake, as a land route to the people's playground at the head of the lake, and service employes have laid out sites for summer tents or cottage homes, with a half acre of ground for campers and tourists. More than one hundred of these sites have been taken and half a hundred cottages erected. Sanitary conditions will be rigidly enforced and also building restrictions against marring the natural landscape. Sites have been reserved further back for tent and cheaper structures. Fresno sent, the year before, two thousand people to the lake. It is the mountain resort most accessible to Fresno, seventy miles from the city, and has the highest altitude of any resort within that distance. The lake is a fine body of water five miles long and averaging one-half mile in width, stocked with trout in season from May to November. So attractive scenically is the neighborhood that two motion picture companies are there almost continuously during the season. Following a visit, in 1918, of Landscape Engineer Waugh from Boston, the recreational area was so laid out as not to mar the scenic beauty. The resort may be reached by wagon or auto, by the new road to be finished this season. The road will start from Dam No. 3 and run to the north side of the lake, following the shore where possible and taking in the camping-places as a combination scenic-service road. There are public camping-grounds for the tourist, and 150 boats will be placed on the lake. Home-rented sites will be secure, as the land cannot be taken for agricultural or for other purposes, and may be leased from year to year.

The oil and gas production for the year 1918 is shown in the following figures: Oil production in 1918—eight counties, 99,459,177 barrels; increase over 1917, 5,025,630 barrels; increase over 1916, 12,395,982 barrels. Oil production in Fresno County, in 1918, 16,068,919 barrels; decrease on 1917, 912,122 barrels. Gas production, in 1918, eight counties, 3,216,149 (units of ten thousand cubic feet); increase over 1917, 490,095. Gas production, in 1918, Fresno County, 80,300 (units); increase over 1917, 21,111. Land (acres), in eight counties, 89,212; Fresno County, 13,319. Wells, in eight counties, 9,188; Fresno County, 1,168. The oil production of 1918 was second only to that of 1914, a demonstration that regulation is not a hindrance to development. The increased oil acreage is 1,852.

The county election held in May to vote on a \$4,800,000 bond issue for a county road system, supplementary to that of the state with its highways, was carried by a majority of almost 7 to 1. Total vote, 14,157; for bonds, 12,187; against, 1,970. Sale by the supervisors of the first million-dollar



block of the bonds was on June 12, 1919, on a bid of O. J. Woodward (local representative) and Cyrus Pierce & Company of San Francisco on a basis of 4.69 per cent. for par, accrued interest to date of delivery and premium of \$18,817. The next best offer was of a premium of \$18,392. The competition was keen. Financial men said it was the highest figure paid in recent years for a county bond issue. Bonds are one thousand in number, of \$1,000 denomination, drawing 5 per cent. interest, payable semi-annually. Bid was made by a San Francisco bank, with local banks, of a premium of \$120,000 for the entire issue, payable in Liberty bonds, but it was not considered because not called for in the invitation for proposals. Another such offer was of a \$76,320 premium for entire issue. The larger offer was the same proposition as offered for the million-dollar block. The vote in the state, July 1, to issue \$40,000,000 bonds to extend and complete the California state highway, was 196,084 for, and 27,992 against the bonds.

Figures submitted at the close of the 1919 tax year disclosed that the county tax delinquency has decreased 100 per cent. in four years, from 1,868 delinquents in the year 1915, to 913 in 1919; town of Firebaugh had no delinquent in 1919, as against one the year before. Comparison of the years 1919 and 1918 follows:

	For Year 1919	For Year 1918
Fresno County .....	640	676
Fresno City .....	130	108
Eight Incorporated Towns.....	143	156
Total County .....	913	940

This notable tax-delinquency decrease in four years, with assessed valuations and number of taxpayers increased more than 25 per cent., is an indication of the prosperity in the county, and especially in 1918, with war prices and demands prevailing.

There was never such an all-prevailing spirit of optimism in the county as that which pervaded every channel of enterprise at the close of the month of June, 1919. The county at large faced an unparalleled season of prosperity. In the city, dwellings were only with difficulty to be had. City building operations, especially in the line of residences, were particularly active. The sale of vineyard and farming lands throughout the county was extraordinary in number and in the high prices per acre. It was the estimate that over ten millions worth of building construction was planned for the city and vicinity for the year, and half as much in the smaller communities, in business blocks, so great the prosperity, and the outlook for the future warranting these large investments. Only the more important of these may be mentioned: First, as receiving a large share of public attention, is the expenditure, under the \$4,800,000 bond issue, of the first block of a million on the county highway system, affecting every part of the county. The California Associated Raisin Association is spending many thousands in new packing plants, and in additions and enlargements of the existing ones in smaller centers in the county. Then there is the \$2,000,000 to be spent by the Fresno City Board of Education in the erection of new high school and grammar schools. There is also much building of improved and modernized school-houses in the country districts under bond issues. The city high-school project involves a series of grouped buildings on a campus, allowing for enlargement (with the growth of the city to attain a population of half a million) by building wings or additions to the grouped structures. Also there is the project of a \$550,000 Roosevelt Hotel, of twelve stories, at Tulare and M streets, with 300 rooms, roof garden, outside sleeping-porches, and what not; cost of reinforced concrete building is estimated at \$400,000, and furnishings at \$150,000. There's talk of a \$200,000 brick and concrete building at Los Angeles and L for a bakery, to supply, as a distributing agency, baked goods

for the Central California region, instead of making it dependent on the San Francisco and Southern California bakeries. This local bakery will cover a ground space of 145x280, will be two stories, contain a battery of a dozen ovens and have a daily capacity for 15,000 loaves of bread—and Fresno has already become the distributing commercial point for the Valley region in other commodities, as well. The most recently announced project is the \$400,000, 12-story, Class A business block of Andrew Mattei, at J and Fresno Streets, to be the tallest structure between San Francisco and Los Angeles. Erected and to be constructed are too many automobile salesrooms and garages about the city to enumerate; Fresno ranks fourth in the state in automobile ownership and the congestion on the city's streets has been one of the most serious problems to face the city council, a parking limit of one hour having been decided upon, effective July 1, 1919. City building is in evidence on all sides and the agitation is at fever heat for the early annexation of the territory bordering the city on the south, including the thickly populated district known as Russian town. There is also the expenditure of the \$200,000 bond issue for sewers in North Fresno, the latest city-annexed territory. A big proposition is that of the San Joaquin Light and Power Company, in the erection of a power-generating plant at a cost of two and a half millions, on the San Joaquin, with headquarters and administration office and labor camps at Auberry, and new roads to be laid out to the works on the river. Plant is calculated to develop 40,000 horse-power. A still greater proposition than that is the latest project of the Southern California Edison Company in the construction of a dam and a steam-operated power-generating plant, transforming the Shaver Lake region in the development of an eight-million-dollar enterprise. The Alta Irrigation District has plans and specifications drawn and the ground landscaped for an unique \$100,000 office building with fireproof vaults, for lovely little Dinuba. Sanger is out with a \$30,000 reinforced concrete and terra-cotta First National Bank Building, and the Reedley National Bank figures on a one-story building at a cost of \$70,000, in the Italian Renaissance style of architecture. A modern building is being erected by the Bank of Del Rey, costing about \$30,000; Parlier Bank is putting up a \$45,000 building. All these, and many more, are not indicative of another boom—that word has been expurgated from Fresno's vocabulary. Fresno is only growing and expanding normally. She had made the start but suspended progress because of the war's demands—nothing to hinder now, and the pace has been set.

The 1919 spring activity in vineyard property throughout the county was unprecedented, as were also the high prices for raisins and fruit products. Sales of vineyard and fruit lands have been up in the millions. Subdivision and sale of the holdings of the California Wine Association marked the disintegration of one of the picturesque industries—one that made a name for California the world over and in the encouragement of which the state had appropriated millions of the public money, and the private promoters expended many more millions. A remarkable fact in this connection is that, while the great association was practically forced out of business by the threatened prohibition regime, and naturally would be expected to unload at a loss, it is selling vineyards at unheard-of prices. The fact is that, while the wine-grape vineyards are no longer an asset as regards wine-making, still the vineyards are in demand and are being eagerly bought. Some of the winery structures are being sold for fruit manufacturing and packing purposes,—some are being wrecked, and others are being withheld to await future development. The belief is that there is a large field for the development of table and raisin grapes by grafting these varieties on the old stock. Growers base their hopes largely on this, to turn the new conditions to their advantage. There is talk of factories for the making of grape and fruit syrups, jams and jellies, fruit extracts, and the like. The future is an uncertainty, but judging from the present ruling prices of land, no trepidation is felt. A notable event was

the sale, about June 13th, of the some 630 acres of the historical Eisen Vineyard Company property for \$375,000, to the Croxton Land Company of San Francisco, represented by Silas A. Lines as president, the fruit-buyer of the San Francisco Earl Fruit Company of Sacramento. The vineyard is six miles east of Fresno and was planted by the late F. T. Eisen as the first large wine-grape vineyard in the county, on a commercial scale. It is a heavy producer, practically the entire acreage being devoted to grapes for wine. In the last few years old vines have been uprooted, and raisin and table grapes substituted. An interesting feature of the vineyard is found in fifty forty-year-old date palms planted in a strawberry bed, and since bearing fruit. They constitute the oldest grove of fruit-bearing dates in the valley. The Eisen was not a part of the California Wine Association. The Virginia Food Products Company, of Oakland, Cal. (a bidder for the Eisen), bought, for \$100,000, M. F. Tarpey's La Paloma Winery, to convert same into a plant for making grape drinks and fruit foods. This company has become the owner of the 1,000-acre Mission Vineyard at Cucamonga, in San Bernardino County, and has also secured an option on a Lodi vineyard. The Great Western Vineyard, including the Alma, Riverside, and other smaller ones, with 3,700 acreage, five miles from Reedley on the Santa Fe and its feeder, the Minkler & Southern, was bought by Nichols, Lindley & Farrar, who have sold subdivided acreage for approximately \$1,185,000. The Great Western Vineyard was recognized as the second largest and one of the best producers in the state. The winery and brick sherry house were reserved for future sale and possible use for packing-house purposes. The plant of the association at Calwa will also go for manufacturing and packing purposes. There has also been the sale of the Smith Mountain tract of 200 acres, including the big winery between Dinuba and Sultana, for a price in excess of its value as a winery, the winery building being reserved. The sale of La Paloma Vineyard was for \$55,000. It is in the N. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the S. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the N. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 31-12-21, comprising ten acres traversed by the San Joaquin Valley Railroad. The winery will be converted into a food-product plant. From the California Wine Association was bought for \$205,000, by Paul Mosesian 370 acres of the old Fresno Vineyard on Ventura Avenue, four miles east of Fresno, to be cut up and sold in 5, 10 and 20 acre tracts. The Fresno was one of the larger holdings of the Association. Twenty acres of the place are in alfalfa, 250 acres are in wine grapes, and the remainder in raisin grapes of different varieties. What will be done with the winery buildings depends upon prohibition legislation. The winery had at time of sale over 800,000 barrels of cooperage. Wine grapes have been profitable of late and the vines will not be dug up for a time. His purchase of the Fresno Vineyard gave Mosesian a holding of nearly 800 acres in the county, with 340 acres one and a half miles east of Parlier, and 60 on the Locan road. The Fresno is on the Fresno street-car line, which would make it desirable for suburban homes. Early in June, 280 acres of grape land five miles north of Clovis were sold for \$280,000 to a San Francisco syndicate of Chinese. This syndicate recently acquired raisin and fruit acreage near Riverview, Glorietta, Wawona, and Lemon Center. Japanese corporations, with two-thirds of the capital in the hands of Caucasians, have been active in long-term buys; notably, a Japanese syndicate which recently took an option on 171 acres near Parlier for \$1,000 an acre. The Clovis land purchase is of two tracts, 120 acres of the Wilson Vineyard, for \$100,000, and the 160 acres of the Bissell adjoining, at a stated price of \$1,000 per acre. The Wilson is in the Garfield school district, and has 80 acres in vines and the remainder in orchard. This purchase would mean consolidation of the two, and their settlement with Chinese. The syndicate owns also the 80-acre Moody ranch at Lemon Center, 80 acres of young vines near Riverview, 160 acres near Glorietta, and as many at Wawona. The 171-acre bearing vineyard, two miles south of Parlier, property of the A. B. Clark and the J. S. Jones estate, was sold to the Garfield Farming

Corporation. Another large transaction—and mention is made only of the larger for the number of the lesser and minor is too great—was that of the Mill Valley Farms Company, to George E. Emerzian, of 160 acres for \$100,000; 73 acres in figs, 80 in olives, 35 in Malagas, and 30 in Emperors. This land is three miles north of Orange Cove, in Hill's Valley. There is a 9-story stone house on the tract, said to be one of the finest country houses in the interior. The Emerzians have a home tract near Tulare of 220 acres, besides hundreds of productive acres elsewhere in the Valley. Antonio Justesen bought 85 acres of vineyard adjacent to Reedley, for \$54,000, or \$650 an acre, from the buyers of the Great Western. B. Sogliani sold 200 acres, five miles northwest of Fowler, in Section 32-15-21, for \$29,000. H. P. Helmuth realized \$1,000 an acre in the sale, to E. G. Ghoran, of ten acres, five miles southeast of Clovis, in Section 30-13-22. J. C. Forkner sold a ranch east of Fresno, in a portion of Section 32-12-20, for \$34,000, subject to deed of trust for \$24,479 of February before. Another large transaction was the sale of the A. J. Jones 40-acre ranch and vineyard between Fowler and Selma, in Section 25-15-22, to H. L. Suderman for \$80,000, subject to a \$9,000 mortgage. Another was the sale, for \$40,000, subject to an \$8,000 mortgage, by Fred Hansen, of a ranch near Clovis, to Gee Tong Sing of San Francisco. A large number of agreements to purchase has been recorded by buyers of Armenian nativity, with comparatively small cash first payments and long-term annual payments out of the proceeds of the crops. The number of these, together with purchases by Chinese and Japanese, has caused alarm as to the future landed proprietorship in the county, and there is talk of a revival of the alien land-ownership law, that raised such a stir between the United States and Japan during the Roosevelt administration.

## CITY IN PARAGRAPHS

Of the twelve larger cities in the state, Fresno for the month of May, 1918, stands sixth in the amount of bank clearings and fourth for value of permits for building operations. Clearings in May, 1917, were \$6,863,938 and in 1918 \$8,127,600. Permits in 1917 \$171,200; in 1918 \$217,490—increase of a little more than eighteen per cent. in clearings and of over twenty-seven in permits.

There was a registration of 10,747 for the election June 11, 1918 to choose fifteen freeholders to frame a new charter for the city of Fresno.

A 4,900-ton steel steamship, the fourth built and completed under the authority of the U. S. Shipping Board for the food trade transportation, was launched from the ways on the Alameda estuary on San Francisco Bay, named the "Fresno" and christened by Mrs. W. F. Toomey, wife of the mayor. Fresnoans to the number of nearly 1,000 attended the launching going to Oakland in an automobile caravan to make the event a notable one. The launch was on the evening of May 18, 1918. The craft was built by the R. S. Moore Ship Building Company.

William F. Toomey, a member of Fresno Parlor No. 25 and mayor of the city of Fresno, was elected grand president of the Native Sons of the Golden West at the annual grand parlor meeting at Truckee in June, 1918. The 1919 grand parlor meeting held in the Yosemite Valley, was the forty-second convention as guests of Merced Parlor No. 24.

A run of forty or more auto cars was made from Fresno City to the Yosemite Valley June 8, 1918, under the direction of the Fresno County Chamber of Commerce as a demonstration that the run to the valley is only one of the pleasure drives of this sun-kissed portion of the state and that the city of Fresno is the logical point of radiation to all the middle of the state Sierra resorts, particularly those of a national character from the Yosemite on the north to General Grant and Sequoia National parks on the south with the marvelous Kings River three canyon region as the middle section. The chamber has come to realize that the scenic wonders of the county have not as yet been made an asset, as they should be.

It was on March 5, 1917, that Mrs. Eda Einstein gave to the City of Fresno deed to block 12 of La Sierra Tract, asking in the accompanying letter its acceptance, for the children of Fresno, as a playground in memory of Louis Einstein, whose wishes she and his children were carrying out in this respect. The block is bounded by Park Boulevard, Roosevelt and Ferger Street and the playground was tendered equipped with apparatus, specifying that it should be designated the "Louis Einstein Memorial Playground."

Fresno was sixth for 1917 of the twelve cities of the state whose monthly bank clearings and permits for building the California Development Board bulletins quote to point out the commercial activities of the state. The Clearing House figures are these, for the twelve cities:

1917 .....	\$108,414,657.96
1916 .....	71,926,313.11
1917 Gain .....	\$ 36,487,344.85

November was the banner month for both years according to the following showing:

November, 1917 .....	\$15,586,608.61
November, 1916 .....	11,120,913.98

Fresno was sixth in January and seventh in March, 1918, for bank clearings:

	1918	1917
January .....	\$10,040,076	\$8,435,317
March .....	8,352,734	6,977,623

City business licenses collected is another evidence of the growth of the city. Annual collections have been: 1917 \$103,092.75; 1916 \$94,206.80; 1915 \$93,552.36 and 1914 \$95,760.15. Up to January, 1918, total of \$12,554.30 had been taken in fractional small licenses for the privilege of selling on the free market. Out of this fund the trustees took \$5,000 to invest in the second Liberty bonds.

It was in April, 1898—twenty years ago—that the Fresno city public library moved from its two rooms in the brick building at the corner of I and Fresno to the upper floor of the then newly constructed E. W. Risley brick building, opposite the courthouse park on K Street near Mariposa, where it continued until its removal later to the Carnegie gift library building on I Street opposite the White Theater building, where the merger into the county library resulted in 1917. At first removal, Miss Alice Armstrong was the librarian and Miss Daisy Williams, the assistant of the infant institution.

Of the eleven reported present at a conference in the office of E. C. Winchell, Friday evening, March 22, 1878—forty-one years ago—when the subject of the incorporation of the city was for the first time considered; only one, Leopold Gundelfinger, was among the living in 1918. An act of incorporation was ordered drawn up, but not finished until the general meeting for the following Monday evening at Magnolia hall on H Street, when thirty or forty assembled, organized with A. Kutner as chairman and H. S. Dixon as secretary. George Bernhard, George McCollough and S. W. Henry were appointed to secure signatures for and against incorporation for the meeting on Tuesday but on that occasion chairman and secretary were absent and so few attended that the meeting adjourned to the call of the chair. This effort at incorporation had in the end no result for city incorporation was not voted on until September, 1885, after several efforts.

The Kinema, first theater erected in Fresno devoted exclusively to the showing of "movie pictures," was opened on the evening of November 30, 1918. It is on J Street, near Fresno.

The old Barton opera house in the Barton block on Fresno and J, so gratefully remembered by the amusement lovers of Fresno and a theater that in its day was considered one of the best equipped in the state, had auspicious opening on the night of September 29, 1890. There was a crowded house, the fashion of Fresno attended, speeches in dedication and in felicitation of Robert Barton, the owner and builder, were made, notably by Judge G. E. Church and the attraction on the opening night was Henry E. Dixon in the burlesque, "Adonis." The Barton continued the theater of Fresno for twenty-three years, all the great actors that visited California made appearances there, and Fresno had the reputation in the theater world of being "one of the best show towns in the state." C. M. Pyke was the first manager, succeeded by Robert Barton, the son, in 1893. The latter relinquished possession November 28, 1913, to L. L. Cory, the lawyer, who had bought the Barton block in which was also located Armory hall. Cory took over the unexpired lease and installed Frederick W. Voigt as manager. The latter made great promises on assuming management but his tenure was shortlived under the new name of the Theater Fresno. The building



was finally torn down and replaced by the Cory office building, covering every portion of the site. That portion covered by the theater at Fresno and the alley was remodelled, the front changed and in 1917 leased for a long term as the Hippodrome, devoted to continuous vaudeville. The last performances under the Barton regime were on Thanksgiving afternoon and evening (November 27, 1913) of Johann Strauss' comic opera "The Merry Countess," the operetta it was said that cost Cornelius Vanderbilt \$100 a minute with which to entertain Newport society. Sunday November 30 "A Girl of the Underworld" was announced and was poorly attended. The first notable engagement under the Voigt shortlived management was for Thursday December 4 in the F. C. Whitney Opera Company in "The Chocolate Soldier." Fresno has had many theaters in its day. Its first of note was the Grady Opera House located on I on the site of the one-story business stores adjoining the Farmers' National Bank. It fell into disrepute in the end and was condemned as unsafe for public assemblies. The next theater of note was Riggs, the Armory hall, located on J and today site covered in part by the Gottschalk building. This was after 1885. The Barton was the third. Popular permanent houses for a time in later years were the Novelty at J and Kern, first to introduce two nightly vaudeville shows and later cheap stock company, and the Empire in the Barron building across the street, now covered by the Cooper department store, where under the management of Edward Hoen vaudeville was given and later stock company productions. Open air theaters and "movie shows" have been too numerous to mention.

The general surgery clinic at the emergency hospital at the city hall was opened November 10, 1917, and six cases for the removal of tonsils were listed.

The new schedule of tariffs issued by the interstate commerce commission operative March 15, 1918, was a source of great satisfaction to Fresno. It was a consummation that the Fresno Traffic Association had long striven for to remove the discrimination against Fresno on terminal rates as an inland town without water transportation facilities. The schedule placed it on an equality with San Francisco, Portland, Los Angeles and other cities of the coast.

A special election held March 18, 1918, resulted in the annexation to the city of the North Fresno territory, said to contain approximately 5,000 inhabitants and a rapidly improving residence section. The vote was 529 for and 142 against annexation.

Fulton G. Berry was a man who was always in the public eye. In 1908 on a certain day, street platform was erected in front of his Grand Central Hotel, band tooted and he auctioned off 250 lots in Arlington Heights, realizing \$23,451. This was before the Heights had been annexed to the city.

There's one man in Fresno who will not accept pay for public service. It is Wylie M. Giffen of the raisin association. In January, 1918, fifty dollars was coming to him from the city for services as an arbitrator in a damage claim by a vineyardist on account of the construction of the enlarged city sewer system. Mr. Giffen returned the check and in a letter to the mayor wrote: "You can do anything you see fit with this check—either return it to the fund from which it was taken or use it in behalf of the playgrounds, but as far as I am concerned I do not desire any pay for this work. Fresno has been good to me, and I would rather render any service that I can without compensation than with it. If at any time I can be of use to you in your work or can do anything for the city and county of Fresno in any way, I want you to call on me, but I do not want you to feel that I must be paid for it."

The so-called Library building at Fresno and I was sold in June, 1918, by Mrs. Minnie K. Swift to Andrew Mattei of the winery that bears his name for \$130,000. The building covers a site 100x150 with twelve ground floor store rooms. It was erected a quarter of a century ago by the I Street

Improvement Company, was a notable improvement of the day and a source of great pride. The late Harvey W. Swift bought it in 1908. It was the first home of the city public library in two rooms. This deal recalls that the price on one corner of city property just on the outskirts of the business district trebled in value in seven years. In March, 1917, James Porteous bought four lots at the corner of M and Kern for \$30,000, becoming the owner of twelve lots facing on M and of uniform depth of 150 feet, giving him a 300-foot M Street frontage. The Fresno Republican Publishing Company bought the four lots in 1910 for \$10,000, the eastern seller having planned to sell for \$5,000 but after a visit to Fresno doubled his price. The corner was offered to Porteous but he would only pay \$9,500 and the deal was not made. The company held the property for three years and then sold to J. S. Fleming of Shanghai, China, then a resident, for \$20,000 and he after four years to Porteous for \$30,000. Such tales of real estate deals are numerous in Fresno. The Porteous purchase also recalls early city history. He has twenty-one lots in that block. The lowest price that he paid when he bought from the railroad in 1879 was \$62.50 for a lot and his highest \$7,500 for a corner holding. With his M and Kern property, Porteous has the largest frontage owned by an individual in the near business section so fast expanding on all sides.

Two notable improvements are marked by the year 1917 on Van Ness between Tulare and Kern, the Nob Hill of the infant days of the city. On the vacated site of the Louis Einstein mansion home of thirty-six years ago and adjoining the Rowell-Chandler second sky-scraper structure of the city has been erected the Liberty Theater, the third largest in the state, with a seating capacity for 2,000, whose opening was delayed until late in September because of labor troubles in the construction. Cost of this improvement was \$125,000. The entire building is devoted to the theater in movie pictures. The premises have a frontage of seventy-five feet and a depth to the alley of 150. It is a building that in construction and equipment will compare with any. Covering a frontage of 100 feet further along the block and adjoining the Milo Rowell building at Kern and Van Ness, has been erected on the site of the Louis Gundelfinger mansion residence of 1879 the \$65,000 one-story Liberty Market building, floor space subdivided and leased, marking a new type of store for Fresno. Einstein and Gundelfinger houses were removed to other locations, leaving in the block two small bungalows as reminders in this business block of the days when it was the fashionable residence district. The bungalows are on lots which were the home of W. B. Dennett, first city clerk and assessor and pioneer of the colonization enterprise of southerners at Borden. Across the street on the west side were the Lewis Leach, G. E. Church, H. C. and W. D. Tupper homes now replaced by the Republican newspaper, Sequoia Hotel and the Graff-Rowell store buildings. The Rowell-Chandler building at Tulare and K covers the site of the little cottage home of the late Dr. Chester Rowell that stood on the terraced ground of the street surrounded by orange trees. Thirty-eight-year-old and over forty feet high palm trees, the tallest in the city, standing in front of the Einstein home, were uprooted and transported for replanting at the normal school grounds but on account of inadequate moving facilities were damaged and broken in the moving and were sawed up for fuel. The mansions named, as well as the other two Gundelfinger and the Herman Levy houses in the block beyond between Kern and Inyo, were specially constructed by a San Francisco architect to meet the local climatic conditions.

The great fire in the plant of the California Products Company broke out early on the morning of Thursday, November 8, 1917, and the firemen worked more than forty-eight hours before they had control. The loss was \$150,000. The warehouse with its tons of raisin seeds in bins offered the most discouraging resistance to all efforts to save from fire and damage by water. Attack was made with dynamite on the walls to reach the fire but this was only partially successful. It was also a difficult fire to combat as

the plant was located more than 2,000 feet from the nearest hydrant, located as it was beyond the city corporate limits, and water had to be relayed through a second engine to give the working pressure. There had been also a great headway toward discovery of the fire. The raisin seeds are used in the making of alcohol and oil. The loss was an accruing one because parts of the plant would not be able to resume for months with some machinery not replaceable during the war. Fire had origin in the elevator conveying seeds from the dryer to the warehouse. Plans were laid to operate such portions of the plant as could be made ready at an early date.

At the close of June, 1917, announcement was made after a long agitation by the Merchants' Association that on policies issued since April 22, 1917, the Board of Fire Underwriters of the Pacific had ordered into effect a new insurance rate schedule, estimated at about ten per cent. less than those prevailing since 1914. That year Fresno was penalized six points of deficiency and the general increase was about twenty per cent. The 1917 decrease on credit corrections was for an expenditure of \$72,000 in improved apparatus, the buying of more hose, and the appointment of a fire marshal. Authorized reductions applied only to the business district, figuring up an estimated saving of about \$22,500 in premiums, yet new schedule was about ten per cent. higher than the schedule that obtained before 1914, and notwithstanding reduction of board company rates the latter were said to be from twenty to twenty-five per cent. higher than those of the non board companies, though the last had no uniformity of rates.

In June, 1917, Fresno reached, according to official report, the lowest per capita fire loss ratio in its history—that is since such account has been kept of fire losses. The figures are: 1916-17, \$2.68; 1916, \$2.86; 1915, \$6.24; 1914, \$12.03; 1913, \$5.52; 1912, \$7.75. The January-June 1917 fire loss was only \$29,970.97, or seventy-five cents per capita, figured on a basis of 40,000. The total fire loss for the 1916-17 fiscal year was \$107,921.98.

It was on July 12, 1909, that Judge G. E. Church in the case of Henry P. Black ruled that the anti-saloon ordinance adopted as the result of the April election is invalid because the polls had been closed at five o'clock. The same reasoning would have unseated the elective officers but the point was not raised as to them and any how the time had passed then for a contest of their election, that limit being thirty days after the declaration of the result. The proclamation called for closing of the polls at six o'clock, and on election afternoon City Attorney D. S. Ewing ordered the election officers to follow the proclamation when a question was raised. The state law fixing time and place for an election is mandatory; the city charter is governed as to elections by the general election law provision and there is no avoiding that conclusion. That general law had been variously changed between 1905 and 1909 when the time was fixed from five to six o'clock and in that year amended to permit only those actually in the voting booth to vote after closing time. There was no authority to change the voting time from six to five.

At a dinner at the Normal school cafeteria January 18, 1918, of the Americanization Committee of the Community Welfare League, Jerome O. Cross, city superintendent of the public schools, made the astounding announcements that sixty-two per cent. of the population of Fresno city is foreign-born; that in one school ninety-nine and two-tenths per cent. of the attending children are of foreign parentage, the Americans consisting of only three families; and that in other schools the foreign element ranges from these figures down to the most American school which gives six per cent. as its proportion of foreigners. The anomaly was pointed out that the same curriculum of education is used in the school with the six percentage foreign children as in the one having ninety-nine and two-tenths per cent. The plea at the dinner was to extend the hand of friendliness to the foreigner within the gates of the city.

The two sky-scrapers of Fresno are the Griffith-McKenzie and the Bank of Italy buildings at Mariposa and J and at Tulare and J respectively, one square apart, like a pillar gateway entrance into the city. In the construction of the bank building, the steel columns were 130 feet in the air and as high as the ten-story office building. The bank building while only eight stories high devotes twenty-six feet to the banking quarters on the ground floor and each floor has a higher ceiling.

The year 1917 established the record for building operations in the city of Fresno. Systematic record keeping began with the year 1910. The record is the following:

New buildings .....	\$1,768,353
Alterations and repairs .....	253,103

Total for year ..... \$2,021,456

The million dollar mark was attained in July 1917. The yearly records are these:

Year	New	Alterations
1917 .....	\$1,768,353	\$253,103
1916 .....	747,050	221,325
1915 .....	854,266	170,144
1914 .....	47,065	13,800
1913 .....	130,110	37,603
1912 .....	169,558	125,083
1911 .....	77,077	83,772
1910 .....	207,937	70,605

1917's larger construction work includes the following:

January—Pacific Coast Grocery warehouse, \$42,000. February—San Joaquin Grocery warehouse addition, \$20,000; Geo. Schorling brick apartments, \$40,000. March—Mason six-story store and office building, \$122,000. April—Einstein Improvement Company auto supply house, \$11,750; City of Fresno fire engine house on Van Ness, \$14,200; Einstein Improvement Company, Liberty theater, \$100,000. May—Western Meat Company refrigerating plant, \$12,000. Guggenhime & Co. plant addition, \$10,000; H. M. S. Investment Company, brick block, \$22,000; City of Fresno schoolhouse, block 244, \$18,480; Louis Gundelfinger, Liberty Market, \$31,000; S. P. Company, Pullman car concrete shed, \$8,000. June—E. Y. Foley packing house, \$9,776; Einstein Improvement Company, Herald newspaper office, \$13,750; Danish Lutheran Congregational Church, Sunset tract, \$9,000; Cobb Bros., Irvington addition garage, \$8,000; Bank of Italy eight-story building, \$191,800. August—Jacob Richter store building, \$10,000; Fresno Planing Mill, planing mill, \$25,000; Frank Short, garage, block 90, \$60,000. November—Fresno Natatorium, \$33,100; Dr. D. H. Trowbridge, garage, block 87, \$11,000; Frank Short and Roos Bros. store building at Merced and J, \$148,000. In the line of repair and alterations may be noted: April—Guggenhime & Co., \$4,250 alterations to packing house. May—Burnett Sanitarium fire loss repair, \$15,000. August—Warner Jewelry Store alterations to premises, \$6,000; Santa Fe depot extensions, \$14,246; Catholic Church, \$4,500 additions in block 164. September—L. L. Cory, alterations to Barton Theater Building, \$17,860; C. H. Riege, alterations to J Street fire house to convert it into store building, \$7,000. December—Einstein Improvement Company, alterations and additions in rear of Patterson block, \$8,860.

Building operations kept up well in the 1918 war year what with the scarcity of labor and the high price of all material. The figures:

January .....	\$ 57,845
February .....	104,387
March .....	456,708
April .....	384,953
May .....	217,190

For the year 1917 Fresno ranked fifth in the state. For March 1918 it was third in the state, exceeding by \$102,996 its own largest monthly record of June 1913 which was \$353,372. May broke another record in the alteration and repair work estimated at \$92,510 and the largest for a month ever reported. Among the large permits for the five months of the year are these: California Raisin Association, \$200,000 seeder plant; Paul Mosesian, \$100,000 warehouse on R Street; Rosenberg and Co., \$200,000 first unit of its large packing plant on Cherry Avenue; California Products Company, \$20,000 concrete storehouse on Butler Avenue; D. Yesdan, \$14,000 warehouse on J Street.

The old engine house on J Street—once the city hall—was sold to Charles H. Riege, August 6, 1917, for \$37,550. It was considered a fine bargain. The rebuilding cost \$15,000.

The farewell services at the First Christian Church at N and Mariposa Streets were held Sunday, February 21, 1915, and the new \$80,000 church at Tuolumne and N was opened on the Sunday after.

The White, Fresno's latest and finest theater, was opened with "The Whip," which was given four representations on the afternoons and evenings of Christmas, Friday and Saturday, 1914.

Property valuations involved in 1917 fires were \$3,595,727.68—on buildings, \$1,154,830, and on contents, \$2,440,897.68. Insurance, \$1,327,328—on buildings, \$612,585, and on contents, \$714,743. Insurance loss, \$221,986.89—on buildings, \$87,985 and on contents, \$134,001.89. Direct loss, \$20,542.14; exposure, \$51,447, as against \$114,605.50 in 1916 and insurance loss of \$82,798. The California Product Company fire of over \$70,000 and of the Fresno Planing Mills of over \$45,000 is accountable for the fact. The loss report is based on a 45,000 population and an area of 6.15 square miles. There were 316 alarms, twenty-one false and twenty-one outside calls as against 249 in 1916; 265 fires—127 in frame buildings and ninety-eight other than in buildings; 239 in place of origin, twenty-five extending to adjoining premises and 198 confined to floor of origin. The percentage of fires to 1,000 population was 6.31; ninety per cent. were confined to original place; loss per capita was \$6.09 and fire loss to valuation involved 7.1 per cent. Among recent large fires have been these:

1918—March 19, Studebaker garage and bowling alley.

1917—December 17, clothing store Tulare and I. November 8, California Product Plant, August 11, Palms. July 21, Fresno Planing Mills. April 10, Burnett Sanitarium. February 10, Hill's hay market.

1916—December 25, O'Neill building. July 14, Cudahy Packing Company. July 6, Willys-Knight garage. July 8, open air theater at Van Ness Avenue and Holland building. June 20, Cudahy Packing Company.

1915—November 29, Hickman haberdashery 1922 Mariposa, confessed incendiary. July 3, 1044 to 1048 I, site of old Grady opera house and Redlick's store, attacking rear of stores fronting on Mariposa.

1914—December 14, W. Parker Lyon building 144-148 J. August 8, spectacular fire in Fulton Hotel, attacking Grand Central on one side and J. W. Short building on the other. July 24, big fire in 900 block on J. June 16, Roeding Fig Packing Company plant with loss of over \$63,000. May 6, Wonder store fire at I and Tulare. February 14, San Joaquin Planing Mill.

1913—June 8, great fire in Russian town district. May 26, fire in Mariposa hotel at M and Mariposa. May 20, at 1025-1039 K, adjoining postoffice.

1912—August 25, Thompson Bros.' barn at Stanislaus and H. June 18, Holland & Holland's store. June 19, Cadillac garage. February 14, big fire at Cherry and I.

1911—December 1, fire at 732-762 J. July 1, S. P. passenger depot. April 16, paste factory at 1823 San Benito. January 6, burning of a S. P. locomotive at loss of \$9,000.

The city library established a record for circulation of books and magazines in January 1917, namely 14,417, the largest previous record having been 13,040 in March 1915.

The free market conceived under the regime of A. E. Snow, former mayor, as a municipal institution to bring the producer and the consumer in direct relation, was opened to the public September 25, 1912.

The Commercial Club formed as an exchange meeting place for business and professional men was organized January 1913, located in the third story of the Holland Building, with the roof as a summer garden. Henry F. Pratt of the Phoenix Packing Company was the first president.

The Library building at Fresno and I so called because the city free library had its humble beginning there was bought by the late H. P. Swift from the Fresno Improvement Company for \$125,000, a notable investment at the time. The Shaver and Swift interests invested all the proceeds from the sale of the Sanger Lumber Company in city real estate and in notable building improvements in 1913.

A June 1918 purchase was one by Frank Helm for \$38,000 of 150 feet frontages in six lots at the southeast corner of H and Tuolumne Streets, opposite the Southern Pacific railroad freight depot, as a site for the distribution depot of the Jersey Farm Dairy in a two-story, concrete plant building.

The playgrounds commission established records during the 1917-18 fiscal year. The record of attendance at the playgrounds is of an approximate 485,000 children as against 483,000 the year before. There would have been an additional 30,000 attendance had the public swimming pool been conducted as the year before, and had not night activities at the Fresno Auditorium been prevented by so many war emergency public assemblies. Of the \$17,500 annual appropriation, a balance of one dollar and eighty-five cents was left, showing that with the cooperation of other city departments the service was not abridged and the children were given play opportunities at a cost of about four cents per individual.

June 1918 holds the record for long continued great heat. Other June months have recorded higher temperatures but it was for brief periods and no other in more than a quarter of a century has averaged so high. The mean was eighty-two and one-half degrees or half a degree higher than the normal for July and three degrees higher than in June 1889, which held the record. Average maximum was ninety-nine degrees and average minimum sixty-six degrees as compared with ninety-one and fifty-nine respectively. The highest was 106° June 9 and the lowest fifty-seven June 23. This last day and the one after were the only days in the month with the temperature below the normal, the excess on all other days ranging from four to fourteen degrees above the normal. Humidity was not high and the wind movement was lighter than normal. It was a month of unusual weather discomfort to be remembered.

The official seal of the City of Fresno is a beaded double circle enclosing the legend: "City of Fresno. Incorporated Oct. 27, 1885." Within the central circle is pictured a double leafed and very full bunch of grapes.

The first official body having purely municipal functions was a board of fire commissioners appointed by the supervisors of the county May 12, 1881, under a state act to establish fire limits in the town and organize fire protection means. The board was Dr. Lewis Leach. George McCollough and William Faymonville. It made an estimate of \$14,200 to carry on its work and called for an election for June 2 to vote a tax levy to raise the money. In May 1883 S. A. Miller, T. E. Hughes and W. H. Chance were appointed commissioners and in July 1884 a hook and ladder truck was bought for a total of \$500.50. The commission and its successors continued until October 30, 1885 when the town having incorporated the apparatus on hand was turned over to the city. That apparatus consisted of a hand engine, cart



and hose, hook and ladder truck, a fire extinguisher, an engine house and several fire wells, or cisterns, at the Grand Central corner and the other at the Kutner, Goldstein corner. A volunteer fire department took charge.

The phonograph was introduced in Fresno January 2, 1900. La grippe also seized the town at this time.

Articles of incorporation of the San Joaquin Valley Railroad Company—the so-called Pollasky road to Pollasky or Friant on the San Joaquin in the Millerton vicinity—were filed January 7, 1890.

It is recorded that on March 29, 1890 the first negro jury was impaneled in town to try Henrietta Sadler for a disturbance of the peace. Trial resulted in her acquittal.

April 3, 1890 the Fresno water works plant was sold for \$200,000. The price paid was not so much for the plant as for the franchise.

June 3, 1890 the historical Larquier or French Hotel went up in fire.

Talk of filling in the mill ditch on Fresno Street which had become a public nuisance, an eyesore and a stench commenced January 7, 1890. June 12 the city council officially declared it a nuisance and ordered its abatement and suit was brought. Trial of the case commenced before Judge M. K. Harris October 1, and judgment went for the city. Long litigation with injunctions followed by the canal company and on expiration of the time limit on the last one the late Dr. W. T. Maupin as city health officer took the matter in hand and on Saturday, March 19, 1892, with a force of hired men and volunteers filled in the ditch and completed the work on the following Sunday from the flour mills to the western town limits. The proceeding was one of the sensational events of the day. The time for the abatement of the nuisance was chosen that no court injunction might be sued out to hinder the work. For lack of a city sewer, the ditch had been used as an outfall for house laterals.

A newspaper squib of forty years ago—in April 1878—observed: There are only fourteen public bars and five other places where liquor can be had in town. A good field for temperance lectures.

Those were easy and happy-go-lucky days in Fresno forty years ago. In April 1878 editorial apology in the Republican begged the forbearance of its patrons for the delay in the Saturday issue because of unavoidable detention in San Francisco and illness among the compositors preventing the appearance on time of the issue with its one week old news. Promise was made of endeavor to make amends "for delay now by promptness and interesting reading matter hereafter."

Because a man and woman would not give up the use of the telephone which they were using in spooning and permit of an alarm of fire being turned in, the Eagle Packing and Storage Company's plant at K and San Diego Streets was destroyed by fire one morning in June 1908. Loss was \$30,000. The request for "Central" was coolly ignored and the spooning continued for five minutes before the line was cleared for business by the love sick couple.

It was in March 1877 that the S. W. Henry House, then the hotel of Fresno, passed into the hands of the late Jesse Morrow and became the Morrow House under a lease to A. B. Anderson, who had been in the hotel business on the line of travel between Fresno and Stockton for twenty-three years. For ten of these, he kept the Anderson Hotel at French Bar or La Grange as it was sometimes called, and for thirteen years thereafter the Galt at Snelling, first county seat of Merced.

It was on Saturday evening February 24, 1877 after many fires and long continued agitation that a citizen's meeting was held at old Magnolia Hall for the organization of a hook and ladder fire company. Leopold Gundelfinger was the chairman and Charles L. Wainwright the secretary of that meeting. The organized company located afterward with a hand drawn apparatus soon lost the latter in one of the periodical fires. The company was

to have a membership of twenty-five and the charter members at the organization meeting were the following named: L. Gundelfinger, A. Basso, C. Overholser, C. L. Wainwright, N. Rosenthal, William H. McKenzie, W. W. Phillips, G. Winters, Henry Rea, Joe Moody, Charles Brimson, Charles W. De Long, H. Borchers, Dr. N. P. Duncan, A. G. Bell, J. P. Luke, W. Silver and Charles Hahn. Of the above named Gundelfinger, Phillips and De Long are living.

Reasons were advanced in the newspapers as early as February 1877 why the town of Fresno should incorporate, not the least of these that "there is a very large and unwieldy population that the general administration of the law seems unable to reach." It was pointed out that there is no power to abate nuisances, to repair streets, to safeguard against fires or at all times to preserve the peace. "We have a cemetery," said the Republican, "but nobody owns it, and nobody has charge of it. Graves are dug in such manner and wherever it pleases the ones who dig them. We have a watchman but he has no legal authority to make arrests or preserve good order and he has to depend upon gratuities for a living." Those were free and loose days in Fresno.

After a career of about nine years, the Fresno Evening Democrat made an assignment for the benefit of creditors in February, 1907, Mark R. Plaisted stepping out and C. T. Cearley placed in charge as trustee. The confessed liabilities were more than \$50,000.

The Kutner, Goldstein & Co. store building was destroyed by fire in August, 1918. It was a landmark and was referred to as their "new store," when construction of it was begun in May, 1878, as one of the first two-story, brick structures in the infant village.

Twenty years ago the Fresno city trustees unanimously passed the "high hat" ordinance against the wearing in theaters by women of view obstructing hats. There was objection that it was discriminating legislation because drawing distinction between theater and church. No one ever contested the ordinance and it is on the books to this day. Trustee Spinney was the objector but voted for the ordinance.

Blissful days of forty years ago! C. M. Jones & Sons at their Fresno Flouring Mills located within 100 feet of the present business center of town ground grain on Mondays and Saturdays for patrons. They announced that they had ground feed always on hand and fine corn meal for sale at reasonable rates. This was the year when Ross, the father of Charles, was moving heaven and earth for aid in the search for his stolen, lost or strayed boy and the nation was moved with sympathy for him.

It was in January, 1898, that the Sisters of the Holy Cross conducting St. Augustine's Academy purchased the W. M. Williams residence property at R and Mariposa Streets with two lots adjoining to establish the school there, the quarters adjoining the Catholic parochial church on M Street back of the courthouse square being too small for the growing institution. The seller took in trade seven lots on N Street next to the flour mill, purchased the summer before when the old high school building was moved there but fire destroyed the site buildings with heavy loss to the sisters.

Accept the figures for what they are worth. The publishers of the Fresno city directory for 1918 give the city a population of 52,374, exclusive of the Orientals, but adding them, estimate that the 60,000 mark has been reached. The city section of the directory contained 19,589 names, or 1,264 more than the one for 1917. As the names of married women and girls living at home and having no occupation are eliminated, the multiple of two and two-thirds has been used to give an estimated population of city and environs as stated, an increase of 4,607 over the year before.

Up to the middle of the month of August, 1898, the city's most disastrous fire was the one starting at midnight that swept the space on the west side of the railroad reservation from Mariposa to Mono for about four blocks

and made a clean sweep of it in part or entire destruction of the warehouses and packing houses, besides the home of Yardmaster John Doyle and about twenty freight cars and several sleepers. The conservative aggregate loss was nearly half a million.

Fresno City's registration for the August, 1918, primary election was a total of 14,735 with Republicans numbering 6,372 and Democrats 6,027.

Fresno City has a woman policeman by brevet. She is Mrs. A. L. Rasmussen. She is rated as such following appointment in August, 1918, as clerk of the police department. She sought the post because her husband was subject to the military draft.

The assessment valuation of the city for 1918-19 is \$25,603,436, making with the eight other incorporated towns in the county, a total of \$31,215,626. The city has four district tax rates.

"Intelligence and Fashion Attend the Consecration" was one newspaper sub-head in the "scare head" to the article describing the opening night of the Barton opera house on Monday, September 29, 1890. It was, to be sure, a notable gathering and the Expositor as usual had to take up its ancient song with the threadbare chorus that "nothing occurred to interfere with the happiness or pleasure of the audience." George E. Church delivered the congratulatory address in eulogism of Robert Barton. Henry E. Dixey in the burlesque "Adonis" was the theatrical attraction and to read the next day's account *la jeunesse dorée* of Fresno went wild over the female chorus. After the curtain went down, Robert Barton was called for and in turn delivered himself of a speech. The following false prophecy is recalled because it had been preserved in cold type. It was this: "This city will have 75,000 inhabitants inside of ten years and in less than five years from now—just think, less than five years—we will be close on the heels of our sister city, Los Angeles, in population and most of you know how many theaters she has." This was after the big boom and prophecy was one of the echoes of it. It may be added that the erection of the theater was an after thought. Robert Barton bought half of the half block with frontages on J and Fresno Streets and the alley as a venture purely, intending to hold the idle terrain as an investment. He was induced to erect the corner building with basement, street floor as stores and the upper as a hall for military drills and for public assemblies, with the appurtenant rooms as headquarters for the then two national guard military companies, hence the name Armory Hall. As the plan progressed, the scheme enlarged and decadence of the Armory Hall theater and his own abiding faith in the future of Fresno led to the construction of the adjoining theater structure, the whole representing an investment of \$100,000.

It was at the close of the month of November, 1878—again forty years ago—that a geographical survey party in charge of Lieut. H. H. Ludlow, Second United States Artillery, appeared in Fresno to undertake extensive topographical work in this part of the state, establish base or starting point in Fresno from which to proceed to the mountains, erect monuments upon prominent points for the further prosecution of the work in the higher regions, also place bench marks of altitudes and levels in a thorough mapping of the county with base line for the continuance of the survey to Los Angeles to tie in on. The survey was part of the geographical platting authorized by Congress. It is no violent stretch of the imagination to suppose that this was the party that erected the local monument that Fresno has accepted as marking the geographical center of the state.

It was about September 15, 1918, that the Fresno Traction Company under authorization of the state railroad commission began to charge a six cent fare on its city street car system and increased its commutation rates ten per cent. The increase from the long established five cent rate was authorized also in other cities. The cost of everything connected with street car construction and operation had gone up and the competition of automobiles had decreased the revenue. It only required this with the war taxes

to usher in the day of the copper penny in California, and there was nothing to do but to carry a vest pocketful of coppers to make exact change, and put up with this bother rather than a ten cent fare. A day was when paper money and coppers were curiosities in California. Times have changed!

The big fire that destroyed the pioneer establishment of Kutner, Goldstein Co. and for a time endangering also the older landmark of the Louis Einstein Pioneer building at the opposite Mariposa and H Street corner broke out on the night of August 9, 1918. The Kutner-Goldstein Co. two-story brick proved a total loss. The firm sent a \$250 check as a contribution to the firemen's relief fund.

The first official act of Former Police Chief Edward Jones in the newly created office of city purchasing agent was on September 23, 1917, to replace by the Stars and Stripes the torn, tattered and sun-bleached "Old Glory" that flew from the city hall. There was with the war spirit general replacing about town of the tattered national emblems following the agitation by the newspapers.

August month in 1917 established a record for attendance in the Fresno City playgrounds. Grand total was 60,586 as against 39,673 for the same period the year before, since which two playgrounds had been added besides which for the 1917 season there was the city swimming pool in the use of Dry Creek with an attendance of 15,625 alone.

Fresno's then newest \$200,000 city block in the Mason building occupying on J Street, near Mariposa, the one time site of Jones' flour mills, was opened with the start of the elevators March 1, 1918. The property is owned in England. A few days after the opening of the block, news was received of the death of the maiden lady absentee landlord.

As a war time food conservation measure, whale meat made its first appearance in the city markets October 13, 1917 and was extensively advertised. It sold for ten cents a pound. Candor compels the statement that the public did not take kindly to the meat of the sea mammal.

It was forty years ago in October, 1878, that the commissioners appointed by the Roman Catholic bishop arrived to solicit subscriptions and donations towards the enterprise of building a Catholic church in Fresno. Plans and specifications were looked over, but the decision was for a brick building, 30x50, plans and specifications for which were adopted and construction contract awarded. The railroad company donated two lots for a site and the commissioners purchased two adjoining at the corner of M and Fresno Streets. This church stood until 1902, when it was demolished and the property sold after acquiring a more advantageously located site at the upper end of Mariposa Street to meet the growing demands of the parish with a congregation of communicants the largest in the territory embraced in the parish and including several missionary chapels in neighboring adjoining counties. The original church site passed by purchase eventually into the possession of the Fraternal Order of Eagles.

Twenty-one years ago in 1897, twelve persons organized in Fresno the First Church of Christ Scientists. October 16, 1918 the new church building at N and Calaveras Streets was formally dedicated and as it is the policy of this denominational cult to pay in advance for church properties and not saddle itself with debt the dedication was not without significance. The handful of adherents in 1897 was content to meet in a public hall and few hoped for such a growth as followed. In 1903 it became urgent to seek larger quarters and the First Presbyterian Church property at 2027 Merced Street was bought. Another ten years and the capacity was taxed and the present location was bought and building operations were begun in April, 1916. Services were held in the Sabbath school room November 26 before the main structure was finished. In May, 1918, the congregation held first service gathering in the main auditorium. The building is a classical one in design.

Fresno is today a city of churches, strongest evidence of the change in the moral atmosphere in contrast between forty years ago and the present. Every denomination is represented in the list of churches, with services in the English, Armenian, Danish and Swedish languages, besides the Orientals in Chinese and Japanese houses of worship. November 18, 1917, was dedicated the new Bethel Danish Lutheran Church with the presiding church official, Rev. G. B. Christiansen of Audubon, Iowa, A. R. of D., bishop of the Danish Lutherans in America and generally known as the president of the United States Evangelical Lutheran Church. The pastors of churches of Los Angeles, San Francisco and of Easton, Fresno, Selma and Reedley in this county were at the dedication.

The dedication of the Liberty Theater was an event on Tuesday, November 7, 1917. That this theater was considered a factor in the moving picture world was evidenced by the fact that outside of the San Francisco Panama Canal Exposition in 1915 it was the first time in the history of the industry in the state that managers and leading directors of film productions dropped their engagements to be at this initial exhibition of a motion picture theater.

The new Burnett Sanitarium on S Street, south of Fresno, as one of the most modernized institutions of the kind on the coast with accommodations for 120 patients, was completed November 25, 1917. The Sanitarium had its origin twenty-one years ago in a residence on North J Street, known as "The Palms," and destroyed by fire in the summer of 1917. Sanitarium was moved to S and Fresno before that and there the first unit of the original building was constructed. Additional units were made necessary and a fire with a considerable loss made incumbent the present building and equipment representing an outlay of \$150,000.

Notable business property sale of October, 1917, was that of the pioneer Wiener block on Tulare Street between I and J bought by Charles R. Puckhaber and Frederick J. Dow from Mrs. Selma S. Wiener for approximately \$75,000. The block is a two-story brick structure, 75x75, and dates from the boom year with its characteristic style of architecture.

A small army of children attends the Fresno city schools. The enrollment for 1917 was 7,641 as against 7,047 for the year before for the twelve elementary and one high school. The increase was entirely in the elementary, the high school enrollment standing at 1,200 for the two years. The Fresno school district includes territory without the city limits but abutting.

The fall season of 1917 was a notable one in the line of construction of business blocks. New buildings totalling over \$900,000 were listed in October and all were erected and completed the following twelfth month. The showing was a remarkable one considering the war times, the high cost of material and labor and the scarcity of skilled labor. In the list were the following, not including the new packing plant of the California Associated Raisin Company at the southern city limits and the other plants that it and the peach growers erected at various localities in the county, the great raisin and fruit plant of Rosenberg Bros., also in the new industrial district, the plant buildings of the California Products Company replacing structures destroyed by fire and new ones to take up the handling of cotton, the enlargements of quarters by the Farmers' and Union National Banks and various other notable though lesser costing business block structures, all going to demonstrate that there was no apparent hesitancy on the part of capitalists or land owners to invest in new buildings with no shadow of a doubt as the

resumption of this rapid and substantial growth after removal of the government's hindrances with the cessation of the war. 1917 listings were these:

Bank of Italy .....	\$200,000
Mason Block .....	187,000
Frank Short for Roos Bros.....	146,800
Einstein Investment Company Liberty Theater .....	125,000
Burnett Sanitarium .....	90,000
Frank Short for Willys-Overland.....	60,000
Louis Gundelfinger for Liberty Market.....	35,000
Fresno Planing Mill .....	25,000
Jacob Richter Building .....	22,000
Mrs. Pat Culleton Building .....	10,000
Dr. D. H. Trowbridge for Superior Motor Sales Company .....	10,000
Total .....	\$935,800

The Bank of Italy eight-story sky scraper is at the corner of J and Tulare; 285 tons of steel entered into the construction; it is from an artistic standpoint the finest edifice in the city. The Mason Block is a six-story building and architecturally notable. The Sanitarium addition is of five stories, reenforced concrete, with a \$30,000 equipment, finished throughout with oak and with linotyling flooring in the corridors. The Liberty Market on Van Ness, near Kern, is one-story of pressed white brick and has a 100-foot frontage. The Liberty Theater on Van Ness is as fine a moving picture house as there is to be found on the coast. The Roos Bros.' building at J and Merced is two stories but the foundations are laid for an eight-story structure. The day is not far distant when the three Mariposa and J Street corners will mark the site of sky scrapers to keep the Griffith-McKenzie pioneer at the northwest corner company. It is an open secret that the Bradley estate for the northeast corner, the Einstein Investment Company for the southeast corner and Radin & Kamp as owners of the Grand Central Hotel corner have plans drawn for sky scraper buildings and that construction work might have been commenced before this writing but for the government's war inhibitions.

Forty years ago (August 10, 1878) the city school district trustees accepted the bid of Frank & C. S. Peck for the school bonds authorized by the legislature and made award at ninety cents on the dollar. Contract for the erection of the building went to Shanklin & Donahoo of Fresno for \$7,900 but there was error in the calculation in the estimates for plastering and as they could not correct it then and declined to accept the award or file the required bond the award followed to the Pecks of Merced for \$9,195 as the next lowest bidders. The building was erected on the block of land bought for a school fronting on Fresno Street, two blocks from the courthouse. The building stands yet and is used for school purposes, though it has been turned and placed on another site in the block to make room for the brick Lowell school building.

Wiped out by fire in July in the 600 block on I Street, the Fresno Planing Mill Company started machinery November 23, 1917, in its new plant at H and Monterey representing an investment of \$80,000 and provided with appliances to handle 1,000,000 feet of lumber in a year. It lost half a million feet in the fire. The new plant is in a fire-proof brick building.

Along in August, 1918, various fires broke out with accompanying large losses. There were evidences warranting the strong suspicion that these burnings were incendiary as acts of sabotage by the I. W. W.'s in revenge for the arrest and indictment by the federal courts of twenty-five leaders and members for treasonable acts and utterances. On the night of August 28 the



E. Schmitz Fresno City Hay Market was destroyed and the flames swept the half block at Mariposa and E, razing the market, also the Fresno Horse and Mule Market, 600 tons of hay stored in the first and burning to death four horses and three mules. The loss was over \$20,000. To the same cause was ascribed the origin of the fire a few days before which destroyed the Madary Planing Mill at H and Kern, the night being a windy one and the flames working through the block enveloping and spreading havoc in the Hollenbeck-Bush mill on Inyo Street. In these and other instances the evidence was that the fire was set from the outside. The Madary mill rebuilt a concrete and steel mill on another site to cost approximately \$200,000. It was the second time that the other mill had been burned out at the same site with neither fire originating in the mill but in the Madary wooden structure. After the second, a building was erected that was thought to be fire proof. The Hollenbeck-Bush corporation acquired a five-acre site on Cherry Avenue on the railroad and in the southern end of the town. This mill will cost about \$100,000 and will be served by a spur-track.

January 7, 1889, work was commenced on the first Fresno sewer system. Eighteen months before \$175,000 was voted at a special election in bonds, \$100,000 to be spent on the sewer system and the remainder for school, fire and water purposes. Contract was awarded to a company to lay the sewer piping but after long delay it decided not to proceed with the work. Contract was annulled in June, 1888. New bids were called for and in September, 1888, contract was relet and 200 men were placed on the work. The sewage farm was of 320 acres, five miles southwest of town and the sewage was conveyed from the foot of Merced Street in twenty-four-inch pipe to within half a mile from the farm and then by open ditch. Contract was also entered into with the canal company for two cubic feet of water per second for flushing the pipes. The sewer contractors obligated themselves for five years to dispose of the sewage at \$4.900 annually. Thirty-nine thousand feet of pipe were laid.

Petition to change the postoffice name from Fresno City to Fresno was circulated January 16, 1889.

The city was divided politically into five wards by the town trustees February 4, 1889. Two days later was held one of the great sales of land near Fresno.

City trustees declined to repeal February 12, 1889, the ordinance for the midnight hour closing of the saloons. March 19 the ordinance was declared invalid.

Oscar Beaver was on February 26, 1889, found guilty of manslaughter in the killing of J. N. Cripe and two days later was sentenced to imprisonment for one year at San Quentin. Beaver was one of the "gun men" and "man hunters" in the pursuit of the bandit gang of Sontag and Evans. There were others.

March 14, 1889, Fresno banks adopted a uniform opening and closing hour.

Simon W. Henry's livery stables at Tulare and J Streets in Fresno caught fire on the morning of June 8, 1889; six horses were burned; loss \$10,000.

July 1, 1889, Fresno inaugurated free mail delivery.

Charles Reavis murdered Deputy Sheriff J. N. Wren July 6, 1889, and next day Reavis was killed by peace officers while resisting arrest. He escaped after the murder with a revolver in each hand.

July 12, 1889, fire partially consumed the Fiske block at Mariposa and J. August 1 Charles Hogan and Honas Ricker, bellboys of the Grand Central Hotel, were rewarded with gold watches and chains for heroic work at the fire.

The Russ House at the corner of Fresno and I, the livery stable, two

adjoining residences and twenty-eight horses were burned in a fire on the morning of July 17, 1889.

December 9, 1889, A. H. Cummings was awarded judgment for \$17,000 against John D. Fiske in an accounting case as to royalties on a patent car-coupler. A verbal squabble over this claim resulted in a street brawl and the fatal shooting of Fiske by Cummings.

The year 1889 was a notable one in the line of city building operations under the stimulus of the optimism that accompanied the boom. Many of the early notable business blocks were completed during this year. Many of these stand to this day. They are readily identified because of their architecture of the day with the Mansard roof, bow windows and corner steeples or cupola as distinguishing features. They were substantial blocks that compare favorably with many of the present day constructed, showy buildings. This building era activity resulted in a wonderful improvement of the business district in departure from the wooden shacks. A partial list of the more notable completed brick and stone buildings of the year is the following: Kutner, Goldstein & Company three-story brick on west side of I between Mariposa and Fresno, \$50,000; Einstein business block and hall, east side of I between Tulare and Kern, two stories, \$30,000; Farmers' Bank, three stories, Mariposa and I, \$40,000; Donahoo, Emmons & Company, three stories adjoining the bank on I and on Mariposa, \$30,000; H. C. Warner three-story on Mariposa between I and J, \$15,000, also on north side of Mariposa between I and J; O. J. Meade three-story building, \$19,000; Bernard & Monaghan two-story, \$9,000; J. F. Haviland two-story, \$8,300; M. Denicke two-story with vaulted basement, \$14,000; W. E. Gilmour two-story, \$7,000; A. F. Baker three-story at Fresno and J (afterward the Pleasant View and later the Helm block), \$50,000; A. S. Edgerly three stories at Tulare and J, \$60,000; R. B. Johnson's Temple Bar, Mariposa and K, three-story, \$65,000; Olcese & Garibaldi, two stories at Mariposa and K, \$18,000; G. W. Herminghaus three-story north side Mariposa between I and J, \$7,500; also J. Brownstone's three-story, \$8,000, and J. C. Walker's three-story, \$9,000; M. E. Gonzales' Excelsior Stables east side of I between Mariposa and Tulare, two and one-half stories, \$23,000; Pleasanton Hotel three stories at Merced and I, \$40,000; Y. M. C. A. first unit three stories, \$30,000; W. W. Phillips' two-story on J between Mariposa and Fresno, \$8,000; Fresno National Bank three stories at Tulare and J, \$40,000; Fresno Loan and Savings Bank four stories at Mariposa and J, \$60,000; Jerry Ryan's Arlington three-story brick at J and Kern, \$14,000; First National three-story bank building at Mariposa and I, \$28,000; Dr. Maxon's bath house, 49x132, west side of N between Mariposa and Fresno, \$8,000; City school at Santa Clara and K, \$20,000; C Street school, \$16,500; Southern Pacific depot, \$30,000; Adventists' Church at Mariposa and O, the finest in the interior of the state, with schoolroom and capacity for 800, \$30,000; it is 58x120, has a 3,000-pound bell and a \$2,000 clock in belfry tower 104 feet high. It is the town clock since the demolition of the Fiske building to clear the site for the Griffith-McKenzie first sky scraper whereupon the town clock was presented to the city and is preserved in the second high school building; Presbyterian Church at K and Merced, \$12,000; Southern Pacific freight depot remodeled and enlarged making old passenger depot with additions 525 feet long and fifty wide; Henry Voorman had in construction a \$20,000 two-story block on the west side of I between Mariposa and Tulare and was making \$10,000 additions to his adjoining property on the south; M. J. Church was building a 125x125, three stories Sanatorium at N and Mariposa to cost \$75,000; Robert Barton his basement and first floor market and second floor Armory Hall, with theater adjoining; John D. Fiske three-story, fifty feet on Mariposa and 150 feet windowed frontage on J, at cost of \$60,000 and adjoining on J, William Helm was erecting a \$25,000 three-story with basement business block. S. Williams a reported member of Parliament and of Liverpool,

Eng., was erecting a \$22,000 two-story brick at F and Tulare. And the above list embraces only the notable and takes no heed of the residences that were making a town of the shack village. The business blocks were the creations of two or three architects; hence the sameness of the architectural designs.

Fresno has sixty-seven churches representing every shade of religion under the sun. The pioneer nine were located in or close to what is now the business district. With a few exceptions in the growth of the town, they have moved to and erected larger houses of worship in the residence districts, all save the Adventists, having years ago outgrown their first places of congregation. The pioneer is the M. E. South (Fresno and L) organized in 1876 with Rev. A. Odum pastor in 1876-77. The original membership consisted of Judge Gillum Baley and family and Mrs. Phillips, seven in all. The judge was their leader and filled the offices of steward, class leader, trustee, Sabbath school superintendent, janitor and local preacher. The little wooden church at Fresno and L was the first in Fresno and long the only one. It was moved over into the quarter west of the railroad and there damaged one night in a Fourth of July fire beyond salvage. First services regularly held by a minister of the Episcopal Church were in 1879. A "mission" was organized in December by Rev. D. O. Kelley as St. James Protestant Episcopal Church and in 1881 brick church was erected at Fresno and N with parsonage on six lots. This building was enlarged and completed and consecrated in 1884. Still later it was further enlarged and is the pro-cathedral of the bishop. The 1884 consecrated church cost \$4,000. At organization of mission in 1879 less than a dozen communicants were to be found and these women. In 1888 mission was organized on a more independent footing as St. James' parish with a vestry of seven men and the pastor. Rev. Kelley has been its longest serving rector. St. John's Catholic (Fresno and M) was founded June 26, 1880, by Rev. Father Valentine Aguilera, who long continued the pastor of the parish. His congregation did not exceed eighty in number "nearly all as poor as the desert they lived in." The church that was erected "was far too large then and a titanic enterprise for their number and means." The good father boarded here and there and lodged in a single room back of the church sacristy. A priest's home was in time erected and with the growth of the city a much larger church with residence for the clergy and parochial school was erected at Mariposa and R. The first Seventh Day Adventist to come to this county and settle near Kingston was Jackson Ferguson from Sonoma. His stay was brief for he moved to Nevada where he organized a church and for two years was a state legislator. The Adventists' Church in Fresno dates practically from the fall of 1873 when Moses J. Church identified himself with the faith and labored to spread it. Three years later ministerial aid was secured and a church was organized in Fairview school district as the first. The work spread in this and Tulare counties and in 1880 regular services were commenced here on the seventh day, Saturday, congregating in private home, then in a Mariposa Street and later in a K Street hall, and finally in the temple at Mariposa and O. This was the gift and endowment of Church completed and dedicated in 1889. Church and the trustees under his deed of gift had differences; he sought to rescind his endowment; the effort was resisted; they went to law over it but the trust was sustained. The building was and is a notable landmark and the congregation and adherents to the faith strong in number. G. R. G. Glenn, W. P. Haber, R. H. Bramlet and Dr. C. D. Latimer with Mesdames William Donahoo and E. P. Gilmour were the organizers of the Baptist Church, holding first meetings in 1881, formally organizing March 18, 1882, with the assistance of Rev. H. S. Abbott. Church organized with seven members, Messrs. Haber and Bramlet still continuing as such. The first pastor was Rev. T. T. Potter who continued until April 1, 1884, and soon after passed to his reward. The

Chinese Mission House was a gift from the hand and purse of Mrs. Potter to the Home Mission Society and the cause to which dedicated. The second pastor was Rev. J. C. Jordan called from Nebraska. A \$6,000 house of worship was built during his pastorate at Merced and N, subsequently improved by gifts from Dr. Eshleman, wife and daughter. Mr. Jordan resigned April 1, 1889, and Rev. H. G. De Witt, D. D., of Rochester, N. Y., was the third pastor. Organization of the Congregationalists was had in the public school house in May, 1882, with eight members under Rev. Blakeley, a state missionary. Services were suspended with his failing health and in January, 1883, with Rev. George E. Freeman and as the result of a first service held in the old Odd Fellows' hall at Mariposa and I, then being used as a private school, reorganization was had and the membership increased from eleven to fifty. The preacher secured a hall on Mariposa Street over an undertaker's, fitted it up largely by his own hands and at own expense and paid the twenty dollars rent, also largely out of his pocket. Here the congregation remained nearly a year until the church at Inyo and K was built at a cost of \$5,000 after much difficulties and discouragements. It was first occupied in June, 1884, and dedicated in September with all expenses provided for. Mr. Freeman after three years was succeeded by Rev. Mr. Meserve and he by Rev. Mr. Voorhees until the autumn of 1887 when he resigned and Rev. E. L. Chaddock was called and remained longest in the local ministry. In 1889 a fine parsonage was erected and in the end after various vicissitudes and changes in pastorates new life was injected into the congregation, another site was chosen and a church erected at M and Divisadero while the abandoned one was sold to the Armenian Congregationalists. A local preacher named F. M. Pickles organized about April, 1883, the Methodist Episcopal Church (M and Tuolumne). J. R. Gregory served until September, 1883, when Rev. S. J. Kohler was assigned as regular pastor, followed by Rev. G. W. Goodell until 1887 and by Rev. M. Judy for two years when the conference appointed Rev. A. B. Morrison, the term of service of M. E. ministers being then five years with appointments made for one year at a time, subject to renewal, for five. The original church property was at L and Merced. The Christian Church (Campbellites) was organized June 16, 1884, with thirty members and has become the largest church organization, save perhaps the Roman Catholic. Among its pastors may be named Revs. James Logan, W. T. Shelton, J. B. Johnson, Carroll Ghent, J. W. Webb, W. H. Martin and H. O. Breeden. Its house of worship at Mariposa and N, one block in rear of the courthouse, was erected at a cost of \$3,300 in 1886, but a larger and more commodious one was a few years ago erected at Tuolumne and N. The Presbyterian is the youngest of the pioneer churches organized in 1885, supplied by Rev. Mr. Budge with Mr. Hurd as the first installed pastor. Place of worship was for a time in Nichols' hall until the erection of the church at K and Merced in the summer of 1888 and first occupied in September. Its \$2,000 organ was the gift of J. H. Hamilton. The church is located now at M and Merced Streets. The history of the churches of Fresno is an inspiration; their upbuilding the work of the good men and women in a town once regarded as a western Sodom and Gomorrah.

The city free market of Fresno was opened Saturday, September 22, 1912.

The street car system in the branch to Roeding City Park was opened September 9, 1912—California Admission Day anniversary.

William H. Bryan addressed a great assembly for thirty minutes in Fresno on Tuesday, September 24, 1912. Roosevelt was to have spoken about the same time while on his Yosemite Valley tour but could not make the connections. Bryan spoke at the courthouse park when he first ran for President. It was commented upon at the time as a coincidence auguring no good that on this occasion a runaway collided with the Democratic flag pole at the entrance of the park and snapped pole off short at the ground.

This was the end of the Republican and Democratic town flag poles, first erected during the Hayes-Tilden campaign on Mariposa Street below I and afterwards replanted at the courthouse park entrance. Both succumbed to the rotting of time, with the Bourbon liberty pole as the survivor.

An amusing controversy arose between rival insurance company agents October 21, 1889, with regard to their respective newspaper representations as to business methods and each deposited \$1,000 in escrow awaiting determination by a committee of citizens as to the truth or falsity of the representations, the money in bank escrow to be forfeited to the city by the loser on the committee report. The committee reported that both forfeit to the city. That committee was W. W. Phillips, G. A. Nourse, E. J. Griffith, H. D. Colson, John Reichman, Louis Einstein and Dr. C. Rowell, who was alone to hold that the representations were not false. The warring agents the brothers, R. H. and W. G. Baker and A. D. Thomas and R. B. Schwartzkopf litigated their idle wager and while the matter was in the courts the city in behalf of the newly created free library also went into court to seek the recovery of the forfeited \$2,000 in behalf of the institution. It failed in the suit. The agents had in November, 1889, sued the respective banks for injunctions and the return of the money and judgment was rendered in June and August, 1893, and thus the whole matter went up in smoke after much publicity fire to contribute to the sporting gaiety of the community.

The petition for the incorporation of the city of Fresno was filed with the county supervisors July 22, 1885. It was based on a representation that the city had a population of "about 3,000." At the September 5 meeting of the Supervisors an election on incorporation for September 25 was ordered, with the polling place at the courthouse, E. K. King as inspector and C. W. Remsburg and K. G. Luke as judges. The vote was for incorporation 277; against 185; total vote cast 465.

The first meeting of the first elected city trustees was held on the evening of October 27, 1885, at the Mariposa Street real estate office of T. E. Hughes. Half a dozen meetings were held in nightly succession until the city government organization was completed. John Hurley and Martin McNally were appointed the first city policemen at sixty dollars a month and the salary of the town marshal was fixed at eighty dollars.

Fresno's incorporation petition was presented before the supervisors by the late J. F. Wharton. It was determined that the territory to be incorporated had a population of 3,459.

The city incorporation petition of 1885 had 102 signatures. The living signatories in October, 1918, are the following named: I. Teilman, N. W. Moodey, Dr. J. C. Cooper, T. E. Hughes, J. E. Hughes, W. W. Phillips, M. W. Muller, L. Gundelfinger, F. H. Short, M. K. Harris, W. T. Mattingly, Alex Goldstein, Dr. W. T. Burks, Geo. E. Church, S. N. Griffith, W. P. Haber, Lucien Shaw, S. C. St. John, R. G. Harrell, W. D. Grady, J. D. Morgan, S. S. Wright, E. F. Lacour, J. W. Gearhart—twenty-four.

William H. Bryan's first visit as a presidential candidate was on Saturday evening, July 3, 1897, and he was received with a salvo of 100 guns.

The big fire in the Grady Theater building at the time occupied by the Redlick Brothers' general merchandise store was on February 27, 1900.

L. O. Stephens as Fresno's first mayor under a charter retired April, 1905. It was declared that under his administration Fresno had prospered and experienced the cleanest and most business like administration in its history for which the citizens and taxpayers were to be congratulated.

It was at a meeting in March, 1904, that a resolution was passed forbidding the smoking of tobacco at the sessions of the city trustees. Another departure from wild and woolly western methods.

The first city general election under a charter was held June 4, 1901. L. O. Stephens was elected mayor. The vote was 2,196.

Fresno's so-called "new charter" was ratified at the election October 19, 1899. Vote: 844 for and 107 against.

The first district street paving in the city was in 1889 as follows: I from Kern to Fresno, J from Tulare to Fresno, and Mariposa from the court house to the railroad depot. The material was bituminous rock, steamed and crushed and underlaid by cemented rock or gravel. The contract was thirty-three and one-third cents per square foot with bared stone work extending four feet from the sidewalk curb. Fresno was the third city in the state thus paved. The cost was levied against the property.

March 19, 1910, a special election was held to vote \$60,000 bonds for city playgrounds. The bonds carried by a vote of 847 to 299. The school children carried the day. It was their campaign with parades and personal solicitations for days before.

The free market proved such a success that the trustees were soon urged to look for a larger and permanent site, occupying for the market by sufferance part of the courthouse park frontage on Fresno Street. January 19, 1913, offer of a site was made of one-half of city block 115 in rear of the courthouse for \$112,500. The site problem is still in the air.

The city playgrounds commission was created July, 1913. It maintained for a time a little model playground in the courthouse park. It made its official start in November, 1913, with an appropriation of \$4,500.

The municipal convention hall, the construction starting of which was with bond money voted for the playgrounds of which it was originally intended to be a part, was dedicated with ball and concert on the night of Thursday, March 12, 1914.

The month of April, 1914, was made memorable by the city board of health's fly-swatting campaign.

It was on July 12, 1886, that the city trustees rented three corner rooms in the Masonic Temple at Tulare and I at thirty dollars a month for council chamber and offices.

The dedication of the new Masonic Temple at Merced and K Streets was a noteworthy occurrence on the evening of June 3, 1911, the foundation stone of the building having been laid the fall before by Grand Master Dana R. Wells of Los Angeles. The temple was erected in the name of the two Fresno lodges, Nos. 247 and 366, ownership vested in the seven Masonic organizations.

The forty-six-acre additional gift to enlarge Roeding Park was sketched out for improvement in May, 1908, the addition being on three sides of the park site and making one large 118-acre tract conforming to the original site offered to the city by F. Roeding and wife but for some unaccountable reason declined by the city trustees under the Jo Spinney regime. Roeding Park is considered one of the finest in the state and exceeded in area by only one, Golden Gate Park in San Francisco. The park is a reclamation of a sandy grain field.

Following sale of the property, Monday, August 27, 1917, witnessed the abandoning by the fire apparatus of pioneer Engine House No. 1 on J Street, for so many years also the city hall. The bell that had sounded so many alarms of fire and which for years also tolled the warning hour of curfew was sold by the city trustees to the town of Kingsburg. Long after the sale, discovery was made that it belonged not to the city for sale but to the members of the volunteer fire department who had contributed their half dollars and dollars to melt into the bell metal. Suggestion having been made that the old bell be brought to Fresno as a float for one of the Raisin Day celebrations, Kingsburg discerned in the move a cunning plot to recover possession of the bell and solemn protest was made. The bell was in fact not "floated" in the Fresno celebration.

Commencing with September 14, 1917, the tooting of whistle to give announcement of the location of a fire ceased in Fresno. Thereafter general



notice of a fire "somewhere" was given by three sharp blasts from the flour mills, three times repeated. The tooting of whistle was a twelve-year-old practice, before which the box alarm was given by sounding of bell taps. The last change was only another step in the "cityfication" of the Raisin Center.

The work of excavating for the concrete foundation for the Bank of Italy's eight-story "sky scraper" at Tulare and J Streets commenced with the last week in August, 1917. It was one of the most difficult tasks in the construction line ever undertaken in Fresno involving the underpinning of the four-story department store building of Radin & Kamp on the west line. The concrete foundation was laid nineteen feet below the street surface in three feet of subterranean water accumulation. The erection of the steel frame work was planned for September 15 and it was at the close of October, 1918, that tenants of the office floors began to move in. The bank building with fixtures cost a quarter of a million dollars.

On Monday, August 27, 1917, was published the first number of the Fresno Evening Herald from its newspaper building at the corner of L and Inyo Streets. Owing to an accident to the machine, the edition was printed on the press of the Republican.

One of the large 1909 fire losses in Fresno was the destruction of the California Fruit Canner's Association's plant May 25. Total loss was half a million, with insurance of \$200,000 and the season's run prevented.

The year 1910 opened with promise of being a banner year in building in Fresno city. A building boom was due, it was launched and continued until the conservation measures of the war called a halt to new construction work during the second half of 1918. The Fresno-Hanford Interurban road promoted by F. S. Granger was being agitated and had first place among the big things in prospect, involving as it did a million-dollar project. It was never financed and as with several other interurban dreams is a recollection of the past. Building operations had been quiet for a year and a half before the close of 1909. Considerable remodelling of old buildings had been done, fronts of business houses modernized and the general appearance of the city greatly improved in that period. The business district expanded to take in the lower and southern portion of I Street and Tulare with the side streets, and there was also a steady expansion north of Fresno. With the passing of the years all available space on the railroad reservations was taken up for industrial enterprises and it was necessary to set aside in the southern part of the city a district for the exclusive location of these industries. The Southern Pacific started preliminary work for buildings to cost \$200,000. These were a 300x60 foot freight receiving shed between Merced and Tuolumne, and a 300x60 forwarding shed between Fresno and Merced, both on concrete bases, and a remodelling and modernizing of the main passenger depot. The Santa Fe completed during the latter part of 1909 its enlargement of passenger station. Significant among the building movements on foot was that of the fraternal orders. It was on a parity with the church building boom as an evidence of public improvement and as a distinctive feature of the construction impulse of the times. The Masons bought on the southwest corner of Merced and K and later erected a temple for the order. The Eagles bought the church property at M and Fresno and a building association was formed. The Knights of Pythias secured site opposite the Masons and eventually will build. The Woodmen of the World bought corner lots at Tuolumne and Van Ness and erected the finest lodge building of the order in the Pacific Jurisdiction. The Elks had the upper story of the building at Tulare and L specially constructed for their accommodation; likewise the University Club the front of the White Theater building. Enlargements and improvements of the Fresno Traction Company called for an outlay of \$200,000 in the erection of car barns near the Pollasky railroad depot, double tracking of the city system with addition to the rolling stock. The water company expended \$25,000 for new mains in the city

and extension of service to outlying districts. During the following years the city authorized extensive street paving and sewerage work chargeable against the property benefitted. Boulevarding of some principal streets across town was resolved upon and electric streetcar districts followed in the business section and along Van Ness, J and I, and out on Fresno and a half mile beyond on Kearney Boulevard as the result of the building boom that was ushered in with the year 1910. Private enterprises that had inception then were the quarter of a million Hotel Fresno at I and Merced, really the first "sky-scraper" in Fresno, followed by the Rowell-Chandler building at Tulare and Van Ness, the Griffith-McKenzie monolith at Mariposa and J, the Holland on Fresno east of Van Ness, the White Theater on I near Merced, and apartment, business houses and residences too numerous to mention. As the business section expanded and modernized, so the residence district spread and annexation of considerable territory to the city followed. The year 1910 was one of awakening and for the eight years following more substantial progress and improvement came about than for any like term in the history of the city. A great agricultural experimental farm was bequeathed to the state with the distribution to the University of California of the Kearney estate, and a belated state recognition of Fresno was in the location of the Normal school here.

The year 1909 was one also of notable commercial advancement for the raisin center of the United States measured by the development and improvements in the transportation service. Great projects were launched and costly betterments were made in road equipment for the accommodation and safety of the traveling public. Most noteworthy undertaking of the year was perhaps the investment of approximately two millions by the San Joaquin Power and Light Company in beginning construction of the new power plant in Crane Valley in Madera County. Work was commenced in May, 1908, to be in operation in August, 1910, to supply the valley with power and electricity. The reservoir capacity of Bass Lake was stated to be 50,000-acre feet against 4,300 of the old mountain plant, with enlarged conduits carrying off 150 feet of water per second as against twenty before, besides construction of two new pipe lines allowing a flow of seventy-five feet per second, and installation of machinery for generating 16,000 kilowatts of electric fluid. The company was serving twenty-four towns in the valley and eight of these—Sanger, Orosi, Sultana, Clovis, Lemoore, Malaga, Coalinga and Friant—were first served in 1909. The Fresno Traction Company as a sub-company added to its equipment in June, double tracked on Tulare out to Recreation Park and on J and Fresno Streets. It built an extension traversing the quarter west of the railroad known as the Russian quarter along F Street via the subway on Fresno Street under the railroad reservation. The large car barns were also erected near the end of Tulare Street. The Fresno Water Company as another sub-company installed five new city water mains and a company was incorporated for two millions to supply Coalinga, water to be pumped at Lemoore, piped to Coalinga and the oil field. The 1909 business of the Southern Pacific was so heavy that two additional Fresno-San Francisco trains were placed on the run as locals and the chair car on the Owl was taken off and it was made a vestibule train making only three stops between termini. It was at the beginning of 1908 that the company introduced the motor car service in the valley on all local runs, the longest between Fresno and Stockton. The motors were in addition to the regular steam trains to nearby towns. The motors were unable to accommodate the travel and for other reasons also they were taken off and additional steam car trains were the result. There was a lurking suspicion that these much lauded motors did not come up to expectations. The Fresno-Coalinga service was improved and it was strongly demanded that the journey to and back might be made in a day. The track was also ballasted. Freight business increased so that the side tracks in local yard had to be lengthened to accommodate long

trains averaging forty to fifty cars, an increase from thirty to thirty-five. On the Santa Fe roadbed and bridges in the valley were reconstructed, heavier rails laid, new steel bridges substituted across the Merced at cost of \$193,365 and across the San Joaquin for \$147,356, with duplicates across St. John's, the Kings and the Kern south of Fresno. The ballasting of the roadbed in the valley kept nine work trains busy during the summer. Passenger and freight traffic demanded additional trains. Up to 1908 the Santa Fe had no local freight service from Fresno. In 1909 four local freights were established to Corcoran Junction, two via Visalia and two via Hanford. The "Maverick" was a San Francisco freight train carrying stock and fruit. A new passenger train to San Francisco was put on in August, 1908, leaving here at eight A. M. The local freight yards were extended because of lack of space for side tracks and, to make room, the Hammond fig-packing plant, the Einstein, Wormser and other warehouses moved. The platform for interchange freight was lengthened 300 feet and two new "team" tracks for unloading were built on each side. Change was made from the telegraph system of dispatching trains to the telephone. The passenger depot at Tulare and O, the largest on the division between Richmond, Cal., and Albuquerque, N. M., was enlarged at a cost of \$25,000 and made two stories high in the expectation that the enlarged floor space would meet the demand for ten years to come. Three weeks after completion, the baggage room that was enlarged was taxed to the maximum. The depot is of the Mission style after the model of all on the Santa Fe line. Passenger directors were another innovation. Due to the increasing business of the Santa Fe and its cramped quarters within the city limits projected for the local San Joaquin Valley Railroad and not for a transcontinental road, the Santa Fe has had to locate switching yards and fruit car icing depot at large outlay beyond the city limits. There a new railroad town has sprung up known as Calwa. Fresno has become one of the railroad centers of California. Leland Stanford's prophecy of forty years ago has come true.

The city free library, which in 1917 became a county institution, is located on North I Street between the Odd Fellows' Hall and the Y. M. C. A. The ground on which it is located was donated to the city by adjacent property owners, who clubbed and bought the lots from the old California Raisin Growers' Association. There was as much difference of opinion as to the location as there was as to the site of the city hall, half a block away at the corner, but the I Street hustlers won the day on both propositions and there has been a great change in the locality with the erection of these two municipal buildings in that vicinity. The lots donated to the city in 1900 are worth today many times more the \$4,000 paid for them. Andrew Carnegie made gift of the building, the property owners gave the lots, Louis Einstein gave \$500 for the purchase of books; Robert Kennedy, W. T. Mattingly and others made donations from their private libraries and this was the beginning of the library in its own home. With its branches, the library now serves the entire county and the schools besides, an expansion that has been wrought by the efforts of Miss Sarah E. McCardle, the county librarian.

The Parlor Lecture Club house was opened in October, 1908. It is on Van Ness Avenue and club is the representative women's organization of the city.

Building operations in the Fresno city school department were at the crest in the year 1910. A \$150,000 bond issue voted during the summer of 1909 realized \$168,000 and all that money was spent to secure more room. Fresno ranks seventh in California in point of school attendance, placing it in advance of San Jose and Stockton. The need for more school room had pressed itself for some years upon the attention of the board of education. Fresno had grown so rapidly in population that the school buildings did not keep pace. And yet after those \$168,000 were spent, there was no great margin for future expansion, without another bond issue for more school room.

Twelve lots were bought for an eight-room annex to Lincoln school; four for Emerson and thirteen for Lowell for as large annexes; other additions and improvements were arranged for, but the biggest one thing was the construction and equipment of a polytechnic school annex to the high to cost \$60,000, including in the high school building an auditorium with seating capacity for 1,100, a balcony and a stage.

The interest in the city election April 12, 1909, was less as to the officers to be elected, though there were four candidates for mayor, but greater in the contest as to the anti-saloon closing ordinance. The latter was submitted at this election after a vigorous campaign of propaganda by the Anti-Saloon League, led by Rev. Irving B. Bristol as its agent. The ordinance was carried by a vote majority of fifty-seven. It would have abolished the bar-room but not the wholesale house nor the liquor serving restaurant after the first of August but that the ruling was made in the test case of Henry P. Black for a recount that the vote on the ordinance was void because the polls on April 12 were closed at five o'clock instead of six, according to the state law. No point on this was made as to the officers chosen at the same election. In September before, the trustees lost out, on a tie vote of four to four, a motion to pass to print an ordinance to close the city saloons on December 1 following. This ordinance was amended to meet certain objections and October 18 was passed to print by a vote of five to two, one member (George Pickford) tendering his resignation rather than be forced to vote. The mayor refused to accept the resignation at the moment and it never was accepted. The ordinance as passed was in brief to confine the liquor traffic to wholesale dealers, pharmacists and to restaurants at meals under restrictions and regulations. Pickford declared for high license, Sunday closing, and regulation and did not consider himself bound to vote for the ordinance popularly accepted because he was an unpledged and independent candidate for trustee at the election and opposed to absolute closing. This ordinance was in the end vetoed by the mayor for the reason that no provisions financial had been made to substitute revenue source for the saloon licenses, that as drawn the ordinance was discriminatory as between classes of citizens and because sentiment had changed on the ordinance since the popular vote. This action on his part brought on him much criticism and even censure from the pulpits and he took this much to heart. However, he and the trustees agreed upon a stringent liquor ordinance and at the meeting on December 6, 1909, it was passed unanimously. This was Ordinance 601 of forty-seven sections and went into effect on passage but placed in actual operation January 1, 1910 because of a decision that a granted liquor license privilege is for one year and quarter license payments having been accepted the privilege could not without cause be suspended before the expiration of the quarter. The adopted ordinance was regarded a drastic one. It raised the retail license from \$600 to \$800, raised and fixed other license charges, called for midnight and Sunday closing, prohibited drinking in drug stores, abolished the free lunch, limited the number of all saloon licenses issuable in one year to forty-nine and provided for a reduction of the number of saloons to forty as a maximum and in short called for so many restrictions that on a Sunday not even wine or beer can be had at a meal at a restaurant. This action by the city made it necessary for the supervisors in the county to help make the city ordinance operative. There were three propositions before the supervisors: a prohibited zone about the city with midnight and Sunday closing, or a closed belt from five to eight or ten miles wide, or to extend the closing rule the county throughout or at least around the incorporated cities and towns. The problem was solved at the county election under the Wylie local option law with four of the five supervisorial districts voting "dry," the exception being the third district embracing in large part the city of Fresno. The incorporated towns all voted "dry" in turn and for a time the only places in the county that were not "dry" were Fresno, Coalinga (which in 1917 so

voted) and Firebaugh which incorporated as a "wet" town and which derives its town revenue from the liquor licenses. "Boot legging" then became an art in the county.

Twenty years ago December 15, 1908, at night broke out one of the costliest fires in the history of the city. It was in the rear of the Radin & Kamp White Front department stores on I Street near Tulare. The flames were extinguished after about two hours of work but fire smoldered for days. The property was a wreck. The loss of about \$150,000 made it a memorable fire.

On the night of December 4, 1918, the lights were turned on for the first time and the Kearney Boulevard electrolier system was turned over to the city. The system extends from the Southern Pacific Railroad sub-way at Fresno Street and along that eighty-foot thoroughfare to the western city limits turning into the boulevard drive for half a mile to Tehama Street. This part of the electrolier system was installed at a cost of about \$20,000, an expense borne by the property on the line of the system and more especially benefitting the district known as Kearney Boulevard Heights. In the system are 118 electroliers, the unit stretching twenty-eight blocks with four and five lights in a block for over two miles, being the longest unit in the city. The lighting of the boulevard at night makes the drive one of the show places for the touring autoist.

Of the twelve larger cities in the state Fresno held fifth place in November, 1918, for bank clearings—\$14,423,195 as against \$15,586,608 for the same month one year before. All fruit growing centers show a similar decline due to losses on account of the unseasonable rain which cut the crop totals. Building permits were \$45,946 as against \$294,391 for the year before month and in the larger cities no larger than Fresno's record for the fall of 1917. War restrictions of course caused these conditions.

At the general election November 5, 1918, Fresno electors ratified by a vote of 3,582 for and 1,829 against a proposed charter submitted by a board of fifteen freeholders. It called for a combination commission-city manager form of government, and for that reason attracted not a little public attention at home and elsewhere in the state. The proposed charter was to supersede the one ratified by the election held on October 19, 1899, with amendments also ratified February 13, 1905. That 1899 charter was considered a model fundamental city guide. The dollar tax limit was one of its features with other limitations which the times at the framing of the document demanded. It was a charter that for years had withstood every test and attack. It was such a hard and fast document that it lacked flexibility to keep pace with the times, growth and changed conditions and demands of the city and especially in not providing sufficient revenue for the enlarged needs of the city which avails itself of the services of the county assessor in the annual property valuation assessments. For some years repeated effort had been made in Fresno to secure a new charter adequate to the demands of the city and the efforts were in new charter drafts or needed and imperative amendments to the existing charter. All these efforts resulted in failures. When therefore after all these vain efforts the proposed charter of 1918 was ratified, theoretical and experimental as it was in many of its features, it was thought that one great advance had been made and a clear path was discerned following which the city might avoid all the stumbling blocks against its progress and expansion. Another disappointment was, however, in prospect. After the ratification of the proposed charter more electors began to read and study that charter than had done so before the election—in other words people had voted on a charter while knowing little or nothing of that document and had voted for it on the general principle that, as the cry had been for years for a new charter, anything the free-holders offered would be acceptable and fill the bill. To make a long story short the proposed charter was attacked in many particulars, especially

in a lack of definitiveness and in not conferring necessary powers on the commissioners to make the charter operative. Here was a pretty how-do-ye-do. The charter had yet to be approved by the legislature but the legislators elect were not for reporting it for approval because they considered it inoperative and inadequate and so confusion was worse confounded. Conferences were held with a view to decline to certify the charter to the legislature, whereupon mandamus was sued out for a test case to ascertain whether the charter was constitutional and operative. The mandamus case proved an abortive effort. Such legal questions had been raised as to the validity of the charter that the city's representatives in the legislature would not assume the responsibility of offering it for ratification because it invited costly litigation and because the city would be thrown out in its financial arrangements and these were chances that could not be taken. To make a long and complicated story short, the opinion of a committee of the Fresno Bar Association—namely, L. L. Cory, H. M. Johnston and L. B. Hayhurst—was accepted that the charter was never properly ratified by the citizens, that in no respect had the statutory requirements been complied with, for all purposes the election was invalid and any attempt to have charter ratified by the legislature would be to plunge the city into confusion. On the unanimous vote of the city trustees the model and reform charter was relegated to limbo and another charter is not a possibility before two years hence and the next legislative session for ratification.

Since 1888 there have been ten city bond issues voted. Not all submitted to vote carried. There were elections at which the result was indecisive, or the issue defeated, or not carried by the two-thirds majority required. The first bond issue was for fire apparatus and land for engine houses, bonds issued in 1888. They expired in 1908. For a sewer system \$100,000 was issued in 1887, and in 1895 \$40,000 to complete and enlarge it. In 1905 there was an issue on a vote of October 31 of \$175,000 for a sewer farm and septic tank system 1,778 to seventy-one, besides \$75,000 for a city hall 1,598 to 215. January 20, 1902, there had been an indecisive vote to bond for \$55,000; for the system, a majority 408 to 234; for the bonding a majority (but not a two-thirds), 364 to 216; and the direct tax defeated, 197 to 297. March 31, 1903, the sewer \$55,000 bond issue was defeated, 271 for as against 355 in the negative. June 3, 1904, a proposed issue of \$20,000 for sewer and septic tank was also lost not having been carried by a two-thirds vote. March 19, 1910, \$60,000 was voted for playgrounds—847 to 299. May 3, 1916, \$500,000 was voted for a storm and sanitary sewer system to meet the growth of the city—1,822 to 710. In 1912, \$45,000 was voted to complete the municipal auditorium, originally contemplated to be a part of the playgrounds department but with failure to erect it by popular subscriptions. This auditorium was one of the hobbies of the late Mayor Rowell and its non-realization according to his preconceived plans one of the disappointments of his regime, necessitating a \$45,000 bond issue in 1912 for its completion according to the accepted plans.

October 21, 1912, Mrs. Julia Fink-Smith made gift to the city of Block 362, excepting lots 11-16, for a playground. The Einstein Estate later made gift to the city for the same purpose in an equipped playground. February, 1914, Fairmont Park was donated by a land company to be added to the city park system.

All proposed amendments to the existing charter were lost at the election held January 25, 1913. The years 1912 and 1913 were a time for special bond and annexation elections, with varying results and incidentally an election April 14, 1913, on the liquor ordinance which was the storm center of an agitation by the Anti-Saloon League.

The first election for the annexation of Arlington Heights to the city was defeated November 25, 1912—110 to 114. Arlington and Fresno Heights voted July 3, 1914, to come into the city—170 to 157, and October 15 the



city voted in the territory and Dean Park—436 to fifty-four and 428 to forty-two, the latter having voted itself in September 4, 1914—twelve to nothing. Hazelwood Addition voted itself in August 7, 1914—forty-seven to twelve—and November 5 was annexed—316 to three.

The municipal Labor Bureau was placed in operation February 19, 1914.

The Fresno Interurban Railway Company was franchised in January, 1915. It was promoted by one John B. Rogers. It proved a failure and never went further than to build an electric railway to near Clovis, the construction bankrupting the contractors, who took stock in the enterprise in pay. The company abandoned its city franchise in the fall of 1918 and the railroad commissioners after a hearing upheld it in December in that action, because it was not a paying investment though the abandoning of the franchise had preceded the hearing by a month or more. The company is a bankrupt institution.

South Fresno including the Russian-German quarter voted September 24, 1915, by fifty-six to seventy against annexation to the city; so did North Fresno by 146 to 208. North Fresno voted to annex in 1918 and a section with a population of some 5,000 has come into the city.

The citizens' City Beautiful Commission was an inspiration of the year 1913-14 followed in March, 1915, by the establishment of the City Planning Commission under the state law. The latter's work was purely advisory but it laid out a groundwork plan before it ceased operations and was relegated to innocuous desuetude in 1918 by reason of the war-time restrictions and the disinclination of the city trustees to continue it by making appropriation in the budget for the continuance of its work.

The first bond issue October 29, 1887, for \$12,500 for fire protection and \$25,000 for schools carried 219 to two, also \$12,500 for flood preventive measures carried by 218 to two. The \$100,000 issue voted in December for a sewer system had only three votes against it. Bonds sold at par in April, 1888, and they expired in 1907.

The first annexation election was on June 14, 1890, in the Bartholomew barn in Woodward's Addition. Vote was ten against two; in the city seventy-seven to four. The second decisive one was in October to annex Roberts precinct and additions. It was lost—eighty-seven for and eighty-eight against and in the city 207 for against thirty-one.

The election September 29, 1885, for the incorporation of the City of Fresno was carried by a vote of 277 for, 185 against. The elect and candidates for city officers at this election were the following named with the returned vote, names marked with asterisk being of those that have since died: Trustees—W. L. Graves\* 351, J. M. Braly\* 344, A. Tombs\* 262, T. E. Hughes\* 250, William Faymonville\* 210, Dr. Lewis Leach\* 192, Dr. A. J. Pedlar\* 200, W. T. Riggs\* and T. R. Brown\* 142, W. M. Muller 178. School Board—J. F. Wharton\* 313, Dr. C. D. Latimer\* 313, W. W. Phillips 306, George E. Church 246, M. K. Harris 228, A. Tombs\* 201, S. W. Henry\* 121, D. S. Snodgrass\* 150, W. H. McKenzie\* 146, E. J. Griffith 195. Assessor—W. B. Dennett\* 235, K. G. Luke\* 186. Marshal—C. T. Swain\* 230, J. H. Bartlett\* 225. Treasurer—W. H. McKenzie\* 445. Recorder—S. H. Hill\* 262, Frank H. Short 190. The vote was canvassed October 5, 1885.

At the November 18, 1885, meeting of the city council citizens asked for concrete action against the impending overflow of the southern part of town and the Southern Pacific reservation which was on low ground, and M. J. Donahoo was appointed to supervise the ditch and levee in the threatened territory and to do this the city had to borrow \$1,000, being at the start necessarily without funds. In December the city was so church poor that it had to borrow \$100 to "pay small bills." Various flood claims were rejected in November as insignificant in damage and caused by seepages on J and K Streets.

November 28, 1885, Ordinance 7 was enacted establishing municipal regulations in 510 sections. Evidently the town needed salutary regulationing.

The second city council chamber was located in December, 1885, in a suite in the C. G. Hutchinson building at Mariposa and J Streets on the present site of the bank building. It was rented for fourteen dollars a month.

The demoralizing influence of the Chinese population was attested as early as December, 1885. It was deemed necessary to enact an ordinance against the oriental practice of the use of opium.

Street grades were established at the council meeting December 22, 1885, for the baby incorporated town, and at this meeting town lots were also designated by numbers by Ordinance 11.

February 1, 1886, the city took over the first engine house on J, near Fresno, and the nucleus apparatus of the volunteer department that was organized was a hand engine and hose, a hook and ladder, an extinguisher and an alarm bell. The fire company was in debt seven dollars and seventy cents. J. M. Braly, H. P. Hedges and Dr. A. J. Pedlar made the tender to the city.

Conditions were such in the new city that in January, 1886, an ordinance was necessary for the impounding of stray dogs. Before incorporation Fresno city was regulated by the supervisors under the general county ordinances.

The first public action against the Church irrigation ditch running through the middle of town along the center line of Fresno Street was in March 22, 1886, in a protest to the city by Judge Baly. School Superintendent B. A. Hawkins and T. S. Duncan with a warning that all lawful remedies would be invoked against said nuisance and prosecuted.

The juvenile population came under notice at an early period of the newly incorporated town of Fresno. In July, 1886, ordinance was enacted against the sale of cigarettes to youths under sixteen, and there was the ringing of the curfew bell at eight-thirty P. M. as a warning to all under twelve to "scoot home."

In August the school board estimated that \$9,155 would be required for the department of principal, vice and eight teachers and a nine months' term commencing September 1, 1886. There were 680 census school children. The city tax assessment roll totalled \$1,861,202. The tax was one dollar on the \$100 apportioned as follows: General fund forty cents, street twenty-five, school fifteen, sewer ten and river and harbor ten. A commission assumed control of drainage and flood conditions, which were an annual winter menace. The 1886 appointed commissioners were: Thomas E. Hughes, W. L. Graves, M. J. Church and William Helm.

Salaries were small with the start of the incorporated Fresno city as witnesseth the following in April, 1886: city clerk eighty dollars, marshal ditto, policemen sixty dollars, street superintendent twenty-five dollars, recorder the like sum and civil fees, city attorney twenty-five dollars. It is amusing to read in the records that the city had at this time nine fire hydrants. There were also some fire cisterns. September 30, 1886, offer was made to sell to the city a Silsby fire engine for \$3,000 at seven per cent. for three years. The offer was accepted for \$2,750 and wait for your money. The Silsby remained in the department as a reserve until the very last and motorization of the apparatus in 1918. That Silsby was a fearful consumer of coal and during her service had spent on her in repairs many times the cost of the original purchase price. Working at a fire the old Silsby was a grand imitation of a Fourth of July pyrotechnic show.

Things were yet in primitive condition as late as November, 1886, when Ordinance 36 of Municipal Regulations was expanded to 838 sections and that year in December, J. A. Campbell asked the council that O, Mariposa and Fresno Streets be opened to traffic back of the courthouse by bridging the

gullies and water gulches and filling the holes on the line of the streets. It was during this month that I, J and K were opened throughout their length and Mariposa between K and H in the middle of town was guttered. January, 1887, the city having been fourteen months incorporated, the town receipts had been \$26,563.68, the expenditures \$17,717.55 and the cash balance was \$8,846.13.

May 16, 1887, lots 26 and 27 in block 85 were bought by the city from A. Tombs for \$1,500 for a fire engine house site. In October the fire house was moved to the rear of the premises preparatory to the erection of a city hall and engine house 45x65 with contract awarded to R. G. Wood for \$7,500. With the motorization of the apparatus later that old city hall and the lots were sold to Charles H. Riege for \$40,000 and the money invested in new apparatus. Systematic organization was had in November, 1887, of the fire department with Silsby engine, hose cart and hook and ladder, E. R. Higgins and others of the volunteer association turning over the apparatus on acceptance of their tender of services. In December the purchase of the Silsby was completed for \$2,000, and in January of the year after an Ahrens was bought. Up to September, 1887, the apparatus was horseless and T. E. Hughes presented to the city a fine span of horses and J. C. Herrington the harness for them.

There was such a menacing smallpox scare in March, 1887, that 130 had themselves vaccinated and Dr. Pedlar was authorized to secure 250 more vaccine points.

It is amusing to read in these days that in the efforts at street openings and extensions in 1887, the work was impeded by the brick kiln excavations that were encountered as encroachments on the lines of surveyed streets. Also that the various early efforts to raise money by bonding the city for public improvements were sorely trying, vexatious, exacting and altogether fruitless because of the complex and exacting nature of the statutes governing such proceedings.

Recalling the day of small beginnings there is the fact that for the twelve months ending with 1887 the receipts of the city were \$42,192.89, the expenditures \$28,543.40 and the balance on hand \$13,649.40.

It was in the early months of 1888 that exhumation began of the city's dead buried in blocks 11 and 12 bounded by Ventura, Santa Clara, B and D, the second city public cemetery. The first was in the vicinity of M and Stanislaus, six blocks east and three north of the then center of town. No more than nine graves were in that pioneer cemetery. The third cemetery was located in low ground near where the Pollasky depot and the traction company barns are located. It was such water soaked ground that it was said the coffins floated. The second cemetery was reached over the prairie land via Elm Avenue. It is recalled that in March, 1917, while grading C Street, near Ventura, the site of the second cemetery, a box was unearthed containing human remains. So also at the building of the Lincoln school in 1902 at C and Mono half a dozen remains were unearthed in excavations for the foundation. Such discoveries in excavations or the digging of cellars have not been infrequent. The dead were supposed to have all been exhumed in 1888, when the district, now the Russian quarter, was devoted to residences. Apparently many dead of unknown identity or whose graves had been covered over by the shifting sands were left by those engaged in the work of removal. The burials in the third cemetery were few. Mountain View is the fourth city cemetery.

The police of Fresno was first uniformed in October, 1888.

The question of closing the saloons was first before the city council in November, 1888, with a proposition to close doors at eleven at night. The compromise was on the hour of midnight from an all night institution. An attempt to repeal the midnight hour ordinance failed.

February 4, 1889, marks the date of the division of the city into five wards with a councilman from each elected to sit in the board.

Much street improvement work was ushered in in February, 1889, commencing with H, I, J, K and L Streets and the cross streets of Mono, Inyo, Tuolumne, Stanislaus and Calaveras. In the laying out of the new streets, a mistake was made in grading down the natural contour of the land and establishing a grade to conform with which the city was left on a plain as flat as a pancake. So also in sewerage the city, one of the lowest points at Mariposa and J Streets was chosen as a starting point, there being there a natural depression. All sewerage of the city has had to conform with that level. This has involved the cost of thousands upon thousands upon property owners in grading to meet that level and making drainage a problem difficult enough with the flatness of the prairie townsite. A story was long current that the late Fulton G. Berry was the responsible one for this street grade and sewer level because of his Grand Central Hotel, the foundation of which had been laid in the corner depression, and the raising of the brick structure being at the time impractical and cost prohibitive. The story was also that Berry had elected himself a councilman for this purpose and having gained his point his resignation followed soon after. At any rate the filling in of the street corner of the hotel left the basement below the street level.

The feeling between Republicans and the dominant Democrats was acute in early days. In point was the difference which was taken official cognizance of by the council in October, 1888, at the instigation of the Democrats for the removal of a festal Republican arch at Mariposa and J Streets under which the Democrats declined to march in a political procession scheduled for the twenty-fifth of the month. They demanded that the arch be demolished or the Republican mottoes covered from sight. The arch remained but the Republican offending legends were covered and there was peace.

W. H. Harris was appointed engineer of the Silsby fire engine July 9, 1889. He is still in the service as an engineer, the oldest in the department for age and for continuity of service also.

The first city defalcation came to light in July, 1889, in the office of the marshal, when J. H. Bartlett became insane. His cash of \$785 was intact but he was owing the city \$432. In July, 1890, report was made that his accounts showed \$1,148 to be due, \$785 was in bank to his credit, \$309.15 was collected from his bondsmen, leaving fifty-four dollars and seventy-five cents still due the city. February, 1892, offer was made to compromise a claim for over \$300 for half that sum.

The city assessment roll in August, 1889, showed a total property valuation of \$6,858,188—city lots \$4,613,051 and improvements thereon \$1,416,625. September 8th the council considered acquiring a city water supply. There were pending thirty-eight resolutions of intention to do as many street work jobs and fifty-one on sewers.

It was in May, 1890, that the city council instructed that suit be brought to abate as a nuisance the mill ditch on Fresno Street. The matter procrastinated with court injunctions and delayed hearings. February 29, 1892, the city board of health of which T. R. Meux was president and W. T. Maupin the secretary and health officer demanded that because of the dangerous and threatening sanitary condition of the Mill Ditch it be abated, filled up or flushed. Citizens demanded that the two months' old judgment for the abatement of the nuisance be executed. It was March 21, 1892, with the popular filling of the ditch at a cost of \$1,684.20 for filling in and ninety-two dollars for grading in April.

Postmaster N. W. Moody complained in June, 1890, that the free postal delivery service in Fresno was inadequate to the necessities of the residence district and asked for the services of at least three more carriers.

The first chemical fire engine was purchased by the city for \$2,000 to be delivered January 10, 1891. At a meeting of the council that month the declaration was made that the erection of a city hall would "soon be a necessity."

The one time opposition to the methods of the Salvation Army is recalled by the ordinance of October, 1891, forbidding street parades with drums and music. It was passed. Later it was amended to forbid the performance or the making of any noise on musical instrument in public places or in the streets without permission.

It was at a meeting in October, 1891, that the council denounced as "barren and unsightly" the Tulare, Mariposa and H Street vicinity of the Southern Pacific reservation. In November one year later, lease was made of a block of the reservation afterward transformed into Commercial Park at the city's railroad entrance. In February, 1893, there was protest against the obstruction of the view westward along Mariposa Street by the intervening eating house location, suggesting its removal and it was done.

So many applications for franchises for public utilities had been filed with no materializing in anything real that in December, 1891, Councilman Alford fathered a resolution that was passed that whoever applied for a franchise whether for railroad, water, gas, electric light or power, or telephone, accompany the application with a \$500 bond guarantee for the faithful performance and commencement of work, if request is granted.

The year 1892 recalls that in its glory was and on the crest of the wave rode The Triangle in absolute control and dictation of the city political administration. The triple entente and combination was of Councilmen Fahey, Cole and Alford. To their credit be it said however, there had never been a time of greater street and sewer improving, and that the town was beginning to make appreciable showing in cityfied ways. Fahey resigned in October, 1891, but it was only a bluff.

Be it remembered also among other things that the State Democrats "conventioned" in Fresno May 10-24, 1892, and the Prohibitionists for eight days also that month. The Veteran Volunteer Firemen of the state came September 8, 1899.

With the Prohibitionist meeting in Fresno in May, 1892, there was the offsetting report the month after that the Raisin City had seventy-one saloons—forty-six retailers, ten hotels and restaurants selling alcoholic beverages and fifteen wholesalers. Petition was filed with the council against the granting of more liquor licenses. In February, 1893, was started the movement of the Salvation Army for the installation of the drinking fountain at the entrance of the county courthouse park, the county contributing \$500, the city \$250 though it was asked for \$500 also, and the army contributing the remainder on the installation cost of the cast-iron affair.

Would you believe it? The city council in February, 1893, declared Fresno's Chinatown a nuisance that should be abated. It never was abated, it goes without saying.

In November, 1893, the barbers obeying some trade closing regulation asked for a general closing of business from midnight on Saturday until the following Monday morning. This was too suggestive of enforcing a Sunday closing law and proposed ordinance was rejected.

In July, 1894, when an appropriation of \$1,840 was asked for the free library, the city's answer was that there would be no tax levied for the purpose for that fiscal year because of a general business depression.

The San Joaquin Electric Company entered the local field in July, 1895, and in December the San Francisco and San Joaquin Valley Railway Company asked for a franchise through Fresno City via Q Street. The Santa Fe afterward swallowed up the Valley railroad.

Ye gods and little fishes! In August, 1897, the city marshal was ordered to close the keno games in the burg.

It was at a council meeting in November 1897 that "Boss" Spinney made his grand stand play and resigned as a councilman to lessen the friction between board and employes of the city. The resignation was tendered because he knew it would not be entertained and it was not.

The pioneer Fiske opera house on I Street near Mariposa was ordered in September, 1898, to be abated as a nuisance.

In response in February, 1899, for sites for a city hall in the district west of I, south of Merced, east of K and north of Kern, George A. Smith made offer of lots twenty-eight to thirty-two in block seventy at I and Merced for \$5,100. The offer was accepted eventually. In January, 1900, offer of a three-floor city hall building was made for \$45,000. January 3, 1905, the building committee recommended a \$50,000 city hall. In May, competitive plans were asked for, not to exceed \$75,000 in cost. Eugene R. Mathewson was the successful competitor, receiving the \$100 prize. In March, 1906, C. J. Lindgren offered to construct for \$70,000, or \$60,436 exclusive of the basement detention jail. The alternative tender was accepted. The corner stone was laid during the Lyon mayoralty regime.

February, 1899, ushered in a period of considerable street paving with bitumen rock as the material for the first time.

The newspapers were in bad odor with the administration in November, 1899, and for spite the latter conceived a business license of five dollars per quarter on the daily publication and one of two dollars and fifty cents on the weekly.

It was in the month of February that the Chamber of Commerce, the Merchants' Association and the 100,000 Club started agitation for a board of fifteen freeholders to frame a charter for the city. First meeting of freeholders was held July 8, 1901, and the submitted charter was adopted at an election October, 1899, 844 voting for and 107 against it. Eleven amendments were carried by 1,179 votes February 5, 1905.

The health officer and the board of health made a sanitary investigation of Chinatown in May, 1900, with no other result than an attempted clean up comparable in effort to the cleaning up of an Augean stable. Russian town was also to be sewerred but has never been.

In June, 1900, the life of the juvenile was made miserable again with the ringing of the curfew at 8 P. M. nine times.

The thanks of the community were transmitted in the summer of 1900 to Andrew Carnegie for his gift of a \$30,000 library building and the city appropriated \$3,000 annually for the equipment and maintenance of the institution.

S. N. Griffith, H. A. Voorman, W. H. McKenzie, H. C. Tilden and Claus Kroeger were given fifty-year franchise May 16, 1901, for an electric street railway, to pay the city three per cent. on gross proceeds after five years. The corporation obtained control of the horse car lines and electrified them. Sale was later made to the Fresno Traction Company, the present owner.

Police and firemen received increase in pay July 15, 1901. The paid fire department was called into existence November, 1901, and call men were added to the force. James A. Ward was the chief that introduced many changes in the fire service.

In July, 1901, offer of sale was made on an estimate asked for acquiring by purchase the city water works, electric power and electric light service by taking over the existing corporate public utility. Special election was held in December on the propositions with following results: Power, 280 for, 285 against; water 538 for, 557 against; light 195 for, 406 against.

The state encampment of the Odd Fellows was held in Fresno in October, 1901, with the Patriarchs Militant tented in the courthouse park.

Councilman Horace Hawes (now dead) achieved undying fame with introduction September 16, 1901, of his ordinance 394 against the trespass of domestic fowl on the premises of a neighbor. It was passed by a vote



of four to four and a veto overruled in October. The ordinance was amended in November to include pigeons as offending trespassers. In October the agitation against the slot machine was conceived and resulted by a vote of five to three in the passage of an ordinance. Pool rooms also came under the ban. It was at this period that experiments were begun in the use of crude oil for laying down the dust on unpaved streets, giving the appearance of bitumen surfaced streets after having been worked solid by traffic. In June, 1902, with further experimenting oil was used in the grading of streets and slot machine licenses were revoked.

It was May 3, 1903, that F. and Marianne Roeding deeded lots in Roeding's Villa Colony for Roeding City Park and an unanimous vote of thanks was passed to the donors by the council, after a previous administration's turning down of the gift because it would demand a bond issue to improve the land.

A forty-two-year franchise was granted the Santa Fe July 6, 1903, through Fresno City. In December the Fresno Traction Company loomed up on the horizon.

In June, 1904, ordinance was passed requiring the use of gloves in boxing matches.

The Mountain View Cemetery Improvement Association was organized in March, 1905, for the systematic and permanent improvement of the city's home of the dead which had been so neglected as to be an eye-sore. The effect of its work is apparent. The Arbor Club first gave attention to this subject in the planting of trees on Belmont Avenue, the principal thoroughfare to the cemetery.

The liquor question has been a vexatious one for city administrations. In November, 1903, there was demand for the closing of saloons between the hours of 1 and 5 A. M. The nightly curfew at 8 o'clock had been discontinued for the juvenile population. Three years later in March there was an inhibition against the service of liquor in restaurants after 1 A. M. and none to be served at banquets save by special dispensation. In April there was the movement to limit the number of saloons to forty and increase the license to \$1,000 beginning one year later. In April one year later the move was to increase the license from \$500 to \$600 in July. In February, 1908, a proposition to reduce the number of saloons to thirty was tabled; likewise the proposition to close at midnight. In July the Saturday midnight closing was tabled, the vote being four to four and the mayor voting for tabling. In September a referendum on the saloon was asked of the trustees at the next general election by Rev. Irving B. Bristol of the Anti-Saloon League which had interjected the liquor question in the political affairs of the city and forced it on as a public issue. In January, 1909, test case was submitted in court whether the saloon referendum is mandatory, also advancing constitutional and other objectionable features to the movement. That month the proposition was advanced to rescind the liquor licenses granted to Chinese and Japanese aliens. In February Ordinance 599 was submitted to be voted on April 12 that no liquor be dispensed save on a medical certificate, or with a twenty cent meal or generally in quantity less than a quart to be drunk on the premises. The measure was drastic in many features and in October the wine grape growers and wine and brandy makers petitioned the trustees not to pass the saloon closing ordinance. An ordinance doing away with the so-called open saloon met with the usual board vote result—four to four. At the November meeting Mayor Rowell vetoed Ordinance 599, which was the result of the referendum vote by a small majority, and the motion to override the veto was lost—five voting aye, and one no, one member not voting and one absent. There were at this time forty-nine liquor retailers, eight wholesalers, four Class B restaurants, twenty Class A and two club licenses.

The parental school, which afterward became a county institution, was established and equipped by the city school board in July, 1905.

There being no proper safeguards for pedestrians or traffic on the streets crossing the railroad reservation, several fatal accidents having occurred to agitate the popular mind and the railroad taking no heed of the warnings to provide guards, the trustees recommended in September, 1905, that Mariposa Street be opened to traffic across the reservation, that gates and watchmen be placed at the five crossings serving the city from the business district in travel to and from the west. The railroad took notice. Counter propositions resulted. One to open Mariposa with a subway and closing Fresno and Tulare at the surface. Yet another was to open Fresno and place safety gates with guards at all crossings, and to open Mariposa. The result was the acceptance of the compromise of a subway at Fresno instead of a viaduct at Tulare where gates were placed for a time and thus the traffic congestion was in a measure solved after official jockeying.

Sensational incident of the Lyon regime was the one in September, 1905, when the Japanese prostitution houses were closed, twenty-eight arrests were made and the enclosing board fence that concealed the restricted district was torn down by the police. This incident was followed by another staged by a fool chief of police named DeVoe in apprehending the white demi monde, making a daylight parade of the dishevelled and scantily appareled women through principal streets of the city to the county jail. The exhibition was as disgusting as it was typical of the character of the fellow that conceived the spectacle.

The Santa Fe offered Hobart Park in January, 1906, to the city as a "breathing spot" and it was accepted at a nominal rental.

There was in March, 1906, one of the perennial periods of excitement in the city over a threatened inundation by reason of the excessive rains and the flooding by the waters of Dry, Dog, Red Banks and Fancher Creeks. The flood was prevented. Followed the perennial long discussion but no permanent remedial measures were undertaken. There had been floods in times gone by when the railroad reservation and other low ground of the city was under water and the flood water was embanked until lakes were formed and boating was the popular diversion until the rains ceased and the soil took up the water.

In April, 1906, \$1,000 was made as a first donation for the relief of San Francisco after the earthquake and fire. Train was sent with clothing and bed coverings and food and the refugees passing through Fresno from the disaster were publicly fed at the depots. The town's military companies were dispatched to the city to guard property and police the terror stricken city.

F. S. Granger came in September, 1908, with application for a franchise for an interurban railway. The granted franchise of December 7 was forfeited in June, 1909, and application was made for a twenty-five-year franchise for the Fresno, Hanford and Summit Lake Interurban Railway with Granger as vice president, general manager and promoter. The scheme ended in a colossal failure. Right of way was graded in part for an interurban to Sanger but the scheme came to naught as the project could never be financed.

The city playgrounds commission decided in December, 1909, on six available and purchasable sites and in February advocated that \$50,000 be raised by bond issue for the purchase of them. The bond election for \$60,000 was held March 19, 1910, and was carried—847 to 299.

On the same day that the playgrounds election was held in 1910, Englewood Addition, Bloomington Park Tract and Buena Vista Addition voted to annex to the city—ninety-one to sixty-two—and the city voted them in—443 to twenty-eight.

The rock pile was revived in the courthouse park in March, 1911, for the special benefit of the I. W. W.'s, whose presence had then begun to be felt in the city. When these Bolsheviks had filled the jail and hung up the business of the police court with demands for jury trials for disturbances of the peace with addresses from soapbox rostrums, they mutinied. They were

brought to terms with half drowning in cells with fire hose under steam fire-engine pressure. They barricaded themselves behind mattresses in their cells until they cried out "Kamerad" in surrender. The strange thing in connection with this memorable water bombardment was that neither Mayor Rowell, nor Sheriff Chittenden, nor Fire Chief Ward knew who had given the orders for the employment of the fire engine and hose and engine crews for the flooding of the jail.

In May, 1911, there was a scare over the rabies. An ordinance to muzzle dogs was laid on the table by the trustees. In July it was adopted on the recommendation of the board of health.

In July, 1911, endorsement was given the project for the opening to steamboat traffic and navigation of the San Joaquin to Herndon. A steamboat came up as far as the drawbridge at Firebaugh to demonstrate the navigability of the stream. There was popular agitation and the government was petitioned to make survey of the river in anticipation of dredging the river. After the survey the engineers reported against the project on the ground that the commerce in sight from the country watered by the river would not warrant the expenditure of the cost to make the stream a navigable waterway at all times of the year. And the San Joaquin still rolls on to the ocean and Fresno swallowed the deep disappointment of not having been made an inland port.

Freeholders were again selected January 16, 1912, and the amendments to the charter submitted to a vote July 26, were rejected—660 to 1,064. June 27, \$45,000 was voted for the completion of the convention hall of the playgrounds, officially named Rowell Auditorium but popularly called and known as the Auditorium.

After an agitation in protest permission was granted in April, 1912, to the Fresno Traction Company to continue its tracks on a branch through Roeding Park to the cemetery beyond on the west and across Belmont Avenue.

Four years after the first plantings in Roeding Park, it was published to the world that "the landscape effects are an example of what can be accomplished within a short time when public moneys are expended by men whose hearts are in their work and who are not bound in any way by political affiliations."

The first platted maps of Fresno were recorded December 12, 1873, and June 8, 1876, of 150 and 149 blocks respectively. Came then Hughes and White's supplemental of June 22, 1882, covering the territory south between K and V and between Monterey and Mono Streets four blocks south of Mariposa. Then February 15, 1884, S. N. Griffith's ten-acre addition two blocks north of Voorman and his Villa Addition of four blocks March 22, 1884. Thomas E. Hughes recorded a second supplemental map of June 9, 1884, covering the plains between San Diego and Mono, A and G. Followed another, a northern supplemental of June 19, 1884, between Calaveras and Sutter and A to G. Griffith's second addition of November 5, 1884, was of three blocks and his Villa addition of twenty-six lots on Glenn Avenue of November 7, 1884. Then came the Villa Homestead of one block of February 17, 1885, at Diana and Effie. No. 11 was Park Addition of thirty-one acres August 5, 1885. Up to November 25, 1887, a record had been made of forty-two additions and territorial enlargements. Woodward's addition of fifteen blocks was platted March, 1887. It was the first addition to be annexed to the city and the one to have been also the most neglected in all that time in improvements.

The three annexation elections that brought into the city the largest slices of territory were these: Belmont Addition, March 26, 1910, outside territory 182 to 124, inside 443 to twenty-eight; Arlington Heights, July 3, 1914, 170 to 157, and North Fresno, March 18, 1918, 527 to 152.

The city free library became a part of the county library system with the consent of the city government June 4, 1917.

Lieut. W. H. Stevens arrived at March Field, Riverside, Cal., December 27, 1918, from Fresno on the last leg of a flight from Mather Field, near Sacramento, completed in six hours, five minutes actual flying time. This was stated to be the record between the fields. The Fresno-Riverside leg was covered in three hours and five minutes. On the twenty-seventh two parties of aviators were guests of Fresno, one from the north, the other from the south. The northern party was of three military aviators who had started from San Francisco to San Diego on the return journey of a mapping trip for a proposed aerial mail service; the other was making for Sacramento on a similar duty. The San Francisco-Fresno flight was made without stop and was accomplished in two hours and twenty-eight minutes. The other party of three in one machine flying to the state capital made the flight from Los Angeles in two hours and fifty-five minutes. On Christmas Day a flight of three army airplanes from San Diego to San Francisco was completed in ten hours and fifteen minutes actual flying time. The flight which had commenced on Friday the 20th was made in the following laps: San Diego to Los Angeles 2:05; Los Angeles to Mojave 2:20; Mojave to Bakersfield 1:20; Bakersfield to Fresno 1:30; Fresno to Stockton 1:50; Stockton to San Francisco 1:10. The Los Angeles-Fresno flight was made in two hours fifty-five minutes. From San Francisco to Los Angeles is practically half the extreme length of the longest straight line that can be drawn in California. The flying time for these machines, by no means the fastest possible, would for the extreme range be eleven hours. The round trip flight of the three military planes between San Diego and San Francisco was completed December 29 at the first named city. The actual flying time for the 600 miles of the return was seven hours and twenty-eight minutes. The time between points going south: San Francisco to Fresno, 2:38; Fresno to Bakersfield, 1:40; Bakersfield to Venice, 1:45, and Venice to San Diego, 2:05.

There was a recurrence during the second week in December of the Spanish influenza and for the period from the seventeenth to and including the twenty-seventh 915 cases were reported, the daily range during the period being from sixty-seven to 109. At the close of this period the belief was that there were 1,600 cases in the city as many as were ailing at the height of the first visitation. This estimated number probably did not represent the total as the isolation was not so complete, the belief being that only one in six was properly isolated so that the epidemic would have to run out its course. At one time during the previous outbreak seventy-six cases were isolated at the county hospital, seventy-four at the Christian Church emergency hospital, thirty at the Day Nursery hospital and twenty-six at the Parlor Lecture Club hospital, whereas on the twenty-eighth there were only eighty-one isolated at the Red Cross hospital, and one-third of these probably from the city. At the county hospital there were fifty-five mixed city and county patients. Physicians were remiss in reporting cases and the figures are therefore not absolutely correct. After December 1, marking the beginning of the flare up, the deaths to the twenty-seventh were forty-eight, and for the two months of the former epidemic, 125. With the return of the epidemic, the wearing of masks was again insisted upon, and the ordinance was amended to make no minimum punishment for infraction, whereas before it was twenty dollars. The result was that before infractors pleading guilty had their cases continued and paid no fine; under the amended ordinance the fine imposed was five dollars or imprisonment at the rate of a dollar a day. The board of health recommended a cessation of all business save drug stores and restaurants after seven o'clock in the evening and with no public gatherings or assemblies. To this latter restriction the trustees did not give formal recognition in an ordinance, though by resolu-

tion endorsing the recommendation. The result was in effect to enforce only the wearing of the masks. To save patients who were in dangerous state appeal was made for volunteers to give up their blood for transfusion and the appeal was generously responded to. The restrictions during the first epidemic continued for two months. With the closing of the year there was serious disagreement between the city trustees and the board of health as to the restrictions to be enforced to wipe out the second epidemic, notably in the recommendation to close the city absolutely to business and enforce quarantine. The health board was so incensed over the apparent lack of cooperation that the members tendered their resignations as a body. The county also passed ordinance with restrictions affecting the county at large outside of the incorporated towns, especially in the matter of the quarantine of all infected households.

The city building record for the year 1918 shows a total investment of \$1,498,850, a decrease of \$284,803 on the year before, traceable to the war conditions and the non-construction restrictions. The decrease was largely in new construction work. When non essential construction work was halted in September the total for the year was \$1,436,455, an increase of \$76,362 over 1917 at the same time. For the year the alteration and repair work total was \$323,368, an increase of \$70,365 over the year before.

Bank clearings for 1918 total \$127,739,180.12 as against \$108,314,637.96 for the year before, the lowest monthly in 1918 in June and the total \$7,601,976.03 and the top notch in November with \$14,423,195.21. It was a splendid year of business, despite the setback of the late rain and the influenza. They did not affect the Liberty loans nor all the other war work contributions.

A product of Fresno City is Frank Chance, known to his intimates as "Husky," and in his day regarded as one of the greatest of baseball players, whether as an exponent of the game as first-baseman, or as the manager of the Chicago Nationals who won the pennant for them three times, or whether as manager of the New York Yanks. It was the boast that in his day on the diamond Fresno never had a more potent advertising agency. The baseball fans raved over him as "Peerless Frank."

Fresno received national recognition at the hands of Maj.-Gen. Charles T. Mencher, as director of the air service, in selecting it in the first batch as one of the thirty-two cities in the United States where municipal flying fields would be established by the post office department and where the air service cross-country routes required intermediate aerial mail stations.

On June 12, 1919, was held an election in the city to vote a bond issue of \$2,000,000 to provide enlarged school facilities. Of this sum \$880,000 was allotted for the improvement of the elementary schools and \$1,120,000 for the improvement of the high schools, including in this sum \$750,000 for a new high school, \$50,000 for a site, \$95,000 for equipment, \$200,000 for intermediate schools, and \$25,000 for the old high schools, making of the latter four junior high schools. A citizens' committee endorsing the bond issue advanced the interesting campaign argument that the city had doubled population since 1910; the increase in the number of school children had kept pace with the population, but the school facilities had fallen short of the requirements demanded by the great enrolment increase. The increase in pupils since 1908 was set forth in the following figures: 1908, 4,977; 1909, 6,256; 1910, 5,216; 1911, 5,538; 1912, 5,926; 1913, 7,203; 1914, 8,312; 1915, 8,540; 1916, 8,764; 1917, 8,299; 1918, 10,439. The result of the election was to carry the bonds, and, as on the occasion some years before at the special election to vote bonds to acquire sites for the city playgrounds, a parade with banners was held the day before and thousands of school children were marshaled to influence public opinion. The vote was: For High School Bonds, for, 2,022; against, 252. For Elementary Schools, for, 2,082; against, 202. The new high school will be on a thirty-acre site on the Sweet Tract.

As a part of its 1919 fall program of service improvement and development, the Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Company announced the expenditure of between \$50,000 and \$60,000 in an extension of its cables in northern and eastern Fresno. The company made the more interesting announcement that, as the result of its house-to-house canvass, the city proper was shown to have a population of 55,000. If all the territory immediately adjacent to the corporate limits were added in this canvass, the population would be approximately 60,000.

Report was made June 2, 1919, of the sale, by A. B. Clark and O. L. Everts, to Charles R. Puckhaber, of the 23½x150 lot and brick building on J Street, between Mariposa and Fresno, for \$57,000. As representing the highest paid price of \$2,000 a front foot for a city business property, the deal was significant. The sold property was the site of the Olney & Johnson shoe store, the buyer owning the adjacent property of like size.

A city election is to be held about September 9, to vote a special tax levy to carry the city over the fiscal year 1919-20. The money needed is for the following: Street Lighting Fund, \$75,000; Budget Increases, \$39,000; Liquor License Revenue Loss, \$75,000; Salary Increases, \$36,000; Total, \$225,000. There are five tax rates in the City of Fresno. The tax rate for the coming fiscal year will be an increase of \$1.50 to \$2.08, including the special levy. This will be the rate in the original territory of the city; the other rates cover later territorial additions which are not taxable for general bond issues voted before they became a part of the city. The charter limits the rate to \$1 on the \$100 for general administrative purposes. Manifestly that rate could not raise the above special demands of the times.

The movement was started at a Commercial Club gathering, June 6, 1919, on the suggestion of Charles L. McLane of the Fresno Normal, that the new Fresno high school be erected as a memorial in honor of the Fresno boys who went to war. One detail suggested was to have inscribed on the walls of the auditorium of the building the name of every Fresno soldier, sailor or marine, in the service of his country during the war in Europe.

The newly organized Jewish congregation of the Temple Israel in this city celebrated, at its then meeting-place in the auditorium of the Woodmen of the World, on June 3, 1919, the festival of Schoubuth. It was the first observance in Fresno. The service was conducted by Rabbi Julius Leibert, formerly of South Bend, Ind. At this service was presented the sacred scroll known as Torah, by S. Hartman, a pioneer of Merced, who had owned the scroll for thirty years, having received it from his father who had sent it from Jerusalem. This Torah had been in the Hartman family for sixty years. These sacred scrolls are the work of the rabbinical schools in Palestine.

The announcement was made, June 4, 1919, that the wrecking of the buildings at the corner of J and Fresno Streets would begin in September, to clear the site for a 12-story, reinforced terra-cotta, steel-frame building to be the tallest between San Francisco and Los Angeles, 153 feet from the sidewalk to the cornice. It will be erected for Andrew Mattei, the winemaker, will cost approximately \$400,000, and will be completed for occupancy, September 15, 1920. Ice-cold water in every room will be a feature. The building ground-area will be 150x50, the latter on J Street, with entrance. It will contain 225 offices, have its own electric and water-plant, and the vestibule and stair hall will be elaborately finished in Italian marble. The grape bunches to be used in ornamentation are an emblem of the owner in his business as a winemaker. The structure will also have a 10-foot basement covering the ground area. It will be a splendid edifice and the third sky-scraper in Fresno.

A notable sale reported early in July, 1919, was that of the pioneer southwest corner at I and Mariposa, 125x50, for approximately \$1,200 a front foot. The corner was popularly known as "Degen's Corner," from the



fact that William Degen conducted a saloon there for some eighteen years after the erection of this, one of the first two-story brick buildings in the city. Sale was by the Jerry Ryan Estate to O. J. Woodward, Thomas E. Risley, and A. V. Lisenby. The five-year leases will prevent building for several years to come.

It was found necessary to hold a second special city election, in August, 1919, to vote \$200,000 bonds for the sewerage project of North Fresno (annexed territory to the city). All proceedings in connection with the sale of bonds to a Sacramento bank were found to be invalid. The initiating resolution of intention was found to be defective, in that it did not declare when it should become effective. The project was contemplated under a state improvement act of 1915 and nothing being contained in the city charter on the subject, it became a legal question whether, for such an improvement, a special assessment district can be formed, within the city, of territory less than the city itself in area. In any event, and even after another special election to ratify and legalize the issue of the bonds, the legal question will have to be litigated in an agreed case.

Following organization of the teachers in the Fresno High School as a local union of the American Federation of Teachers, those of the elementary and grammar grades of the city schools voted on the night of April 23, 1919, to form a second local of the federation which is affiliated with the American Federation of Labor. The high school local also affiliated with the Fresno labor council and the other was expected to do likewise. Eighty-four signed the articles of federation and eighty the application for a charter. The articles read that: "Members shall co-operate in securing and maintaining efficiency along all lines in the school department, co-operate in all the movements looking toward better working conditions, and co-operate loyally in securing and maintaining all the rights and benefits to which teachers are entitled." In passing, it might be mentioned that the Ministerial Union of clergymen was upon a time, and probably is yet, affiliated after a fashion with the labor council and entitled to have representatives at its sessions.

Notable city sale was that reported April 28, 1919, by Frank H. Short of "The Palms," four lots 150 feet on Calaveras and 100 on J, to John Bidegaray for \$32,000. It was the original location of the Burnett Sanitarium. There was talk of the purchaser erecting a \$200,000, seventy-apartment, six-story house with roof garden, open court entrance on Calaveras and another on J. Equally notable sale was the one of a few weeks before of the Gen. M. W. Muller four lots at Tuolumne and Van Ness for \$42,000. The original Muller cottage was in 1885 one of the most attractive Fresno City homes and two blocks from the courthouse was considered as being in the suburbs.

The \$200,000 bond issue for the sewerage of the newly annexed North Fresno territory was carried at the election March 25, 1919, by a vote of 485 to three. The negatives, it was said, represented the father, wife and son in one household. Had the bonds not carried it was understood that the state board of health would have intervened and compelled construction of sewer as a sanitary necessity. Sale of bonds and award of contract for a portion of the sewer were followed by rescinding of all proceedings on account of various legal defects. The proceedings had to be begun anew and another election to vote the bonds was to have been held during the latter part of the month of August 1919.

The project to erect the first synagogue in the county so far advanced that a meeting of the Jewish population was had on the night of April 3, 1919, to choose a site and take steps to raise \$30,000 to buy two lots and erect the building. The committee in charge of the project was Harry Coffee, L. I. Diamond, L. M. Mendelsohn, J. H. Mittenthal, and Saul Samuels. Jewish worship has been had at long intervals and on the great holidays by visiting or invited rabbis and the members of the faith had come to the belief that the time was at hand for a synagogue not only as a place for worship but

also as a center of Jewish activities. The nearest synagogues are at Stockton and Sacramento. The plan involves the calling of a rabbi from the Cincinnati rabbinical college to be permanently located.

Recording of amended articles of incorporation by the Sperry Flour Company showing an increase of the capital stock from \$4,200,000 to \$6,000,000 in 60,000 shares in accordance with a vote of the directorate on March 31, 1919, contemplated, it was said, an extension of the flour mill holdings and purchase of warehouses, storage plants and steamers for ocean and river transportation, and also the expenditure of \$400,000 in construction of new mill, grain elevator and warehouse in Fresno City. The latter will be erected on a triangular property acquired from the Southern Pacific on its right of way on San Diego Street with the larger frontage on the extension of Van Ness Avenue through Woodward's Addition. The grain elevator is already constructed, receiving the grain direct from the cars, but it is trucked to the mill uptown. The pioneer mill erected thirty or more years ago and located at Fresno and N Streets will be disposed of when the new plant is in existence. However great the increase in the orchard and vineyard plantings, it is figured that Fresno will always be the main distributing point for the valley and that there will always be such an acreage in grain as to warrant location here of one large flouring mill. This is cited as another strong piece of evidence of the confidence that capitalists have in this city as the commercial center of the valley and of Central California.

At a meeting and banquet of 150 men of St. Paul's M. E. Church South held on the evening of April 28, 1919, it was voted to construct a greater church at a cost of \$75,000 to \$100,000 and a building fund was started with subscriptions then and there obtained amounting to \$6,500. The canvass was conducted by Bishop H. M. Du Bose, whose diocese covers the territory beginning at the eastern boundary of Montana and includes the states of Idaho, Washington, Oregon, California, Arizona and New Mexico. St. Paul's was the first church building erected in Fresno, and it is the oldest congregation. Whether its highly valuable property with the adjoining parsonage at Fresno and L Streets, opposite the courthouse square of four blocks, shall be sold for \$75,000 and this used as a fund to locate and build elsewhere or whether the present brick building shall be razed and the larger house of worship be erected on the oldest church site in the city, has yet to be determined. The sense was in favor of a sale and to add \$25,000 to the realized sale price to construct elsewhere the finest church building in Fresno, desirable sites being purchasable not far away at prices ranging from \$18,000 to \$25,000, though there is a division of opinion as between a site in a thickly settled residence district and the down-town location. The plan according to the bishop is to construct here a large central church with at least two secondary churches to form a link in a chain extending from Seattle to New Mexico in the diocese. The other churches that were located in close proximity to the courthouse square have been the Episcopal, still at Fresno and N and the second oldest, the Roman Catholic that was at Fresno and M and the Cumberland Presbyterian that was at Tulare and N Streets.

That Fresno City is a labor center is evidenced by the figures of the State Public Employment Bureau. For the fiscal year that ended March 1, 1919, the Fresno bureau filled 9,315 positions and ranked fourth in the state. San Francisco, Oakland and Sacramento made greater returns. Since the opening of the bureau August 23, 1917, and to the 1st of March, 1919, 22,100 men and women were placed in positions in Fresno and surrounding country. The bureau sounded the death knell of the old-time "intelligence offices," so-called.

Announcement was made at a meeting on the night of April 22, 1919, of the consummation of plans in a merger of all the creameries in the valley from Bakersfield on the south to Merced on the north as the largest co-operative undertaking in California in the San Joaquin Valley Milk Producers'

Association with headquarters in Fresno. The county contributed as merging units the Danish Creamery of Fresno, the Riverdale Co-operative Creamery of Riverdale and the Caruthers Cheese Factory of Caruthers. The stated combined output of the merged creameries is \$15,000,000 annually and the capital in the transaction approximately \$1,000,000 in equipment and buildings. It is proposed to erect at Tulare City a plant for the manufacture of all by-products of milk.

The city board of education announced about the middle of the month of May, 1919, an approximate estimate of \$1,500,000 to be voted on as a bond issue June 10 to be expended in the construction of a new high school building and in the remodeling and building of the elementary and other schools. The high school would alone cost \$750,000. In this connection it was stated that on the basis of the growth of the high school in six years from 700 to 1703 pupils the bond issue would not alone be helpful to the present but to the future. The city schools were expanding rapidly and if the increase was maintained in the high the number of pupils in another half dozen years would be 3,750.

Supplementing the five years' antecedent gift to the city by her sister, the late Mrs. Julia A. Fink-Smith, Mrs. Augusta P. Fink-White, wife of Truman C. White, the pioneer, presented to the City Playgrounds Commission, through her attorney, at a meeting held June 5, 1919, a deed for City Block 363, excepting two lots not owned by her, for a site for another municipal playground for children. The block is separated from the sister's donated block (362) only by the width of a street. The condition of the gift was that the blocks be made one continuous playground, with closing of alley and street, and that they be improved for the purposes of the gift, be fenced in, and that on the east side there be placed above the gateway a sign, "Fink-Smith Annex." The special request was made that a municipal swimming pool be constructed on Block 363 as soon as the finances of the city warranted.

## PERSONAL RECOLLECTIONS

Brigadier General Jacob H. Smith, U. S. A. (obit at San Diego, Cal., March 1, 1918), was a retired veteran of the Civil War, participated in Indian campaigns and saw service in the Spanish War in the Philippines. Fresno Camp No. 6 of the Spanish War Veterans is named for him, as many of the members served under him. In the service, he was known under the nickname of "Hell Roaring Jake."

Mrs. Mary E. Lawson, who died December 22, 1917, came with husband, B. F. Lawson, to Fresno from Ohio in 1884, locating at the Lomasco vineyard. She was for a decade matron at the county almshouse.

James E. Williams, who died at San Luis Obispo November 7, 1917, was with his father, Samuel H., one of the first undertakers in this city, located on H Street near where the Collins Hotel stands now. He was also engineer of one of the first trains that ran out of this city.

Pulaski C. Eastin who died near Merced November 2, 1917, was prominent as a rancher and stockman in Madera, Cal., where he had lived since his seventh year, born at Knight's Ferry, Cal., July, 1854, and the son of J. T. Eastin, who came as a pioneer to this section in 1850 from Kentucky. The latter outlived him.

C. C. Merriam was sixty-eight years of age at time of death, December 14, 1917. He was a member of the bar and in the days before the charter acted as the city attorney of Fresno.

William F. Coffman, who died at the home of a daughter at Madera in the year 1898, was a state pioneer of 1849, and the man that built the first wagon road into the Yosemite Valley.

Mrs. Hannah Hammond (obit Fresno, March 3, 1918) was a pioneer of Kings, coming across the plains in 1863 and later to this county.

George F. Clark (obit March 13, 1918) was one of the oldest veterinarians in the valley, twenty-three years a city resident and at death lacked a few months of being eighty-nine years of age. He served in the Confederate army.

The death, March 5, 1918, at Dinuba of Robert F. Dunn recalls the haberdashery firm of Chisholm & Jones, once located at Mariposa and J, with which he was connected. He was one of the pioneers of the Dinuba region in the transformation of it from grain fields to orange orchards and vineyards. For eight years and up to 1916 he was the Dinuba manager of the Griffin-Skelley Packing Company.

E. L. Austin who died in Oakland January 31, 1918, was a Fresno resident from 1891 to 1911 when he moved on account of his health. He was a grocer on Tulare Street and in 1895 was elected a city trustee for one term, when a Republican was a rarity.

Ben Williams, who passed away May 29, 1918, was an old resident and a local character in his day. He was one of the drivers of the early day one-horse car line on Tulare Street with town terminus at Mariposa and J. Every man, woman, child knew him. The pioneer street car lines were wonderful institutions—jokes in comparison with the present day electric line and its branches. There were three pioneer lines; one from down town out Blackstone Avenue to the car barns at White Avenue and Effie Street; one from Mariposa, up Mariposa along K to Tulare and out to the Pollasky depot, and the third starting from the Hughes Hotel along I to Ventura Avenue to the fair grounds. The lines ran "bob tailed" little cars, discarded from the

San Francisco line to Woodward's Gardens, the great Sunday public resort.

Mrs. Sallie Cole Sample, who died December 27, 1917, at the age of sixty-three, was a resident of the county since childhood and lived for years at Academy. She was the wife of David C. Sample, well known cattleman, and the mother of eleven children, ten of whom survived her, as did her mother, Mrs. W. T. Cole of Clovis. All the children were at the bedside when she died. She was a native born of Solano County. Eight sisters also survived her. Pall-bearers at the funeral were: M. K. Harris, E. E. Mannheim, George Cosgrave, Dr. J. C. Cooper, Dr. Geo. H. Bland and E. D. Edwards.

The oldest pioneer resident of Fresno City and the one credited with the longest continuous residence is Russell H. Fleming. His name will be found frequently mentioned in this history. He was a resident of the county as a stage driver long before Fresno City was thought of, and after its founding was its first postmaster. In his day he was an important personage.

Henry W. Clinch died at the age of sixty-eight in Fresno, November 13, 1917. Thirty years a resident, he was until about twenty years ago connected with the Expositor newspaper in the mechanical department and when it suspended founded the Franklin Printing Company.

William H. Kerr died at Loma Linda, Cal., February 26, 1918, whither he had gone for medical treatment. He was a pioneer of Alcalde of eighteen years before, several years later was elected justice of the peace and moved to the new Coalinga, serving until January, 1918, when he resigned to accept the postmastership. He was active in politics, a kindly rugged man of the old western type and numbered friends by the thousands.

A California pioneer of 1852 was Mrs. Hannah L. Lonsdale, who at the age of seventy-nine years died in Fresno, a widow, June 7, 1918. She crossed the continent in wagon, settled in Humboldt County, went through the early Indian troubles in that northern county, and was a school teacher for years. A sister is Mrs. W. F. Leavitt, school teacher, and wife of the last fire chief of the Fresno city volunteer fire department.

First white male child born January, 1841, in Kent County, Mich., with Indians as his playmates at Grand Rapids was Benjamin F. Sliter, who died in Fresno City at the age of seventy-seven years June 8, 1918. He was a Michigan pioneer, taught school, was a lawyer but on account of failing eyesight never practiced in California, came to this state in 1903 and to Fresno after residing in three other cities.

James Madison, who was manager of the California Raisin Association, has returned to his former haunts on California Street in San Francisco and is a regular again in maritime circles, enticed by the seductive influence of the salt water and the fog of the bay. While today one of the big men on shipping row with his brokerage and shipping interests, time was when his career was a much more humble one in the 80's, associated with Joseph H. Redmond in the tugboat business and "Jim," as he was hailed then, very much on deck on "steamer days" collecting tug hire bills. He became afterward a partner in the shipping firm of Lorenz Ford and was associated in the successful salvage of the wreckage of the several men of warships stranded at Apia harbor in the memorable hurricane of March 16, 1889, which providential interference stayed then America's punishment of Prussia for an insult to the American flag. Later he bought an ancient Norwegian bark, renamed her the Margaret and after placing her under American register sailed her the seven seas over, added to the Madison shekels which were invested in Fresno and paved the way to enter the raisin business.

Jasper N. ("Uncle Jess") Musick, who died in June, 1918, was probably in membership the oldest Odd Fellow in the county.

George E. Andrews, aged a little over eighteen, and son of Public Administrator G. R. Andrews, was killed February 20, 1918. His slayer received in May the court sentence of one year's imprisonment in the penitentiary.

The slayer was Giuseppe Imperatrice. The slain youth was not forty-eight hours old, when in a spirit of fun application was made in his behalf for membership in Manzanita Camp No. 160 of the Woodmen of the World, of which his father was then and for years after the clerk. The application was duly recommended and favorably voted on and safely stored away in safe by the proud parent. On the eighteenth anniversary of his birthday, June 19, 1917, which was also camp meeting night, the lad was initiated on that resurrected membership application.

Mrs. J. H. Minard, who died June 4, 1918, was the widow of a former elder of the Christian Church and the mother of twelve children. The Minards came to California in 1877, locating at Butte City and removing to Fresno in 1888.

Miss Boletta Jorgensen (obit Estrella Vineyard, April, 1918) was a daughter of Chris Jorgensen, chairman of the supervisors, and sister of Miss Fannie Jorgensen, deputy county treasurer. She had been a teacher in the Madison and Wolters districts.

June 6, 1918, died at Selma, Catherine L. Holmes, at the age of seventy-four, a resident for twenty-seven years, and wife of George W. Holmes, for many years postmaster of Selma. Three sisters and two brothers, seven sons and daughters, seven grandchildren and three great grandchildren survived her.

Mrs. Sarah M. Simpson, who died at Exeter in May, 1918, at the age of seventy-seven, was one of the earliest pioneers of the Academy region. She was of the Baley family.

Scott McKay, the county surveyor who died in May, 1918, was noted for the accuracy of his work. It is he, who is responsible for the easy grade (averaging six per cent.) mountain scenic roads in the county. A monument to his road building capacities is the Sand Creek road. He ran in late years the boundary line surveys between Fresno and Kings and Tulare Counties and left unfinished the Coast Range crest line survey with Merced.

John F. Boling, who at the age of sixty-two died May 11, 1918, at Lane's Bridge where he located in 1877, was the eldest son of the John Boling, a sheriff of Mariposa of the late 50's and the man who commanded a company of Major Savage's Mariposa battalion that pursued the renegade Yosemite Indians into the famous valley, one of the first parties of whites to enter the great gorge. John F.'s aged mother still lives in San Francisco. He has been given the distinction of having been the first white born, or one of the first, at old Hornitas in Mariposa.

The death at the home of his son, Luther E. Weldon, city trustee of Clovis, of A. J. Weldon in May, 1918, was the first in the family in forty years. The decedent was seventy-nine years of age, for nearly thirty years a resident of the locality and prominent as a grain farmer in that section. He entered the Confederate army from Texas, served four years and was taken a prisoner. In the family are eight children and nineteen grandchildren.

John D. Hickman, who died in Fresno City in May, 1918, founded shortly after arrival from Illinois the national bank at Fowler, retiring after about five years to look after his Fresno and Madera ranching. He came from Monmouth, where he was in business with his brother J. R. Hickman, former Fresno County treasurer. He financed here the colony named for the Illinois town, a prosperous colony of a superior class of colored people. The decedent was seventy years of age at death.

William H. Story, a Tennessean who died in May, 1908, crossed the plains to California late in '49, mined in Plumas and then in Nevada where he lived sixteen years, coming to Fresno in 1883, engaging in the dairy business and made his home in the suburbs of this city on Echo Avenue, when that locality was considered to be out in the wilderness, as it were. In religious belief he was a Spiritualist.



Mark I. Nidever (obit January 12, 1918) was seventy-five years of age and could relate a world of experiences as a California pioneer of sixty-four years ago and of Fresno of thirty-two years. He was Arkansas born.

Cornelius Curtin (obit January 23, 1918, at sixty-seven) was one of the first settlers in 1877 of Madera when it was part of Fresno and long before dream of separation. His surviving son, County Clerk William R. Curtin, was his only child. Curtin was a man of property and a familiar figure in the little northern town. He died in Fresno.

At the age of eighty years H. G. De Witt died (January 19, 1918) at Berkeley, Cal., at the family home. The wife's death preceded his by about four years and shortly after the couple had celebrated its golden wedding anniversary. Dr. De Witt, as he was known, had a busy career. He was a Baptist minister in early life and for thirty-two years in evangelistic work holding meetings in the southern states during the Civil War and also in the Mormon settlements when his doctrines were not popular with that sect. Twenty years ago he resigned the charge of the First Baptist Church of this city and as the representative of the Bank of Sacramento's large holdings in the Clovis district took up the work of selling them and placing settlers, acquiring himself considerable property which is yet in the family or under sale contracts and also owning property in Oakland and Berkeley. His name is a frequent one in the records of the county recorder and the clerk in transfers of land or suits to enforce contracts or foreclose.

William E. Gilmour, who died in Oakland at the age of about seventy-five, will be recalled as a former owner of valuable city property, notably the one acquired on Mariposa Street by the Union National Bank, which it remodeled in an enlargement of the premises. A foster daughter is Mrs. Samuel D. Hines, wife of a lawyer of Fresno who made criminal law a specialty and was counsel in some of the most celebrated cases in the county.

With the death in November, 1917, of Osmer Abbott passed away a man prominent in educational circles. He had taught in Hawaii before coming to Fresno in 1899, was principal of the Fresno high school, for eleven years principal of the Easton school, later for six years of the Coalinga school and organized the town's public library, and at the time of his death had been for three years the supervising principal of the schools at Hanford in Kings County. He was for two terms before that a member of the Fresno County board of education.

Isaac A. Melvin, eighty-one years of age at death in November, 1917, was a resident for nearly forty years and on coming here from Pennsylvania was in the sheep business on a large scale. The warehouse on the Santa Fe is named for him. A son-in-law is the chairman of the city planning commission, Miles O. Humphreys.

Henry M. Rice (obit at Madera at eighty-four) was the father-in-law of former Sheriff W. B. Thurman of Madera and a man that experienced all the vicissitudes of the early comer, in his life making and losing several competencies. Bostonian born, he was named for an uncle governor of Minnesota; came to California in 1852 via the isthmus route, followed the cattle and mining business for a decade in this state; moved to Oregon as one of the pioneer settlers in Grant County; dabbled in politics and was a supervisor; married and the ceremony was performed by Joaquin Miller, "the Poet of the Sierras," then a judge in the county. For the last quarter of a century he made homes in Mariposa, Fresno and Madera Counties, the last ten years spent in the last named county.

The pioneer minister of the Episcopal Church in the San Joaquin Valley was Rev. O. D. Kelley, aged seventy-four years and eighteen days. Wife and four sons survived him. He served three years in the Union army as an Ohioan; spent fifteen months as a prisoner of war; studied law and practiced in California until 1870 and was ordained in 1872; became rector of St. James Church of Fresno in 1879 and served in that capacity until 1891;

also began the Episcopal Church work in Modesto, Merced, Visalia, Tulare, Selma, Hanford, Madera, Reedley and Lodi. The little rectorate has grown into a diocese with a bishop and the little church at Fresno and N Streets has become the pro-cathedral.

The claim for mention of Mrs. Sarah Reed, who died in Fresno at the age of eighty-seven in April, 1913, after widowhood for twenty-five years, was that in her younger days she was the boarding house mistress of James A. Garfield, when he was a lad of eighteen and attending the seminary at Chester Cross Roads in Geauga County, Ohio. It was there that he met Lucretia Rudolph who afterward became Mrs. Garfield. The winter after Garfield's stay at Chester took him to Cleveland to ship as a sailor on lake schooners.

The death of A. L. Sayre at his Madera home in December, 1917, was sudden following an illness of only a day after having taken for breakfast a little grapefruit and a glass of milk. He was a leading citizen of Madera interested in creamery and vineyard and at one time conducted a packing house. He was a director of the first raisin association and at the time of his unexpected death was a director of the California Peach Growers' Company.

Sudden was death's call to Miles Wallace (February 24, 1917), lawyer, U. S. commissioner and only a few weeks before elected president of the Fresno Chamber of Commerce at the time in the midst of a membership campaign to rehabilitate that organization. Mr. Wallace was for thirty years an active man in civil and political life in Fresno and Madera counties. His health was never good and he suffered intermittently as a result of the crushing of an ankle in an accident when nineteen years of age, necessitating operations at intervals. He was born at Murfreesboro, Tenn., February 19, 1861; studied law in Kentucky; practiced in Texas and later in Arkansas; came to Sanger in Fresno thirty years ago and after living there six years, cast his lot with Madera. He was one of the advocates of county division and was elected the first district attorney of the new county, and also married Miss Anna Dickinson, daughter of the late James Dickinson, lumber man of Madera. Next he was for two years under the Budd administration guardian of the Yosemite Valley as a state park, returning thereafter to Fresno to resume the practice of the law and had continued here since. Mr. Wallace was accounted a "spellbinder," was frequently called upon to make campaign speeches, to preside at public meetings, act as toastmaster at celebrations; took an active interest in politics and for a time was lecturer for the chamber of commerce in Los Angeles to secure homeseekers for the San Joaquin Valley, acting in the same capacity at the Panama Canal Exposition in 1915. In 1902 he made an unsuccessful campaign as a candidate on the Democratic ticket for the state senate against the late Dr. Chester Rowell; in 1915 was appointed U. S. Land Commissioner for the district but resigned after one week because of ill health and was succeeded by Frank Laning of Fresno, former city attorney, and one year later was appointed federal commissioner. Mr. Wallace's mother and brother, Lee, perished in the Galveston flood.

Hedge's addition, one of the acreage enlargements of the city after cutting up into town lots, recalls the name of James D. Hedges, who died at the age of eighty-six November 3, 1917. The wife Rebecca still lives.

Many incidents cluster about the memory of George B. Otis, who claimed direct descent from the James Otis of Revolutionary fame, who was the last of the group of four that founded the town of Selma and himself was the man that gave the town its name. His death on the last day of April, 1918, was at the family home homesteaded in 1876 on the sand plain where stands today Selma, "the Home of the Peach." The Otis family came to California in 1856 via the isthmus from Wisconsin, settling in Sonoma County. It was in the centennial year that he accumulated 600 acres, established his home at what was to be in time Selma and in 1880

with three others platted the town, and lived there until he removed to Berkeley, his father having died there in 1865 on the site of what is now the state university grounds. The son was a charter member of Selma Lodge No. 309, I. O. O. F., one of the founders of the Episcopal Church and one of the builders of the first canal system in the section, the plans for which were laid out on the tables of the Otis house which were the headquarters of the constructing engineer. From the sand wastes he presciently selected properties destined to become the most valuable city business sites and time justified his judgment. The sweep of the wind over the sand plains often effaced all surveyor's marks and many are the stories told of Mr. Otis giving his time unsparingly and with no hope of reward bringing about agreeable settlement of disputes, having the faculty of being able to locate points and digging down uncover the charcoal deposit in which the surveyor had set stake but which cattle had trampled down or wind covered with sand. The founding of the town of Selma was a long and discouraging undertaking.

Identified for forty-four years with the history of the city, it was always the pride of the late Herman Levy that the distinction of being the first man to be made a Mason in Fresno was his as a member of Fresno Lodge No. 247, F. & A. M. His death was on March 6, 1918, at the age of sixty-two. His long connection with merchandising had given him a most extensive acquaintanceship. His coming here was in 1874; his earliest business connection was with Kutner, Goldstein Company; afterward at Borden eighteen miles northwest and at the time the great rival of Fresno and later back to Fresno in the clothing business, first located at the drug store corner at J and Mariposa, later at other locations on Mariposa, and eighteen years ago retiring to take up life insurance. He was an ardent Democrat; interested in public affairs and was one of the freeholders that drafted the charter under which the city operates. The Levy home on Van Ness Avenue is one of the residence land marks of the days when the immediate neighborhood was known as "Nob Hill."

When John Tim Walton died November 2, 1917, there passed away a charter member of the Veteran Firemen's Association, an enthusiastic fireman, a former chief of the volunteer department days and one of the greatest "base ball fans" that any town could boast of. He was a grocer in business. Few knew that the name "John" was his.

The name of Mrs. Millie Hill (obit December 19, 1917) is linked with some of the earliest pioneers of the county. She was eighty-three years of age, the sister of the late Mrs. J. W. Reese, aunt of Mrs. A. D. Ferguson wife of the fish and game warden and of Dr. T. J. Patterson of Visalia son of a member of the first board of Fresno's supervisors on organization of county.

One of the largest funerals held in Reedley was the one February 13, 1918, of Daniel L. Meekel, a settler of the town thirty years ago, long in business there and for the last fifteen years as a land and insurance agent.

Pioneer and builder was Elisha A. Manning (obit at Hanford at age of eighty-three, January 27, 1918). He went to Hanford from Oakland, 1872, attracted by the opening of the country with the building of the railroad; took up government land; was a prime mover in the building up of the irrigation system in the Mussel Slough district (recalling the railroad massacre of settlers over disputed lands) extending for 125 miles and the first big irrigation enterprise in the then "Baby Kings County;" after thirteen years of activities moved to Fresno and entered the business partnership of Thomas, Sharp & Manning colonizing the Perrin lands, Manning interesting himself in bringing water there; later he moved to Kerman, in this county, building himself a ranch home and starting another colonization as a pioneer and a member of the partnership of Manning & McCullen; in December, 1917, ill health because of declining years compelled return to Hanford.

An active man in his day and like General Grant never seen without a cigar in mouth was Richard B. Butler, one of the first to take up raisin growing on a large scale. A North Carolinian, born in May, 1846, he spent his youth in Alabama and in 1862 at the age of sixteen enlisted in the Confederate cavalry under Gen. Jos. Wheeler, served throughout the war and was wounded several times. Three years after the war he and an associate drove a band of cattle from Texas to California for sale; returned to Alabama but in 1871 moved with family to Yolo County, Cal. He farmed and in 1875 was business manager for a large mercantile house and four years later married Miss Mary Francis Stephens, a sister of L. O. Stephens, later the first mayor of Fresno under a charter, and moved to a home in Fresno. Butler planted what became the well known Butler vineyard, engaged also in cattle raising and was a prime mover in the formation of the Fowler Switch Canal Company and was its president. Elected a supervisor in 1890 for a term; he sold his vineyard in 1902 and moved to San Francisco, living there and at Modesto until in 1915 he took up mining operations in Mexico; but it was not until February, 1917, that he won the litigation securing title; he was taken ill, hurriedly returned to America; but the ailment was a fatal one. He was a familiar figure around the iron basement railing of the old Fresno National Bank building, now covered by the Bank of Italy's skyscraper.

The eyes of a patriarch were closed when death summoned William T. Cole pioneer of Academy at the age of eighty-seven years in June, 1900. Widow and nine daughters survived him then. The daughters were: Mrs. D. C. Sample (since dead) of Fresno, Mrs. J. A. Stroud of Oakland, Cal., Mrs. A. Birkhead of Fresno, Mrs. F. A. Estill of Academy, Mrs. J. R. Beall of Clovis, Mrs. W. M. Shafer of Selma, Mrs. Robert Hague of Fresno, Mrs. W. Haskell of Clovis, and Mrs. A. H. Blasingame of Academy. There were said to be thirty grandchildren and many, many more distant relatives.

B. Y. Colson, who died at the age of seventy-three at San Diego, Cal., February 14, 1918, was a Malaga rancher of thirty-five years ago when he came to California from Massachusetts, later he moved to Fresno and took up the painting business. Mrs. Alva E. Snow, wife of the former mayor of Fresno, is a sister and Capt. H. D. Colson, formerly of Fresno, and Will Colson of Berkeley and former druggist of this city, are brothers.

William B. Gordon (obit January 29, 1918), a resident for nearly eighteen years and blacksmith by trade, was one of the three members of the board of city trustees that passed the ordinance that made Selma the first "dry" town in the San Joaquin Valley.

In April, 1918, Lawrence Jensen, city trustee of Selma, was forced to resign on discovery that he is not legally an American citizen but technically an alien who cannot become naturalized, however loyal he may be. His father was a Dane, born in that portion of Denmark later taken over by Germany, making him a German technically. He took out naturalization papers making the son in minority automatically an American, but unfortunately the papers were lost and he cannot establish the proof and must wait until after the war before he can be Americanized.

Emile F. Bernhard was a native of Agua Fria in Mariposa, came to Fresno with his parents in 1874 and resided here until death. He was admitted to the bar, was a deputy under District Attorney W. D. Tupper but the law did not appeal to him. He was in land developing enterprises and in mining and was the trustee that liquidated the affairs of the Fresno Loan and Savings Bank, paying off dollar for dollar. After that he engaged in oil development work and lived for a time in the field. Brothers are George and Jos. P. Bernhard; sisters Mesdames J. W. Coffman, T. W. Patterson and Henry Avila. Fraternal life appealed greatly to him and he devoted much of his time to Fresno Lodge No. 247, F. and A. M. He was energetic in

the Hundred Thousand Club which never attained the population mark for Fresno.

Andrew Farley was of a type that has almost disappeared. He came in 1867 from Petaluma to the section that is Kingsburg and preempted the townsite land. He was its first postmaster, erected the first hotel, had sheep, cattle and horses roaming over the plains and was a lover of blooded equine flesh to the last. The story is that "Uncle" Cy Draper "jumped" his land. Long litigation followed, ending in a satisfactory compromise, Farley taking the land west of the railroad and Draper that east. Thereafter Farley took unto wife Draper's oldest daughter, Della, and permanent peace ensued between the families. Fate was harsh to him in his last days. He was a crippled paralytic and mourned the loss of all save the youngest of four children.

Mrs. Rebecca Patterson, who died at the age of seventy-six, crossed the plains in 1852 and with the family of ten resided for a time in the stockade that protected Visalia against the Indians. There she met John A. Patterson whom she married in July, 1854, eleven children being born, eight surviving their mother. Patterson and William Hazleton cattle ranched on the Upper Kings, ten miles above Centerville then part of Mariposa, and here the family lived until the early 60's when it returned to Visalia. Patterson was an organizer of Tulare in 1852 and one of its first supervisors. He assisted at the organization of Fresno and was in its first board of supervisors. Mrs. Patterson died in this city at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Andrew Darwin Ferguson.

William R. Shannon of Fowler was a veteran of the Mexican and of the Civil War and a pioneer of 1849 from Ohio via the Cape Horn route. He died at the age of eighty-five. In youth he was secretary to his uncle, William Shannon, U. S. Minister to Mexico, studied law but left Mexico before the war broke out. He served for six months in Willock's battalion of mounted volunteers from Marion County, Mo., and after discharge went to Ohio and from there set out in February, 1849, for California. After four years of mining he went to Texas, near Dallas, engaged in the law and acquired livestock interests. From 1855 to 1887 he was in the Texas legislature, save during the war for the Confederacy, serving as captain and lieutenant colonel of the Tenth Texas regiment and twice wounded. He returned to California, for a time lived in Ventura County, then moved to Fowler and was the justice of the peace there. At the 1905 centennial Lewis & Clark Exposition at Portland, Ore., Shannon was honored as a direct descendant of the youngest member of that expedition of 1802, his father, George, who was with the explorers when only sixteen years of age.

Joseph Kutner, who died at the San Francisco home, was the father of Alfred and Louis Kutner of the Kutner-Goldstein Company of this city, brother of Adolph, founder of that mercantile house and himself senior member of Kutner-Rosenthal of Madera with a chain of valley stores. His was cited as an example of what thrift and perseverance will accomplish. His start was as a poor and resourceless lad to lead up to wealth and mercantile leadership.

Mrs. Margaret T. Bailey died at eighty-one, came with husband to California in 1856 by way of the Isthmus, located in Amador, later in San Luis Obispo and at death had been a resident for fifteen years, three married daughters surviving her here.

Lee W. Wells came here from Los Angeles and was a well known candy maker. He was sixty-nine at death.

George W. Woods died at Pine Flats whither he had moved for his health; was a resident of near Sanger for a quarter of a century; eighty-four years of age and a veteran of the Civil War and in 1890 crossed the plains after a six months journey behind a yoke of oxen.

Rev. Father Joseph Barron, whose funeral was held in Los Angeles in June, 1910, was a figure in the early days of Fresno as rector of St. John's

Catholic Church for eleven years. On leaving Fresno in 1899, he was given a long vacation because of his services and after a visit home to Ireland assumed the pastorate of St. Mary's at Los Angeles. Time was when at Fresno there was not a Catholic Church in the county and on high church occasions priest was sent from Visalia for stated services. He was succeeded in the pastorate by Rev. John M. McCarthy from Riverside whom the Pope honored with the titular reward of Monsignor for signal services in the building up of the parish. Father Barron left Fresno about the time when negotiations began for the sale of the church corner property at Fresno and M, deeded to the Catholic archbishop by C. F. Crocker of the railroad in perpetuity for religious purposes, the Fraternal Order of Eagles becoming the purchasers. The little parish of Father Barron has enlarged territorially and is one of the most important with one of the largest communicant bodies in the diocese. Father Barron was aged seventy when he died. He came to the diocese in 1889. His predecessors were Father Aguilara, who was transferred to San Luis Obispo, and Father Careaga.

The sad and untimely death of Frederick W. Fisher, January 7, 1910, was the result of an automobile explosion. On the day of the funeral the prominent business houses closed for one hour. The tale was circulated that he had premonition of his death in the very manner that befell him while filling auto with gasoline and burning him. Moved by the dream, he took out accident policy for \$5,000 with a doubling clause. This feature of the tale was verified.

When Mrs. Mary Allison died in Oakland, Cal., there passed away a well known character of early Fresno. As Mollie Livingstone, she kept in the 70's the Blue Wing at I and Merced, the present site of the city hall. It was the first large dance hall, the center of the night life of Fresno and its fame was known throughout the valley coextensively with that of the youthful and comely Mollie. As the city grew, the Blue Wing was carted across the railroad track to the corner of Tulare and E and there it stood for years known as the Diamond Palace. The additions and enlargements to it made the pioneer structure unrecognizable. It was destroyed by fire and never rebuilt. Until about 1899, Mollie Livingstone herself conducted the establishment. During her Fresno residence she made money and saving it invested in real property in the district bordering on the Chinese quarter until she owned practically two blocks of land. She left her property to three sisters and a brother, naming a prominent lawyer as her executor but he declined the trust. Her death was on a visit to nurse a sick sister. She had submitted a year before to an operation for the removal of cancer and before leaving was advised to undergo another, but declared she would never again permit surgeon's knife to touch her body. She had premonition that her end was not far away. She gave orders that wherever she might die her remains be returned to Fresno for burial, bought a cemetery lot and selected the coffin in which she desired to be buried in. This woman was sixty-five years of age at death. She came to Fresno from Inyo County, was there married to a miner and bore his name, but he was unknown here and she took a divorce from him some five years before her death.

When Thomas P. Nelson, better known as Major Nelson, retired at eight o'clock on New Year's day 1910 at the home of a son at Pollasky he made intimation that he did not expect to survive the night. Silent watch was maintained and one hour after he fell asleep it was the sleep of death. The wife, Helen Barber Nelson, died eleven days before. He had pined away and expressed the hope that death unite them in the other world. He was eighty-five years and six months of age to a day on the day of death, and one of the most honored of citizens. He was at Durant, Miss., in the mercantile business, one of the most prosperous merchants and also one of the wealthiest. In the Civil War he entered the Fourteenth Mississippi Regiment, was elected captain, promoted to a majorship and retained that



rank until the close of the war. He was in many of the great battles, Fort Donaldson and Shiloh among others and in the last days of the siege of Vicksburg was in command of the Confederates as the senior commanding officer had been killed. The war left Nelson with fortune shattered and in 1868 he came to California and after a sojourn of two months at Sonoma came on to Fresno near where the Fresno Copper mine was at Letcher in the Mississippi district, where so many from that state had located after the war. This was so also in the Big Dry Creek country; here he had for neighbors the later Sheriff J. D. Collins, also a veteran of the Confederacy, G. R. G. Glenn and many scattered others and he embarked in the stock and cattle business. He also entered politics as an uncompromising Democrat, being in religion a devout member of the Methodist Church South. He served two terms as a supervisor, was under-sheriff for as many terms under James O. Meade, and county treasurer for eight years and then retired from public life. After 1905 his condition was an enfeebled one. Indeed only thrice did he leave his home in this city after moving here after a residence of twenty-one years in the Mississippi district, to go to the polling place at Tulare and M in 1906 to vote for governor, in 1908 to vote for president and the last time to be at the funeral of the wife. He rode to the cemetery, contracted a slight cold to which his death was attributed.

Jacob A. Cole, brother of the late S. H. Cole, came to this country in 1873 from Kansas and at death had been a resident for thirty-six years. He was thrice married. He became one of the prominent wheat growers in the Big Dry Creek settlement, where he and nephew, Clovis N. Cole, were the first to operate a combined harvester, then regarded as a wonderful piece of agricultural mechanism. He sold his farming interests to a son, Alvin R., in 1886 and moving to Fresno entered the real estate business as one of the firm of Cole, Chittenden and Cole.

Passing away at the age of over eighty-one, Rev. Charles A. Munn closed a busy career of fifty-eight years as a preacher and church builder. His last sermon was a memorial address May 29, 1910, at the Presbyterian Church at Laton. A resident for sixteen years, he had in his last years preached for his brother ministers and though beset with many afflictions in loss of four children, notably that of a son James I. Munn mortally injured in an accident in the San Joaquin Ice Company plant June 26, 1908, the closest companion of his aged father, he always beheld the rainbow hues of promise. He realized that his last illness forecasted the end; he was resigned, made final plans and requests and comforted his family. An 1849 graduate of Jefferson College with preparation for the ministry in the Western Theological Seminary, later included in the city of Pittsburg, he was licensed to preach by the Coshocton, Ohio, presbytery, served as pulpit supply at Greenville, Ohio, was called to the Muncie, Ind., church pastorate and in October, 1855 married Sarah A. McLean of Pittsburg, Pa.; in 1856 was called to Frankfort, Ind., and was instrumental in erecting a fine edifice. He entered the war as chaplain of the One Hundredth Indiana Regiment; at the close of the war was pastor of the Waterloo and Auburn, Ind., churches; in 1867 of the Taylor Street Mission in Chicago and later pastor at Kendallville, Ind.; 1871 saw him at Big Rapids, Mich., continuing for sixteen years and building another handsome church; in 1887 in charge of the Presbyterian Church at McComb City, Miss., and the neighboring village of Magnolia and here completing yet another church building. In this county the family was located at Oleander and in Fresno. The Belmont Avenue Presbyterian Church was organized as a mission and thereafter he was its pastor for ten years, resigning in 1896, serving as pulpit supply and virtually dying in harness. Fraternal life found in him a congenial spirit. For more than twelve years he was prelate of Fresno Commandery No. 29, K. T.; was also chaplain of Fresno Lodge No. 247, F. & A. M., and was an officer in the Odd Fellows and in the Grand Army of the Republic. His life was one full of

good deeds, of happiness in his family and in his chosen work for the Master. A strong faith withstood the sorrows that gathered over him in his last years.

Galen Clark discovered the Mariposa grove of big trees, was for twenty years guardian of the Yosemite Valley, ninety-six years of age at death and sleeps in the valley within stone's throw of the Yosemite Falls. Intimate friend of Joseph Le Conte, John Muir, John Burroughs and other nature lovers that made the valley famous, he was first to enter it in the spring and the last to leave in the fall during his long guardianship and met all the world's notables on their visits to the great gorge. He was a Californian of 1853, discovered the giant sequoias in 1857 while hunting. He was author of a book on the Big Trees, besides others dealing with California early history and was an authority on Indian lore, customs and manners. They accounted him their staunch friend. He died at the Oakland home of a daughter, Dr. Elvira M. Lee.

A San Francisco will contest which several years ago ended in a settlement of the wife's claims recalls John R. Hite (obit April 18, 1906) picturesque frontiersman, explorer, miner and "squawman" of earlier days, owning large land tracts in this valley in several counties and the Hite ranch in Fresno. His will was the subject of more or less litigation owing to disagreement among the natural heirs. The contest was by Lucy, the Indian wife at common law, to revoke probate of the will, charging undue influence by the heirs, adding that he was seventy-four years of age at death and, addicted to the use of intoxicants, susceptible to these influences. Declaration was made that she was ignored in her community interest and that on the ground that they were never legally married he pretended a marriage with Cecilia Noyes October 13, 1897, persuaded the squaw to acquiesce and not to sue for divorce on promise he would recompense her in his will.

In evidence of his faith, Joseph Taplin was one of the first to set out a raisin grape vineyard about 1886 near Oleander. He was the grandfather of Eddie Taplin, famous little horse jockey.

Resident for nearly a quarter of a century, Charles B. Anton was one of the pioneer carpenter contractors and a leader in the Scotch Colony and in St. Andrew's Society, the life and soul at the latter's reunions. Death cause was paralysis resulting from an accidental fall at Caruthers. He was a Californian of thirty-seven years, following mining in Mono after a residence in Virginia City, Nev. Sons here are Thomas M., city trustee, and James, city building inspector.

The name of William Forsyth is inseparably connected as its pioneer with the seeded raisin business. He had the title of "Colonel" derived as commissary on the military staff of Gov. Geo. Stoneman. A Canadian by birth, he had been a resident of the States since his nineteenth year. He was a hotel man and in his California career was the landlord of Bartlett Springs when it was one of the celebrated summer resorts. His Fresno investments dated from 1885; the first state guard company in Fresno was named for him, the Forsyth Guard. After retiring from active business he joined T. W. Patterson in the construction of the Forsyth building at Tulare and J, first notable large business structure in the architectural modernization of Fresno. The Forsyth vineyard in Nevada Colony was a model and one of the most beautiful and delightful homes. The widow, nee Verdenal, later married Dan Brown, the bank cashier.

H. A. Trevelyan—"Colonel" as he was known—died at sixty-six; was the factor for the British syndicate operating the Barton vineyard and was one of "the noble 600" of Balaclava of the poem. Trevelyan was in fact at the time an ensign carrying dispatches and did not participate in the poetically immortalized charge.

E. R. Higgins, who died at sixty-six, is recalled as a Californian of 1864, a Fresnan of 1884, a photographer and the maker of the best recalled

outdoor views of Fresno of those days, a volunteer fireman who was chief of the department and as such a factor in its organization and in placing the citizen volunteer on a basis of efficiency with improved apparatus replacing the hand drawn equipment.

James E. Denny (obit at Visalia at seventy-two) was a Sierra County, Cal., settler of 1854 and in 1859 came to Kingston in Fresno, bought an interest in the ferry on the Kings River, conducted hotel and store, was the first postmaster and gave the place its name. Later at Visalia in the livery business until 1865, he moved to Millerton in general merchandising but the 1867-68 flood swept away all his possessions. Returning to Visalia he entered upon a long political career. He was in 1886 the nominee of the Republican state convention for state comptroller with endorsement of the American party at the convention in Fresno September 28 under the call of Thomas E. Hughes as chairman and E. F. Selleck as secretary following the declaration of principles of the Fresno mass meeting of May 27. It was not a year for the Republicans and Denny was defeated—J. P. Dunn (D.) receiving 95,469 votes and Denny 94,833.

Mrs. Emily A. Knepper, nee Wharton, who died at sixty-nine, was the mother of John W. and Frank H. Short, prominent citizens of Fresno, born in Shelby County, Mo. Their father, Hamilton Short, died at the early age of thirty-two from exposure in the federal service during the Civil War. She married in 1866 Hugh Knepper, copper miner of Fresno and early resident of California who had returned on a visit to his former Missouri home. The family removed to Nebraska and in 1881 came to Fresno. A sister, Mrs. W. M. Cardwell, the husband and the son, Charles A., by the second marriage, the brothers, F. A. and W. W. Wharton of Fresno Colony, survived her. The deaths in Fresno of her father and of her eldest brother, J. F. Wharton, preceded hers. She was of the type of revered western pioneer women.

C. K. Kirby Sr. (obit at Los Angeles at eighty-four) will be recalled as a pioneer capitalist, proprietor of the Sierra Park vineyard and winery near Fowler, and of a distillery business near Selma, both model enterprises.

The death and funeral of Charles L. Wainwright was in Oakland, Cal. He was a lovable character and a gentleman, a pioneer of San Francisco, of Kingston, of Millerton and of Fresno city engaged in mercantile lines, or holding public office deputyships. His beautiful handwriting in the office records of county recorder and clerk is a pleasure to behold. The pall bearers at the funeral were men whom he had held in the highest esteem in life. They were: Frank Yale, Geo. E. Evans, Ward B. Walkup, Angus M. Clark, Will G. Blaney and Charles Burks.

Jarvis Streeter Sr., who died at eighty-eight, crossed the plains from New York to California in 1850, mined, settled in Mariposa County about 1860 and after 1892 made his home in Fresno or in Los Angeles. At eighteen he enlisted in a New York volunteer regiment and under General Taylor served throughout the Mexican War. He married Lizzie J. Cocharan at Snelling, Merced County, November 16, 1868, and was county clerk of Mariposa from 1876 to 1887. Mrs. E. J. Bullard and Jarvis Streeter of Fresno are daughter and son.

The experience of Alexander Beatty, who died at the Madera County hospital at the age of seventy-two, is typical of many of the pioneers. He located in Stanislaus County in 1868 herding sheep for Thomas E. Hughes and until 1874 looked after the Hughes herds on shares and made a success financially. He was the first to introduce Scotch methods into the business in this valley. Later he moved to Merced and while there it was estimated that he was worth \$50,000. He came to Madera in later years, herded sheep for H. F. Daulton and died a charge on the county.

George Wiseman (obit at Malaga at the age of seventy-one) was one of the discoverers of the Kern River oil field, learning of the presence of

oil in that section while farming near there. His death followed one week after that of the wife, Susan B. He enlisted in Company E of the Second California Regiment serving as a cavalryman from 1863 to 1865. The Elwood family, into which one daughter of the seven surviving children married, had much to do with the early development of the Kern River oil field.

Thomas H. Hunt came to California as a '49er when nine years old. Thirty continuous years of his sixty in the state were spent in Fresno. The pall bearers at his funeral were city school janitors, he having also been one for years.

In the passing away at her vineyard country home on Elm Avenue of Miss Nellie Boyd, the community lost a well known, a much beloved and a highly honored woman. She was professionally an actress. She was a pioneer raisin grower of 1885, a successful business woman and active in the affairs of first raisin associations. She was of the old school of acting and before coming to California had made a name in New York. In the early 70's she came west and for a decade was leading woman for various traveling companies organized in and sent out on coast tours from San Francisco. She was the first woman to head her own company and playing the principal cities in Pacific Slope states. It was on one of her local engagements that she decided to end her days here when she retired from the stage. In 1893 Miss Boyd prepared with others the county exhibit for the world's fair at Chicago. She was the first president of the Parlor Lecture Club and took a lively interest in the State Federation of Women's Clubs. She often offered her services to direct club and school benefit theatrical entertainments.

At death at Lone Star, James Rutherford was within a few months of attaining his ninety-first birthday, and wife, eighty-two years of age, and ten children survived him. March 9, 1908, the sixtieth anniversary of wedding had been celebrated. It was April 13, 1849, that he set out by ox team to cross the plains, arriving at Hangtown in 1850, mining for a year on the American River and when the first excitement had subsided returned to Missouri, farmed until 1887, when he again came to California to make his home and settled as one of the first farmers at Lone Star in a colony of Missourians, a pioneer of the gold era and of the fruit period.

The name of Michael Levy (obit Oakland, Cal., at forty-five) recalls one who for over fourteen years was of the firm of Levy Bros. who conducted the Red Front clothing and furnishing goods store on I Street near Tulare, one of a chain with the one at San Bernardino as the largest. In the late 70's and early 80's the brothers were in the same business in San Francisco, when the retail trade was concentrated at the Telegraph Hill end of Kearney Street. In Fresno the firm was in other enterprises, notably in the ownership of the remodeled Edgerly block at Tulare and J.

Thousands who have traveled over the old Tollhouse road to and from the Pine Ridge Mountain section grieved over the death on Christmas morning, 1907, of Mrs. Mary E. Greenup, better known as "Aunt Polly." At the time of death, she lacked ten days of having rounded out her eighty-fourth year. Thirty years before, she came to California, settling on a hill ranch one mile above Letcher and living in that section save three years spent in Fresno. Since husband's death in 1886 she had made her home with daughter, Mrs. Frances A. Phillips, at the hotel at Letcher. This was a stopping place of the stage and a rest station and thousands came to know her by reason of her genial hospitality, kindly benefactions and her strong and interesting personality. She was the oldest member of the Clovis Baptist Church.

George B. Rowell was a pioneer of the pastoral period of the county and witnessed its growth through the succeeding stages. In 1865 he came across the plains with his brother, the late Dr. Chester Rowell, to Montana, engaged for six years in mining and three in ranching and after a winter in San Francisco came to Fresno early in 1875. In December, 1881, in Illi-

nois, the home of his youth, he married Adelpha H. Warlow, sister of George L. Warlow, lawyer of Fresno, and of Mrs. George L. Johnson of Easton. He engaged here in the sheep business with J. E. Dickinson and Dr. Rowell, in 1888 in mercantile business at Easton with G. L. Johnson under the name of Rowell & Johnson until sale in 1904, the firm in 1902 opening a store at Oleander. Five brothers survived him; Dr. Rowell of Fresno, W. F. Rowell of Easton, A. A. Rowell of Selma, Jonathan H. Rowell of Bloomington, Ill., and Milo Rowell of Fresno. He was also a Washington Colony vineyardist.

Theatrically sensational was the end March 26, 1908, of Rev. A. Z. Nesbitt, Coalinga's only minister of the gospel at the time. He was struck down by heart failure at the Coalinga Theater while finishing an impassioned appeal to the saloon men of the town to clean out the Augean stables of their trade. He was speaking at the public celebration of the incorporation of the town. Fifteen hundred people were at the theater including the minister's wife and daughter. The speech, which proved to be the last one of the Presbyterian minister, was a historical sketch in part of the locality but toward the last became almost a sobbing appeal to the saloon men and their friends to end the evil of the traffic.

G. B. Vlahusic, a Slavonian, was a character of remarkable intellectual attainments. He was a linguist and had a wide knowledge of astronomy, mineralogy, geology and chemistry. He was born and christened a Roman Catholic but in his mature years had not affiliated with the church. His funeral was from the Episcopal Church. An important service of his to the community was his aid in the introduction of the Smyrna fig. He was generous in responding to appeals for charity and personally sent \$500 to the relief of the San Francisco fire sufferers. He was for years the book-keeper for Borello Bros. and a leader in the Slavonic Colony.

Mrs. J. R. Kittrell, mother of Mrs. H. H. Welsh, passed away in 1909 on the fifty-eighth anniversary of her wedding day at the age of eighty-one years.

Mrs. M. A. Guard, state pioneer of 1853, and one of the earliest of Fresno city and the mother of William C. Guard, former tax collector and charter member of the Fresno parlor of the N. S. G. W., died at the age of seventy-one years May 21, 1909. Pathetic feature was that while the son was at the bedside at the last, his wife, who shortly after passed away, was attending the funeral of her mother, Mrs. Nancy J. Weaver, who had died at the age of seventy-four on the nineteenth, her husband having died four years before. Mrs. Weaver was the mother of Mrs. John R. Austin since dead. Mrs. Weaver was a Californian since her sixteenth birthday and a resident of Fresno for twenty-eight years.

Benjamin W. Van Winkle, whose funeral at Los Banos was held February 15, 1908, came from Los Angeles in 1896 as foreman for the Sanger Lumber Company and until 1900 was in the same capacity in this city for the planing mill of Hollenbeck & Bush and then for two years in San Francisco. It was there that he was employed to take charge of the Miller & Lux mill at Los Banos and for five years successfully competed for mill work in the territory on that side of the San Joaquin between Tracy and Fresno. His first wife of Ogden, Utah, is buried at Sanger and he married Ethel Hilgrove in Fresno in 1898.

P. A. Kanawyer, pioneer of the county, will be recalled with his wife for their resort in the Sierras, where pack outfits could be had for mountaineering on the three forks of the Kings River. He was postmaster of Dunlap when about eight years before his death he shot and killed J. C. Collier in the lobby of the Grand Central Hotel in this city in a dispute over the postmastership. Acquittal followed on a showing that the killing was in self defense. Mrs. Kanawyer remarried after eight years of widowhood.

Robert S. Johnson of the Excelsior stables and a five-year resident from Stockton was a member of the Elks and of the Grand Army of the Republic. He was captain of Troop K of the First California Regiment of Cavalry in the Civil War, resigning after two years following muster in at Stockton in February, 1863. A son, W. R. Johnson, was captain for many years of a Stockton guard company and terminated his military service as colonel of the Sixth Infantry Regiment, N. G. C.

John W. Martin was an old and respected district school teacher, sixty years of age at death. He married in March, 1882, Miss Vienna Neal, daughter of Rev. J. H. Neal, the pioneer minister of the county. Widow and six children survived. His last school engagement was at Sweetflower in Madera County; in Arbor Vitae Cemetery his remains lie.

The death of Dr. Joseph D. Davidson, eminent surgeon of the county, was not unlooked for. It had been expected for several months, having suffered from heart trouble for five years. His last wish was that he be returned to Fresno from a San Francisco sanitarium to die, and he was conscious to the last. He was a graduate of the Vanderbilt Medical School of Nashville in 1881 at nineteen, coming to Kingsburg, Fresno, in 1886, and four years later to the county seat, associating himself with Dr. Dearsdorff. Shortly after, he was appointed county physician, made a specialty of surgery until failing health forced him to retire from practice, his later years being devoted exclusively to surgery. It was he that organized the Burnett Sanitarium and in 1901 he had built the structure on Fresno Street and was president of the corporation from its inception. He devoted much study to modern surgery, took a post graduate New York course, visited the leading American hospitals and spent a summer in study and travel in Europe, attaining more than local distinction. At the time of the Owl train disaster at Byron in December, 1902, Dr. Davidson was at Byron Springs, was hurriedly summoned to the scene of disaster and it was remarked that it was a relief to every one as soon as he arrived, so vigorously and capably did he handle the awful situation. Personally he was a most likable man—gruff and not employing the choicest language but he had a heart and it has been known of his being in tears in informing a friend he must be operated upon at once for appendicitis. On a visit home to Tennessee in 1901 he married Mrs. Louise Peden, a Southern beauty. The much lamented surgeon breathed his last in his beautiful colonial mansion on K Street. Cremation was the end of his mortal remains.

George E. Babcock was prominent as an Elk and as a choir singer. He had been a resident for twenty years. He was circulation manager for the Republican for three years and later of the Portland Telegram. Upon return to Fresno he was associated with his brother-in-law, C. T. Cearley, as manager of the wholesale paper department. He was one of the organizers of the Unitarian Society.

A California pioneer of 1865 was Miss Mary Lafferty, who died at eighty-five in February, 1917, after a city residence of nine years. For twenty years she kept the Grand Hotel at Sanger.

Charles Gailey's claim to notice was that he was a Mariposan of 1861, followed carpentering, removed to Merced and eventually to Madera and erected the first dwelling in the town. In 1891 he made Sanger his home and his was one of the first brick buildings erected in that town.

R. H. Daly was a Virginian with a fine literary and legal education. He settled in Mariposa in 1850 and served terms as district attorney and county judge. He participated in the organization of Fresno County, was an earnest advocate and an indefatigable worker. His standing in the profession was the equal of any one in this part of the state. Physical infirmities beset his last years. He died at the age of fifty-six, leaving widow and eight children.



Mrs. Catherine S. Waterman, who died at seventy-nine at Tulare, was the wife of Rev. J. H. Waterman, canon of St. James pro-cathedral, and was the mother of John, Edward and George Waterman, the latter city trustee, federal food administrator and a former president of the Commercial Club. The sons, son-in-law and a grandson were pall bearers at the funeral.

At his death, J. R. Kittrell was the Nestor of the Fresno bar, most highly revered in the profession. In his prime he followed such men as Chief Justice William H. Beatty, who was an intimate friend, John Garber, Harry I. Thornton, Hall McAllister and other notable colleagues of the day and leaders at the California bar. He was a man of intellect with a command of language that gave to his eloquence great force and conviction as well in "the dew of pathos as in the sheen of wit." At nineteen and until 1852 he was probate clerk at Enlam, Alabama; married then Elmira Hall and came to California via Panama. He was paymaster at the Mare Island navy yard, and thereafter practiced law. Failing in the effort to return to the south to join the cause of the Confederacy, he left for British Columbia, tarried there several years, returning practiced law at Portland and eventually came to San Francisco, associating himself in the law with Zach Montgomery but the latter receiving a federal appointment he went to Carson City, Nev., and was state attorney general for four years after 1875; back to California he located at Modesto, later in Fresno and in 1908 retired from practice. He was in his day an able criminal lawyer. He was an active political partisan, always aligned with the Democratic party, as far back as 1858 with the division of the party when he was of the resolutions committee of the Lecompton state administration convention, and again in 1861 at the Breckenridge Democratic state convention, when he moved an amendment to the convention resolutions that President Lincoln deserved impeachment. The amendment was lost by a close vote. The "general," as he was always known, was an uncompromising states rights man.

Thomas Dunn was at death at the age of sixty-eight a man of property, well preserved, prominent in public affairs, known for his private and Masonic charities, and foremost in the work of that fraternity with its various branches, and also in the Grand Army of the Republic. A Canadian by birth, he came to America at the age of one and one-half years, spent his boyhood at Racine, Wis., and at maturity came to Colorado and followed the cattle business. He served in the Civil War in the famous Black Horse Cavalry of the U. S. A. Later he was a Montana cattleman, came to California and Fresno in 1887, was highly respected for his sterling western ruggedness and worth; was a city councilman from 1901 to 1905 and after 1909 a park commissioner, in that year having been considered for the mayoralty but relinquishing in favor of the late Dr. Rowell to solidify a movement in behalf of good government.

When he died in 1914, Horace E. Barnum had the distinction of being the man in the state who had longest been in continuous service in office as county auditor. He died in June of that year and had he lived until December would have been twenty years in that public service. He was recognized as an invincible candidate, had a remarkable personality as a campaigner and never was at a loss to call a man by his name and very generally by his Christian appellation. The son, Charles E., a deputy in the office, was appointed to fill the unexpired term and then was elected to succeed himself. H. E. Barnum was a pioneer of the county of 1875 and interested with the late T. R. Reed, for whom the town of Reedley was named, in the breaking up of ground and pioneer farming of the contiguous land, taking up about seven sections, using from eight to ten horses to a plow and reaping such a grain harvest that it required more than a score of sixteen, eight, six and four-mule teams to convey it to a shipping point. He also followed farming in Tulare, was a hotelkeeper at Lemoore, where he was burned out, returning to Reedley in the hotel business, entered

politics, held minor positions and first was elected auditor in 1894. He had lost the left arm by the accidental discharge of a shot gun; despite that crippling he was an expert fisherman and hunter. They tell of a courthouse wag who for Christmas bought a pair of fine gloves and presented the left one to Barnum and the right handed one to Treasurer Ewing. Even the one-armed receivers appreciated the humor of the gifts.

James W. Ballard, a Kentuckian born, lived in Clark County, Mo., until 1911, when he came to Reedley in which community he was prominent and was its first recorder. He was a veteran of the Confederate army, enlisting from Missouri at sixteen. He was a great-great grandson of Capt. Bland Ballard, Kentucky pioneer and Indian fighter and comrade in arms of Daniel Boone. The remains were sent to Kanoka, Mo., for burial in the family plot. The war flag that he presented to the Boy Scouts to be hoisted over the Methodist Episcopal Church of Reedley was at half mast at the funeral. The decedent was one of the founders of the Mount Carmel M. E. Church in Clark County, Mo. He was always a central figure at reunions of war veterans.

Lucius Baker, who died at the age of seventy-two at the home place on Fig Avenue, three miles south of Fresno city, had the distinction of having lived in that one place in Fresno Colony school district for nearly thirty-five years. He was born in Michigan, graduated from Ann Arbor as a civil engineer, moved to California in the 70's, in 1881 laid out the large additions in southwest Los Angeles and in 1882 with others the northern branch of the Southern Pacific into Oregon. His residence in Fresno dated from 1883 and he was engaged in farming. He was one of the seven trustees of the First Methodist Episcopal Church of Fresno city and the six surviving ones were the honorary pall bearers at the funeral. Mrs. Adora B. Baker died at the age of sixty-two at the home place one week after to a day.

Mrs. Mary E. Burleigh, who died aged over seventy years, was the widow of Frank J. Burleigh, pioneers of Fresno city of forty-four years ago, when it was only a village railroad station. For about ten years before and until 1878 they were residents at Pine Ridge where he was engaged in the lumber business. He was one of the first city warehousemen in 1880 at Inyo and Kern, engaged in the sale of lumber, stock and pigs, grain and hay, and in 1888 erected the second warehouse at Mono and Ventura. Moving to the plains in 1878, he brought a six-horse load of lumber for a two-room house at J and Merced which with later additions was for many years a landmark. Covering the years before and after the war, he was engaged in freighting between Manhattan and Fort Leavenworth, Kans., also serving in the army and seeing much service against the hostile Indians. As with so many other pioneers, he suffered in later years several reversals in fortune.

A. S. Edgerly was another pioneer and well known character in his day and in the 80's an active operator in the development of the city, then attracting so much attention throughout the state. He died at the age of eighty-four after an illness of more than six years following apoplexy, with mental impairment. He was the builder of the Edgerly block, a notable landmark at Tulare and J. In the collapse in values after the boom period, he lost most all his property but in spite of his years resolutely set himself to accumulate another competency. He was a most indefatigable spirit. He published an autobiography which was a literary curiosity. Surviving kin are four married sons and daughters, seven grandchildren, six great grandchildren all of Fresno, and two sisters and a brother in New Hampshire.

Capt. A. Y. Easterby died at his home in Napa in June, 1893. He was a San Franciscan of 1849 and one of the founders of the first Masonic lodge. The large ranch tract east of Fresno was named for him; he was one of the very earliest extensive land settlers in the county; a pioneer of the agricultural era; one of the agents in the first successful application on a prac-

tical scale of the theory of irrigation and instrumental with other landed interest to bring M. Theo. Kearney to start on his Fresno career as a land boomer and seller.

Mrs. Emily Phillips was a prominent and lovable woman in the early and rough days of Fresno, her residence dating from the year 1873. Her death was at Los Angeles in May, 1907. She was foremost as a musician, with the late Judge Gillum Baley was one of the founders of the Methodist Episcopal Church South, and during the village days of Fresno gave concerts to help build the little, frame, first house of worship that was erected at Fresno and L. It was used in God's service for many years, afterward sold to a colored congregation, removed to a site west of the railroad and on a certain 4th of July night in part or wholly destroyed by fire. Mrs. Phillips was the relict of S. M. Phillips who died at Pensacola, Fla., in 1861 from pneumonia contracted in the Mexican war service under Jefferson Davis. They met at Jackson at the inaugural ball of Gov. Henry S. Foote and fell in love. Mrs. Phillips was a typical woman of the South with influential connections; the influence of such women in the rough days of Fresno's infancy cannot be gauged today.

J. M. Collier will be recalled through his long connection with the first water and light company in the struggling village of Fresno, and his membership in the first state guard company of the town; also as deputy under Recorder C. L. Wainwright after that office was divorced from the county clerkship and also under his successor, Gen. Tyree A. Bell.

One of the leaders in the campaign for moral and civic reform closing the 1890 decade and ushering in the 1900 with the change from the border town conditions to one approaching civic decency was the late J. P. Strother, who had long held an honorable position at the bar, who was regarded as a man of inviolable integrity and as a lawyer one of exceptional ability. A Kentuckian by birth, he was the second son of an M. E. South minister of the gospel, graduated in the law in 1859 from the Louisville Law School, was prominent in Missouri legal circles and during the Harden administration was a member of the state senate, and from 1881-87 judge of the sixth judicial district. He practiced law at Marshall and came to Fresno in 1892. In 1901 he was elected a city trustee as a member of the first board under the charter and after serving three years resigned to undertake the revision and rewriting of the charter which as it stands today is largely the result of his work and experience, although it is admitted that with the great expansion of the city it has outgrown many of the salutary limitations that once were demanded. He was an elder of the M. E. Church, South, and a frequent lay delegate to its convocations; an exemplar of the true American citizen.

Newspaper mention was made of the visit at the close of June, 1918, of George E. Field to purchase 160 acres west of the state highway on the Madera County side of the San Joaquin River at \$150 an acre or perhaps 100 times more than what he could have had it for when he first was located in this section. He came from Los Angeles and made the purchase, he said, to do his bit in this war raising corn to feed the world with. He installed a pumping plant and prepared to drill the corn kernels. Few probably recalled him as the engineer, who in the early 80's was in charge of the river irrigation project with rock dam at above Hamptonville, later known as Pollasky and still later as Friant, which proved such a colossal failure after eating up money as a gopher hole will absorb a stream of water. Profiting by the experiences, the Herndon canal was constructed to serve the lands of the Bank of California in that section. After leaving Fresno, Field put his engineering knowledge to use in the construction of dry docks at Philadelphia and in dredging large tracts in Florida and in other parts of the world. He recalled among his early experiences having driven sheep to market from Millerton and herded them on the site of the courthouse when the village of Fresno had barely 250 population. The pioneer is a man of seventy years.

The last day in the month of June, 1918, marked for Leopold Gundelfinger severance of business connections with the Bank and Trust Company of Central California in the founding of which he assisted thirty-one years ago, his retirement as vice-president and a director and withdrawal from active business life after forty-four years dating from his arrival July 1, 1874, when valley, county and city were yet in embryo and when only the visionary and the most optimistic could conjure up what the future had in store. The retirement came unannounced and therefore excited comment in the local business world and financial circles. Mr. Gundelfinger had been active in the civic and business life of the community and influential in banking circles. With the exception of the late Louis Einstein, he was the largest stockholder in the company, long known as the Bank of Central California, popularly as the Einstein bank, and was with it since the first day it opened its doors in March, 1887. It opened with Mr. Einstein as president and Gundelfinger as cashier. They conducted the business alone for six months. When Mr. Einstein died he was continued as cashier but at the stockholders' meeting in January, 1915, he was also made vice-president. The first clerk in the bank was Frank Helm and he entered in September, 1887, when Mr. Gundelfinger went east to be married. The Einstein estate has large interests that are being improved and exploited through the Einstein Improvement Company, and among them may be mentioned the Liberty theater property, the Patterson building, the Land Company building in which the bank is located and on which site but for the war probably a beginning would have been made ere this on a great skyscraper building, improved business properties in Inyo Street, La Sierra Tract, and various other scattered city holdings, most advantageously located with the later growth of the city. In the first days of Fresno, Mr. Gundelfinger was a leading spirit in public enterprises, even to being an organizer of the first citizens' volunteer fire companies having the only piece of hand apparatus in the city and that lost in one of the early large fires, when hand pump and fire house were consumed. He was associated originally with the pioneer mercantile firm of Jacob & Co., which was succeeded by Silverman & Einstein and later became Louis Einstein & Co. with branches in many activities. It was in 1878 that he went to Kingston in charge of the firm's mercantile house there, remaining until 1886 when he took a pleasure trip to Europe. Few are there living who have been longer and so continuously associated with the business life of the city from the day of small beginnings and so intimately related with the growth and progress of the community as Mr. Gundelfinger. None has so well earned rest and retirement. In the conservative operations of the associated Einsteins and Gundelfingers are epitomized the best achievements recorded in the history of the city's commercial, banking and sane speculative enterprises.

When Joseph Spinney died in San Francisco after an illness that had for more than two years sapped his vitality, leaving him a living corpse as it were, there passed away a local character of note and one who in his day helped to make history of a kind. His last illness was characteristic of him in life in tenacity of purpose. He combatted death long beyond the time expectations of his friends. He suffered from a complication of ailments to which the ordinary man would have succumbed early. Among these were cancer of the stomach, dropsy and peritonitis. Medical men had long given him up; his was a long and lingering death while breathing the breath of life. The name of Jo Spinney—no one ever called him by other term—and his career are inseparably connected with the early business and constructive period of the city and later with its political history. His own boast was that he was the man that built up Fresno. It was literally true. It has been written of him that his name will live as long as the records of the city hall are preserved, as long as those of the county are in existence and as long as Fire Engine House Number Three erected by him will stand as a monument to him as the visible cornerstone is a granite slab bearing his name

and of the others with him as members of the city board of trustees at the time and in power. One other board in later years thus perpetuated its names in the granite slab of the city hall under the regime of W. Parker Lyon as mayor and provoked as much public criticism as the Spinney slab. A living generation will have passed away before Spinney's unique methods will have been forgotten and passed into tradition. He was a native of Cadiz, Spain, and though he came to America at the age of twelve he never mastered the English language. A story was current concerning him that he was the illegitimate offspring of a Spanish don as father and a peasant girl as mother. It must be accepted with a grain of salt. The fact is that he was sorely handicapped in life. He could not read nor write and until the last never mastered more than the ability to write his name. Yet in his day he could make his check for thousands and it would be paid without question and he was the political boss of the city, the power behind the throne and exercised it. He was a man under normal stature, of appearance anything but prepossessing and lacking personal habits of physical cleanliness. And yet he was a remarkable man, possessed a most active brain, was big hearted, true to a friend in rewarding him and punishing those that thwarted him in his designs and ambitions. He landed at Cape Ann, Mass., farmed for three years, then apprenticed himself to a brick maker at Booth Bay, Maine, and serving his four years, mastered the trade and masonry in addition. Spinney was of course not his name. He was quick to enter business on his own account, shipped brick to Boston, came to California and Fresno in 1877 with little of this world's goods. His first employment was as a laborer with the late Frank J. Burleigh. He established one of the first permanent brickyards in the building up of the village, and also entered the masonry building contracting business at a time when there was no established brick kiln nearer than Visalia. For the courthouse and other brick structures erected up to that time, special kilns were set up, ending operations with fulfillment of the particular contract. Spinney erected many of the early brick structures of Fresno, many standing to this day. Among the notable ones may be named the Bradley Block at Mariposa and J, the Farmers' Bank at Mariposa and I, the rear and original portion of the Y. M. C. A., the Odd Fellows' Building, the Barton Theater and Armory Hall Building, the latter portion demolished for the Cory Building, the Patterson Block, the Fresno Brewery and so many others of less note as to be too numerous to mention. Spinney became a wealthy man and in the 80's and 90's owned city and county property and buildings, the Spinney or Odd Fellows', the three-story West Side hotel erected in 1891 at the west side exit of the subway, also 160 acres west of town planted to vines. Following the bent of the times he set out Spinney colony to sell in subdivisions; was a stock holder in three of the local banks and in the Belmont-Blackstone Avenue horse car line and a man of large business interests. He entered local politics about 1893, when he defeated for the city trusteeship from the fifth ward B. T. Alford, who was and had been the political manipulator of the day and was a past master in the art of politics as pursued in those times. He continued in the office as the result of successive reelections until finally defeated for the place under the charter by W. J. O'Neill and political career ended. When he entered the board, it was divided and represented by two Democrats and two Republicans. Spinney was a Republican by choice and while a city trustee held the balance of power and was Republican, Democrat, or Populist as the exigency of the moment and the matter in hand and his particular political interests demanded. In 1895 when the board was evenly divided as between new members and hold overs, Spinney was the central figure in a spectacular bit of political hocus pocus. The man who could not read nor write nor do more than sign his name to a public document caused himself to be nominated and elected chairman of the board and ex-officio mayor. He had his triumph. He assumed the chair and in his unintelligible language thanked

his colleagues for the honor, trust and confidence reposed in him. Marcus Antonius on the Lupercal thrice presented Caesar with a kingly crown which he did thrice refuse. Was this ambition? Jo Spinney was not patterning after Caesar, probably never having heard of him. He was acting an original part. He relinquished the distinction and after resigning cast his vote so that C. J. Craycroft was chosen ex-officio mayor by the grace of Jo Spinney and the latter attached to himself another adherent out of gratefulness. In 1897 in a four-cornered fight Spinney received more votes than his three opponents combined, so well had he mastered the art of election manipulation. Spinney played the game of politics of the day as it was taught him but outgeneraled and outmastered his tutors. His own ward's interests he considered supreme; the general interest of the city was a matter for second consideration for him in action, which is not to say that he did not take an interest in the general affairs of the city. Like so many ignorant and illiterate men, he had a wonderfully retentive memory. His was an active brain. No one was better informed than he on the municipal ordinances. Often did he correct the reading of the board's minutes before approval. Not infrequently would he present questions on legislation or interpretation of ordinances to puzzle city attorney and the other wisecracs, to hesitate and ponder before making reply. The police and fire departments were his creatures to manipulate as the foundation of his source of political power. He used them as playthings to serve his purpose and he rewarded those that served him. He was not without virtue to exhibit when the opportunity offered to make the show. He was good of heart also; faithful to friends; implacable towards an enemy; unreliable in his relations with a political enemy or opponent. While in power, he had hosts of friends; when sick, poor and dying, the I. O. O. F., true to its obligations, was his only succor. Jo Spinney's life was a human tragedy.

J. A. Blasingame, one of the county's early settlers, died April 28, 1887, at the age of sixty-one and left an estate valued at a quarter of a million dollars, many of the holdings greatly advancing in value with the later years. He was one of the big men in the sheep business and had ranges widely scattered and counting up in the thousands of acres, following the custom of the day in herders taking up government land homesteads and buying off the entry makers. Blasingame also owned advantageously located town properties. He was a veteran of the War with Mexico.

Only the living early settlers recalled J. B. Folsom, who died at the county hospital from heart disease May 6, 1887, at the age of sixty-one. He was a native of Mississippi, a half-breed Cherokee. As far back as 1851, he was the chief hunter for the military garrison at Fort Miller. Later at Miller-ton he was engaged in the saloon business for a time with Stephen Gaster. His end was that of so many of the first comers as a public charge.

Fulton N. Berry, who died at the age of twenty-six, May 12, 1887, was the only son of the late Fulton G. Berry and wife. He was engaged in San Francisco in the insurance business.

Mrs. Helen I. Albaugh (obit October, 1917) will be recalled as the first milliner in Selma, having moved thither over thirty-one years ago with the early group of settlers. She was the widow of Solomon A. Albaugh and marrying him in 1862 made the ox team trip across the continent as wedding journey, settling on land now covered by the townsite of Modesto. She was one of the faithful members of the First Presbyterian Church of Selma, made her home with a daughter, Mrs. Fred C. Berry. Death resulted from a hip fracture, the result of an accidental fall.

Mrs. Alice C. Baker, who died in August, 1917, was the second widow of the late Dr. Westwood J. Baker, who owned the Talequah vineyard, one of the show places east of town. While a resident of Fresno, she was identified with the work of the Parlor Lecture Club and other social activities. She died at Memphis, Tenn., at the home of a sister, Miss Elizabeth Cooke, where she was on a visit. The burial was at Memphis.



The reported death in Oakland of Mrs. Elizabeth A. Donahoo recalled that it was at her home in this city that the First Baptist Church had its organization. She was the wife of William H. Donahoo; they moved to Fresno in 1881 and after a few years returned to Oakland. In 1907 they celebrated their golden wedding anniversary. She was the mother of the wife of the late Charles L. Wainwright, who was among the early younger pioneers of Millerton, Kingston and Fresno and prominent in county official circles.

It was with Masonic rites that the funeral of H. N. Cutler was conducted in this city November 23, 1917. He came to California in 1860 via the Panama Isthmus route, settled in Santa Clara Valley, taught school at Saratoga and marrying Hester J. Don Allen in 1869 moved to Panoche Valley in the westernmost part of Fresno County, where as a trustee he organized the first school district and erected the log school house in which the late Thomas J. Kirk, afterward county and state superintendent of schools first taught in California. He served as a deputy assessor under the late William H. McKenzie, and in 1879 moved to Central California colony, and later to his ranch near Selma, which until the last was his home.

John W. Dumas died in San Francisco at the age of seventy years. He was for years a city and county peace officer and a man of whom it was said that he did not know physical fear. He served in the Confederate Army with the Texan Rangers. He was a Georgian born.

Late in the afternoon on the 24th of October, 1917, M. B. Havner, a resident since 1906 and a life insurance agent, was killed and his machine reduced to splinters in a race to drive his automobile over the Washington Avenue crossing of the Santa Fe, near Del Rey, ahead of an oncoming train. Widow and six children, also a brother, a physician of Troy, Tenn., survived him. The belief was that Havner was on his way to visit a son, who having been called to report in a few days to go to American Lake, Wash., as a national army soldier was finishing up work on a ranch near Del Rey. The decedent was a member of three fraternities, naming the Masonic lodge master to administer his estate and be guardian of his minor children.

Return Roberts, who was prominent in affairs at Madera as well when it was a part of Fresno County as when it undertook separate county organization died at the age of seventy-five years at Livermore, Cal., having been in ill health for about one year before death. The burial was at Cypress Lawn Cemetery at San Francisco, where the remains of the predeceased wife are. Roberts crossed the plains with parents in 1849, settled at Watsonville, later was educated in the San Jose schools and became connected with a bank which had loaned money to the Madera enterprise which became the Madera Sugar Pine Company and which later acquired the property, to manage which Roberts was sent in 1878. He was identified with the greatest periods of growth of Madera County, himself erected two substantial blocks in 1890 and in 1893 organized the Commercial and National Bank and was reputed to be the wealthiest man in the county. The wife to whom he was married in 1869 died in San Francisco August 17, 1916, since which he had made a home with a married daughter in San Francisco. He retired from business life in 1915. The Roberts banking interests have been taken over by the Bank of Italy. Political life had never attraction for him; financially he was the power in the county.

John T. Robinson, who was known to pioneer city residents as Jack Robinson, came to Fresno in April, 1889. He was upon death survived by widow and nine children, one of whom is City Electrician T. M. Robinson. He was for eight years engaged here in the transfer business, the pioneer in that line when the Kearney estate, the boulevard and the neighboring vineyards were being laid out and transported the trees and plantings. He opened the first hay market in the city, locating at H and Merced Streets opposite the S. P. freight sheds, and later on the site of the present city hall. In his

later years he ranched. He was a pioneer member of Fresno Lodge No. 343, I. O. O. F., and at the time of death sixty-eight years of age.

The name of Peter Van Valer is often met with in the earlier records. He was a pioneer of Tulare and Kings counties and prominent in the 70's in the sheep and cattle business in Fresno. His death at Hanford was at the age of eighty-five years. He was a New Yorker born and at the age of twenty-seven in 1859, came to Stockton to join a brother, Andrew, in the cattle business. In 1861 he last returned east to enlist in the One Hundred and Seventy-second N. Y. Infantry Regiment, later reorganized as the Sixth N. Y. Heavy Artillery, serving on detached duty as quartermaster and on discharge went to Stony Point, N. Y. He returned to California in 1869 and settling at Visalia, resumed the cattle business with the brother named and took up range land along the Kings River, in 1874 adding sheep to the venture and running about 8,000 to the band of 1,000 head of cattle and 200 horses. The business prospered until the disastrous "dry" year of 1877 when half the sheep was lost. For seven years after 1874, he was deputy district revenue collector while retaining his stock interests until 1886. In 1875 he bought out the brother's interest, remaining at Visalia until 1884, when he moved to his 1,000-acre ranch, eight miles northeast of Hanford on the river. He retired from the ranch and removed to town and was elected county tax collector for the term 1898-1910. He was a member of the Elks and of the G. A. R.

The death of Julius C. Wolters at the age of seventy-nine at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Charles G. Bonner, on the Bonner vineyard recalls that he and his brother, Henry, laid out forty years ago Wolters Colony. The decedent came to America from Germany when fourteen years of age. Three years after founding the colony, and having disposed of all his holdings he moved to Sierra County and engaged in mining and merchandising for more than thirty years, and about 1914 returned to Fresno to make his home with daughter. Another daughter in San Francisco and a son in Fresno, W. H. survived him.

A visit to Fresno in October, 1917, by Charles M. Pyke working up a Symphony Orchestra Association recalled one who has been connected with theatrical, musical and amusement enterprises nearly all his life, commencing with remote past when Dion Boucicault, the adapter of plays from the French, the impersonator of Irish characters with the ever present shillelah, whose Irish plays are numbered by the dozens and whose most famous was perhaps "Conn, the Shaugrauhn," hired Pyke to sing behind the scenes "Maryland, My Maryland" in the forgotten production of "Belle Lamar." He was the head of the Pyke Opera Company with his wife the light opera prima donna. He was the first manager of the Barton Opera House and continued as such for about three years after its opening. The engagement followed his coming to Fresno with the opera company and playing as he said "in the old Armory Hall, a wooden shack down on J Street." After the engagement, the opera company was invited out to the hospitable Barton vineyard and there Barton unfolded his plan and declared that if Pyke would remain and manage the theater he would build it. The theater was built and it was considered one of the finest in the west. Even Fanny Davenport, daughter of John L. Davenport, tragedian and foremost actor of his day, pronounced it "a beautiful theater." Pyke hung up two records at the old Barton. The first was when Sarah Bernhardt appeared acting in French with an English speaking support and the receipts were over \$3,200. This stood as a record for twenty-two years but was broken when Pyke came with Tetrzini, opera singer, and the first record was beaten by about \$200. The prices of admission were special ones, accounting for the large receipts.

During the first week in October, 1918, Monsignor J. M. McCarthy severed the rectorship of St. John's Church to become rector of St. Andrew's Church at Pasadena. Not only the Catholic but the community at large lost a commanding figure in the religious life after a residence of twenty years,

having been appointed to the field in October, 1898, since which every church in Fresno has had change in ministry, Monsignor McCarthy holds a distinguished place in the diocese of Monterey and Los Angeles. Though seldom appearing before the public, no movement for the good of the community but had his fullest co-operation and aid. It was during his incumbency that the parish became the largest and most influential in the valley territory of the diocese. His interest was keen in building up the parish school, introducing new methods and doubling the capacity of its school buildings. The Monsignor was ordained June 24, 1890, and coming to California was assigned as rector of the Old Plaza Church at Los Angeles, October 20, 1890. In August, 1893, he was appointed rector of St. Francis de Sales' Church at Riverside by the late Bishop Mora. This five-year pastorate was followed by appointment in charge of St. John's of Fresno. The present church with the adjoining parish school are the result of his efforts. When he assumed charge, parish was a small but promising one. According to the diocesan records, St. John's parish is regarded as one of the most important in the diocese. Nor was he left unhonored by the Mother Church. It was through his efforts and not without opposition from a portion of the parish that the church was removed from its pioneer site; that the large and handsome edifice was erected in 1902 and remodeled and decorated in its present completed form in October, 1915, to do which the brick structure was en masse lifted by jack-screws from its foundations to enlarge and heighten the nave. Church honors that were conferred on the young priest were to be made Diocesan Consultor in January, 1906, in November named Private Chamberlain to His Holiness, the late Pope Pius X with the title of Very Reverend Monsignor, in June, 1909, by appointment as Domestic Prelate with the church title of Right Reverend Monsignor and in June, 1917, reappointed Diocesan Consultor to serve on several boards having to do with diocesan affairs. It was in June, 1905, that he celebrated his silver jubilee and received testimonials of honor not alone from his parishioners but from citizens at large. Monsignor McCarthy is a native of Brooklyn, N. Y., an accomplished musician, completed theological studies at All Hallows in Ireland following his philosophical studies in the College of the Propaganda in Rome. His successor as rector of St. John's is Rev. Leo J. Foin from St. Paul's at Los Angeles. He was educated in the schools of Fresno, completed his theological studies in the east, attended St. Vincent's College in Pennsylvania and on graduation entered the seminary of the College. He said his first mass at St. John's on ordination. The Foin family is an old and respected one of Fresno.

Charles L. Walter, capitalist of Fresno and property owner of Fowler, was one of the youngest soldiers regularly enlisted in the Union Army. He was left an orphan at nine years. The war broke out when he was eleven years of age. Two years later, he enlisted in an Illinois regiment and upon discharge re-enlisted in the Eleventh Illinois Cavalry commanded by Col. Robert Ingersoll and served to the end of the war. After mining in Nevada and Arizona, he came to Fresno in 1881 and becoming interested in land near Fowler colonized the tract as Walter Colony, realizing good profit. Walter was born near Aledo, Ill., July 16, 1850.

O. J. Woodward, who succeeded to the presidency of the First National Bank upon removal to San Diego of J. H. Braly, January 1, 1888, is a man of business acumen. He is from Clinton, DeWitt County, Ill. At nine years of age, his father lost all by fire and later a few years upon his death became the sole support of widowed mother and a younger sister. At twenty he graduated from high school and after teaching a country school for one term entered the employ at Clinton of Jacob Vogel in a shoe store at twenty-five dollars a month. Three years and a half later his employer failing in health projected a tour of Germany and entrusted the management of the business as partner to his clerk in his absence. The partnership lasted for six years,

the stock was sold and Woodward came to California in 1880 to look the field over. Returning home, he reentered the shoe business and continued for three years, forming a new partnership with his former associate. A journey to Arizona resulted in the purchase of cattle ranch of which he took charge leaving partner to manage the home business. After eighteen months, the ranch was sold at great profit, he tarried three months at Los Angeles and came to Fresno to establish a home. Money was invested in land, he engaged actively in the sale and booming of real estate until he joined the bank as stockholder, then as cashier and next as president. His former partner was persuaded to come out to Fresno and he became vice-president of the bank. The two associates were the means of attracting to Fresno as settlers a desirable contingent from Clinton. Mr. and Mrs. Vogel were murdered in their home in Alameda.

T. C. White dates his residence in Fresno from the 27th of April, 1877, coming with \$325, all that he had, which he deposited with the First National Bank of which he afterwards became a director. The sale of a Central Colony lot bought in the summer of 1877 yielded a profit and while not ashamed to make use of a violin to give him a living he became the owner in time of the historic Raisina Vineyard, model institution that it was. It was the first raisin vineyard and he one of the pioneer raisin producers in the county. The Raisina took six first premiums at the California state fair and one silver and two gold medals for the best California produced raisins. Mr. White is a large city property owner. The White Theater and the adjoining Pleasanton Hotel are his properties.

J. H. La Rue, who died at the age of eighty-four, was a vineyardist and a resident for thirty-one years. He was survived by widow, three sons, eleven grand and ten great-grandchildren.

Rev. Thomas Boyd was pastor emeritus of the First Presbyterian Church of Fresno City. He was pastor of the church for fourteen years, and during his pastorate it was that the church at M and Merced Streets was built and the number of communicants more than doubled from the time that he answered the call. Before his coming, the congregation worshipped in an assembly hall on Merced Street, opposite the Masonic Temple. He resigned about three years before his death, at the age of seventy.

Dr. W. T. Burks was a pioneer physician identified with the life of the city and county for nearly forty years, professionally, as a member of the city board of health or as county health officer. It was related of him that in early manhood he served as ship's surgeon on a Pacific liner and in that capacity visited the South Sea Islands on a cruise for one year. On returning in 1890, the vessel touched at a Mexican port and President Diaz enlisted him to stamp out the yellow fever then raging in Mexico, investing him with full authority and placing at his command the services of the military and navy. The epidemic was controlled in three months and after a residence of ten months in Mexico he returned to California. Dr. Burks' death was the first notable one in the city during the Spanish influenza epidemic in October, 1918.

Edward E. Bush was mayor of Fresno preceding Dr. Chester Rowell, elected April 12, 1909. He was chosen by the board of city trustees of which he was a member to fill the unexpired term of W. Parker Lyon, who had resigned about a year before. The same political power placed him in office that was instrumental in elevating Lyon to the mayoralty. Bush declined to be a candidate at the election because of ill health. A non-partisan primary law being in effect, all candidates went on the ballot by petition and there were no party nominations or conventions. The contest for the mayoralty was a four-cornered one with Trustees J. B. Myers and J. D. Statham, W. F. Toomey and Dr. Rowell as the candidates, the Good Government League having to do with the selection of candidates. Mr. Bush was a member of the milling firm of Hollenbeck & Bush and was a relative by marriage

of Clarence J. Berry, the Klondiker. His administration was a negative one after the troublous one of Lyon and the policy constructive one of his successor.

Rev. W. B. McElwee, who died at the age of eighty, had preached from valley pulpits for nearly thirty years coming from Missouri in 1886 to occupy the pulpit of the First Presbyterian Church of Madera and remaining in charge for nineteen years. He became in 1906 pastor of the Belmont Presbyterian Church of Fresno which later merged with the Calvary and became the Westminster. He retired from the active ministry six years ago. His wife died two weeks before him.

Rev. Benjamin A. Hawkins, who died at St. Helena Sanitarium, was county school superintendent of Fresno from 1883 to 1891 and after the division, superintendent of the Madera County schools. Death was from a cerebral trouble.

Mrs. H. D. Carver, widow of B. F. Gray, was one of the many victims of the Spanish influenza epidemic in November, 1918. She was principal of the Emerson and Kirk school kindergartens, a resident for twenty years, one of the guiding spirits of the kindergarten schools, active in club work and in the Baptist Church. She was a member of the City Beautiful Commission.

Henry Markarian, president of the California Fig Growers' Association, was another victim of the Spanish influenza. A resident of the county for thirty-six years coming from Armenia at the age of ten years, he devoted a life to the study of the fig industry and was a recognized authority on the subject. He owned the well known Markarian Fig Gardens, one and one-half miles north of the city where at the time of death he had completed a beautiful home.

Bernard Faymonville, chairman of the board of directors of the Firemen's Fund Insurance Company, who died in San Francisco, was a resident of Fresno for five years after 1877. While here he was in the insurance business and in abstract office of his brother, William Faymonville, an early pioneer. He removed when appointed special agent of the insurance company. He was one of the trustees of the W. J. Dickey estate. He had a fatal stroke of paralysis while playing golf.

W. M. Wyatt, who died at the age of seventy-nine years, had been a resident of Fresno for about three decades. He was a North Carolinian, who after the Civil War went to the northwest, engaged in the freighting business amassing a fortune for the times, lost it in the panic of the early 70's, took up the cattle business in Montana, recouped his losses and in 1886 came to California and a year later settled in Fresno. He invested in land near Fresno and Fowler. He had planted several vineyards near Lone Star and at the time of death was considered well to do.

From a vegetable garden to the pomp of court life is the romance in the life of Lily Haw, a pretty native born Chinese girl of Fresno. She was born in the country near the Eisen Vineyard, where her father Fernando Haw raised vegetables for the Fresno market. She was nineteen at the time of her marriage. Her education was received in the public schools of the city, she was a student of the Washington grammar school and ready to enter the high school. She was as bright and clever as any American girl and had inherited much of her mother's shrewdness. Haw was a character of Fresno's Chinatown. He had a shrewd and intelligent wife and they were the head of a thoroughly Americanized household and a family of ten. Lily, the second daughter, as she was known under her American name, forsook the parental roof-tree in July, 1907, and with Ben O. Yung and the latter's match-making wife as the official "go-between" in the affair journeyed to New York where the wedding, according to the Chinese custom, was had at the Hotel Astor. The husband was Kang Yu Wee, Chinese consul general to Stockholm and a leader in the much talked of Chinese reform movement. Unlike the majority of Chinese brides, who do not set eyes on their liege

lords until the marriage ceremony, Lily had once looked upon him, though never formally introduced. It was about two years before when Wee visited California and spoke in Fresno on the reform movement with which he was associated. Then it was that Mrs. Yung was commissioned to find a wife for him. She was found, and after all the necessary arrangements, financial and otherwise, were made, the bride was claimed one year after the commission. Arrived at Stockholm after a tour of the continent, the little bride discarded her Oriental apparel and resumed her American dresses as she wore them in Fresno, and from a simple, crowded home circle she was established in her own and ruled over three servants. The husband's consular duties ended in the summer of 1908 and after some travel the Wees planned to go to China to live. As far as customs and ideals of living are concerned, the little Fresno bride was to all intents an American girl in everything save religion as the family retained the worship of Confucius.

Three Fresno men that dabbled more or less in oil entertained with the developments of March, 1910, in the Maricopa and Coalinga fields in Kern and Fresno Counties the belief that fortune played them a scurvy turn but for which they might have been in a class with John D. Rockefeller. They are Fritz Bader of the Worswick Paving Company, Louis Scholler of the Grand Central Cafe and the late Peter Rice of the Sunset Realty Company. Bader, Scholler and certain Hanfordites were interested in a Maricopa enterprise and might have been owners in the Lake View oil volcano which was erupting 40,000 barrels of oil a day and had been continuously for ten days in March, 1910, the product erupting so fast that there was no tankage for it and the oleaginous fluid was banked in a great lake. Bader is one of the valley's pioneer oil men and learned what he knows of oil in the Baku field in Russia on the Caspian Sea. Their Maricopa enterprise was one of 1892 in a company that drilled 800 feet, drilled until they could raise no more money with which to drill and finally lost all they had invested. Bader, who owned the two and one-half-acre location, even forfeited ownership of the land because of inability to keep up the assessment work, though he continued operations for one year after the others had abandoned all hope and let their stock go for delinquent assessments. The gusher in 1910 spouted 40,000 barrels a day from a well at 2,400 and the development of which cost the interested and stock controlling Los Angelans approximately \$90,000. Bader went bankrupt over the enterprise and returning to Hanford began business anew but on other lines. Scholler ruminated over a roll of \$25,000 worthless delinquent share certificates of the original company on whose abandoned location the Lake View pumped up daily those 40,000 gallons, doing so in part through the very casing that they had put down in the hole drilled for 800 feet eight years before. Rice's experience at Coalinga was on different lines in his sale of a quarter section of land for \$150 an acre, when on the day after the sale he was offered \$750 an acre. The rise in value was on account of the bringing in of the Coalinga-Mohawk gusher, the sale having been consummated at an all night seance at Coalinga on the day before the gusher was brought in. Rice had been carrying an option of \$100 an acre on the northwest and southwest quarters of Section 14-20-15, adjoining the Mohawk, and on the night of the sale before the next day's strike closed with G. R. Umbson of San Francisco for \$150 an acre. The next day's \$750 an acre offer came too late. True the deal netted him a net profit of \$16,000, but at \$750 he might have realized six times as much. On the strength of the Mohawk gusher C. G. Wilcox, one of the organizers of the Mohawk and then largely interested in Coalinga, sold the northwest quarter eighty acres of 14-20-15 for \$100,000.

Robert Edmiston was an after-the-war pioneer of Fresno and before an Indian fighter. At death at the home of his son, Robert W. Edmiston, near Clovis, he lacked thirty days of attaining the ripe age of eighty-two years. For some years before he suffered from the effects of the exposures and



hardships of army campaigning life. He was a native of Ohio and came west in 1852, entered the army and was engaged during his military service in campaigning against the Indians in Arizona and New Mexico. Eleven years later he enlisted for the Civil War and saw service with the First California Infantry Regiment, principally in Arizona. After his war service he located in Napa County, farmed for about two years and then made a home in the San Joaquin Valley. A reference to him in the newspaper obituary was as the first to conduct irrigation operations on the plains near Fresno. This may or may not have been so. The distinction has been credited to others. History does not record who was that pioneer. If history leaves in dispute as to definitiveness of day and date an event of such world significance and moment as the discovery of gold in California, setting in motion one of the greatest waves of immigration, resulting in rapid settlement of a western wild, adding another star to the American constellation of sovereign states and writing in one of the most picturesque and unique chapters in the world's annals, it may be pardoned if history has not fixed the identity of the man that first irrigated the arid plains where Fresno stands today, event of relatively minor importance yet pregnant in local interest though it was. In any event, Edmiston was among the very first to irrigate the plains and he did have to do with the surveying and construction of the earliest ditches taking water from the Kings River which after all is the great irrigation water source in Fresno County. Robert Edmiston was first sergeant of Company K of the First Regiment Infantry, enlisting in San Francisco November 22, 1862. He was promoted second lieutenant of Company D in April, 1863, enrolling at Fort Craig, N. M. From the Company K sergeantcy he was promoted second lieutenant of Company A of the First Battalion of Veteran Infantry, enrolling April 27, 1863, and May 17, 1865, was promoted first lieutenant at Fort Sumner, N. M., vice Erastus W. Wood promoted captain. Edmiston was mustered out with the battalion at San Francisco December 31, 1866. Battalion was formed in November and December, 1864, by consolidating veterans of the First Infantry Volunteers into two companies and consolidating companies of the Fifth into five of the battalion. The stations of the companies had been in New Mexico, Texas and Colorado territory, but at muster out of battalion in September, 1866, such officers and men as wished to be mustered out in California were consolidated into a company and marched to the San Francisco Presidio. Lieutenant Edmiston was with this return column.

Prominent in the political and civil life of Fresno was for many years the late E. W. Risley. In poor health for a long time, his last fatal illness was of a fortnight's duration. The immediate cause of death was arterial sclerosis. The services at the crematory were simple, ex-Judge M. K. Harris, a friend of many years delivering the eulogium. Judge Risley's request had been that at death there should be no flowers, "but dust to dust and unto dust to lie without glory, without pomp, without end." The career of the decedent was, before his coming to Fresno in 1885 at the height of the boom, conspicuous in the history of the rapid development of Arizona. He was born in New Haven, Conn., and was a direct descendant of Richard Risley, founder in 1635 of Hartford, Conn. His youth he spent at Galesburg, Ill., and at the age of twenty-one graduated from Knox College, having studied law during the last two years of his collegiate life. He headed westward in 1874 with California as his goal and during the silver boom sought foothold in Nevada and in California from Shasta to San Diego. At the time of the great mineral discoveries at Tombstone in Arizona, he crossed the desert by pack train. He met the usual fortune and experiences of the prospector—a millionaire at one time in his mind, a pauper in fact at another. During his Arizona career he was at one time the official court stenographer for the territory necessitating travel from one end to the other of the vast domain. In political life he was a deputy U. S. marshal, deputy

district attorney of Cochise County in which is located the town of Tombstone, was clerk of the board of supervisors of Pima County wherein is located Tucson and during his residence in Tucson was in turn deputy U. S. district attorney, a member of the town council during the change from ancient Mexican pueblo to American city. Later also as a member of the territorial legislature he was chairman of the judicial and appropriations committee. After removal to Fresno following a stay in San Francisco, he was admitted to practice as an attorney at law in the state and also the U. S. Supreme court and was a deputy under the late Firman Church and Walter D. Tupper in the days when the district attorneyship was no sinecure in the prosecution of criminal cases. Afterward he was city attorney under the Spinney city regime and diplomatic in preventing open ruptures between the opposing factions in control of the administration of the city of Fresno in his insistence upon the enforcement of enacted ordinances. For six years he served as judge of the Superior court. A Republican in politics, he was elected as a candidate on the Populist ticket with endorsement by the Democrats. This was at a time when the Populists were on the crest of the political wave to be later swallowed up by the Democrats by coalition. During his career on the bench, he tried many criminal cases and his boast was that he was never reversed on appeal. At the close of his term he retired to private life, being a man of considerable business property most advantageously located. Still he devoted time as a freeholder in the framing of the first charter of the city and that document was largely the work of himself and of the late J. P. Strother. It was a document which was calculated to call a halt to many of the abuses that the city government had previously labored under at the expense of public economy and administration of the city's affairs. It was a document that was called for by the times and was not challenged until 1918 by a proposed charter as the old one with its dollar tax limit on the \$100 for general administrative purposes and various other limitations was no longer suited to the times but a blocking stone to the growth of the city under new conditions and the expansion of the city. Mr. Risley was also police and fire commissioner for four years during which both departments were improved and enlarged. He left surviving a son Thomas E., who is in public life, and a daughter. The death of wife two years before was a great shock. He abandoned his Fresno home and a change came over him, so affected was he by the bereavement. It was also a great surprise to the community when on the day after his death there were placed on record documents executed after the death of the wife deeding all property to the son. He died at the home of the son and with death passed away one who was a wonderful example of nervous and vital energy and industry even unto the smallest detail.

Mrs. Margaret M. Beveridge, a prominent member of the Scottish Colony, a native of Dollar, Scotland, died in 1918, aged fifty-two years; she came to the county as a girl and was a resident of it for thirty years. She married June 26, 1889, George P. Beveridge who died in 1916, and for many years was the district agent of the California Wine Association. The surviving family consisted of four daughters and an only son named for his father. He was at Camp Middletown, Pa., in the aviation service during the war with Germany.

A Honolulu dispatch of December 3, 1908, announced the death of William H. Marshall, a newspaper man who had a picturesque though stormy career. He had worked on the old Expositor of Fresno and in his day was connected with the newspapers of San Francisco, Sacramento and Stockton and afterwards at Manila and Honolulu. He was known in Fresno as Maverick Marshall because he had at one time edited a publication known as the Maverick. Marshall was accounted a brilliant writer, though an erratic character. His leaning was to champion the oppressed and in his writings hesitated not to criticise federal judges and the military, not infrequently

paying with loss of his personal liberty for the freedom of his printed utterances. An incident famous in California journalism was a decade or more ago when he was with the Bee of Sacramento and when a particularly scandalous legislature was in the closing days of the session. He headed his article: "Thank God, the Legislature Is About to Adjourn." It so offended the legislature that resolutions were passed favoring the removal of the state capital to San Jose. "The Third Estate" was in such bad odor with the state's solons that an act was passed requiring the printing of every thing in a newspaper over the signature of the writer. It was such an idiotic piece of legislation that it was generally ignored. No attempt was ever made to enforce it.

John W. Martin, who died in 1908, was an old and highly respected country school teacher. He was a Kentuckian born in 1848. It was in 1882 that he married here Miss Vienna Neal, daughter of the pioneer minister of the gospel. The widow Martin and six children survived.

Dr. J. Fount Martin died at the age of eighty years at the county hospital after a residence in the county of half a century. He was a graduate of a California medical college, an author, teacher and editor. School he taught here for nearly thirty years. He published after his teaching days a magazine called "Fresno Forward" and later a religious book "His Master's Will," besides other religious works. Many will recall him as one of the city's striking personalities. Fortune deserted him in his last days. He was a scholarly gentleman of the old school.

The juvenile population especially received with genuine sorrow the announcement of the death of John Zapp, pioneer of Fresno, founder of Zapp's amusement park and zoo, the local P. T. Barnum of Fresno, a lover of animals and the friend of children. His death was a pathetic one. Death was from pneumonia contracted while visiting wife at a local hospital. The Zapps had been estranged, had been separated and divorced. The wife was in the hospital awaiting to undergo a capital operation. He had also survived a series of operations that left him a shadow of his former physical strength. She had him summoned for a farewell and a reconciliation. He responded and contracting the fatal illness in his weakened and debilitated state fell a victim of death a few days after. John Zapp was born at Reno, Nev., more than a half century ago. He farmed near Marysville in the Sacramento Valley, came to Fresno about thirty years ago and in the early days was connected with various mercantile firms. He then took up the draying business and made a financial success of it during the ten years that he was engaged in this line, having the monopoly in the excavating contracting business. He was then in his physical prime and a marvel for strength and muscular power. It was in the early part of 1900 that he married Miss Leota Burnside and securing the property beyond the city limits where Zapp's park is located on the banks of Dry Creek started a public amusement resort, equipped with zoo and various attractions bought from disbanding or overstocked circuses. The property enhanced in value with the extension of the city, the amusement resort was greatly improved and became a popular institution especially favored by the younger generation for its many allurements. He had in his optimism expressed the desire of dedicating the park to the city for the benefit of the young. This was before the conception and installation of the city playgrounds. After installing a swimming plunge, a skating rink and other amusement features, Zapp became financially embarrassed and lost his interest in the park. Sickness overtook him and that he survived the ordeal of the operations that he submitted to is short of a miracle. It left him a wreck of his former self. Things went from bad to worse and the separation and divorce followed. Mrs. Zapp was an equestrienne and a great lover and trainer of blooded horses.

Pathetic were the circumstances attending the death of Will Y. Spence in the prime of life at the age of forty years. He was a newspaper man, vine-

yardist and musician. When the United States entered the war he devoted his energies to the program of food production and at the second draft call in September, 1918, his name was drawn. To fit himself for the service in expectancy of a call to the colors, he underwent an operation for appendicitis. It left him with impaired vitality. He had not recovered from the operation when he returned to the drill activities of the drafted men in training. He fell easy victim in the flare-up of the Spanish influenza during the second week in December, 1918, the contracted cold developed into pneumonia and in less than one week he was dead. Surviving him are a married sister, a brother David A. with the raisin association and a veteran of the Spanish-American War and a younger brother, John Y., a lieutenant who was at the training camp at Camp Lewis, Wash., summoned in response to the first war draft call. The decedent was a Scotchman, born in 1878, and came in 1886 direct to Fresno with parents, the late Alexander D. Spence and wife, who settled in the Scandinavian colony district. He was a graduate of the Fresno high school. He served on the staffs of the Democrat, Tribune and Herald newspapers, was editor of the Tribune and city editor of the Herald. His last newspaper engagement was as editor of the country news page of the Sacramento Bee, returning then to Fresno about fifteen months ago to edit the Sun Maid Herald, the monthly bulletin publication of the raisin association. W. Y. Spence was an accomplished musician and for years the organist of St. John's Catholic Church. He was a member of St. Andrew's Society and the family prominent in the Scottish colony.

The death at Oakland December 22, 1918, of John P. Clark following an operation for appendicitis recalls one who was an organizer of irrigation projects in this county. The funeral was held in Kingsburg and the remains were buried in the cemetery there. Clark was a Kentuckian and in early manhood came to Kingsburg where he clerked for years in the S. Davison store. His opportunity came when he was chosen secretary of the Centerville & Kingsburg Irrigation Ditch Company, acquiring later ownership of the controlling stock in that company, the Fowler Switch and the Emigrant canals. All these made possible the development of the land in the southern part of the county and still serve that region. Clark consolidated the three interests and all the territory between the Fresno Canal and the Kings River came under the control of the Consolidated Canal Company organized about 1900. Later he sold his interests to the capitalists who control the Fresno Canal and Irrigation Company and the chief irrigation interests in the county came under one head. Clark moved from Fresno to Oakland fifteen years ago.

Edgar H. Duval of Kingsburg and principal of its high school was a victim of the prevalent Spanish influenza on the last day of the year 1918, after an illness of about one week. He took his college degree in Stanford in 1905, taught in the Visalia high school and in 1907 was chosen for the Kingsburg principalship when school was in its second year of existence, having a hard struggle to maintain itself with one assistant, occupying vacant rooms in the grammar school building, pupils scarce and considerable opposition to the continuance of the institution. He overcame the obstacles, tided the institution over that second year, won the community's cooperation and during the third secured a \$5,000 building. The growth thereafter was easy and natural and a few years later a new building was erected costing over \$40,000. He was born near Ventura in January, 1878.

A. C. Cranor was a well known cattleman and active in food administration work in the state during the war employed by the government in finding cattle feed. He was a native of Kentucky, aged forty-eight. He was a veteran of the Spanish-American War and served under Pershing as a scout in the subjugation of the wild tribes of the Philippines.

Mrs. Margaret M. Patterson was a resident of the county for thirty-nine years, of the city for fourteen, and nearly sixty-seven years of age at

time of death. She was survived by five children and eight grandchildren. She was the mother of Mrs. George R. Andrews, wife of the county's public administrator. A brother is John Mitchell, many years president of the United Mine Workers of America and a leader who served on several federal labor commissions.

The death in San Francisco with the close of the year 1918 of Thomas L. Heaton recalls a man who held once important place in the county's educational circles. He was an early city school superintendent and principal of the high school from inception in 1889 until the summer of 1896. For the last fifteen years he was assistant superintendent of the San Francisco city schools until illness compelled his resignation. He was a native of Kentucky and sixty-one years of age at time of death. It is recalled that under his Fresno superintendency many of the first schools were erected and notably the first high school building at Santa Clara and K in the upper floor rooms of which the classes were organized under his direction with the assistance of Prof. Carey Jones, now of the state university. The rooms becoming too crowded the classes removed to rented quarters on N Street, and later to a temporary building on the Central school premises, close to the courthouse. The high school building on the Tuolumne and O Street site was completed in the final year of his connection with the local schools. From Fresno he went to Eureka as superintendent, continued there for two years, became a member of the university faculty and remained in that work even after he entered upon his duties with the San Francisco schools.

Frank D. Fleming was a young newspaperman connected with city publications at various times and with the first Y. M. C. A. war work campaign in November, 1917. In February, 1918, he was appointed publicity director for the Bank of Italy with headquarters at San Francisco and in October in that city fell a victim of the Spanish influenza.

The story of the life of Mrs. Julia A. Fink-Smith and her coming to Fresno County is woven into that of the history of the raisin industry of which she was a pioneer with a small band of Boston teachers who came from San Francisco, promoted and settled Central Colony, introduced the raisin grape in the county and first commercialized the product of their own packing. Associated with her in the colony were her sister Mrs. T. C. White, the late Miss Nellie Boyd the actress, Miss Lucy Hatch, and the Misses Austin, Cleveland and Julia Short. Mrs. Smith's was the Raisina vineyard in its day and long thereafter one of the show places. She was ninety-two years of age at death and came to California in 1852 by the isthmus route to make her home in San Francisco until 1876. Her husband, Lyman K. Smith, died sixty years before her. She came to Fresno when more than fifty years of age, saw the village grow to a city and helped lay the foundation of an industry that has made that one time village famous the world over as its raisin center. She spent forty-two years of her life in this county and was one of the surviving pioneers of the agriculture and irrigation era. Her name is also associated with the donation to the city of the playground named for her. She was a member of the Unitarian Church and made gift to the trustees of the church building site. She was one of the earliest members of the Parlor Lecture Club and one of the founders of the Leisure Hour Club devoted to literary work, also actively interested in the Y. W. C. A., besides public charities.

Phillip Scott, who was for two terms a member of the county board of supervisors, was for over forty years a resident of the San Joaquin Valley and seventy years of age at death. He was one of the earliest trainmen in the service of the Southern Pacific, connected with it in 1866, coming to the valley in 1875 as a conductor in the days of railroad pioneering between Fresno and Bakersfield and for years after enjoying a large acquaintance-ship. It was in 1890 that in a hunting accident at Bakersfield he lost an arm. He was a member of the Elks and after retirement from public life

engaged in successful vineyard cultivation. His brother, Jay Scott, was at one time sheriff of the county.

William Wakefield was aged eighty years at death at the home of a daughter at Ripon, after having taken cold which resulted in pneumonia after a holiday family reunion in this city. He dated his first residence in California from the overland ox team journey in 1853 with a brother, Henry, a resident of this city, returning to the south and making a home in Texas for a time and back to California thirty years ago. He was a mining man, making his home in Fresno during the winter seasons and prospecting during the remainder of the year. He was familiar with the mountain country of the county with much of his mining activities in the vicinity of Dinkey and Laurel creeks.

J. R. White, who died at the age of seventy-eight, was a carpenter by trade, born of Puritan stock at Georgetown, Me., was a pioneer of the state and of several of its counties, and as with so many others of the early comers had a varied career checkered by successes and failures. The gold fever tempted him and in December, 1848, with a company of thirty Bath friends and companions left New York for the new El Dorado in a chartered schooner. From Chagres they poled in a boat to Gorgona and from there "footed it" to Panama. The next problem was how to reach San Francisco or Yerba Buena. For three weeks they sought a charter and enlarging the company an English bark, the John Richardson, was secured and the voyage terminated May 18, 1849, after a passage of ninety-two days. Mr. White made for the gold mines, visited Stockton and traversed the San Joaquin Valley. For a time he left his mining partners on the Tuolumne for the more certain returns of running a ferry scow on the river but later returned to mining. It was said of him that he was probably one of the earliest of the gold miners that explored the central section of the San Joaquin Valley, gaining personal knowledge of the Indian depredations and making the acquaintance of Major James D. Savage whom he came to know well. December, 1849, found him at Stockton where he built a house; next at San Francisco where he followed his trade for some months. Back to Stockton and the mines near Sonora meeting with success. It was at the time of the outbreak of the foreigners who threatened to drive the Americans out of the country as they witnessed their prosperity and the rapid settlement by them. Back again to Stockton he engaged with a brother, who had come to California in 1850, in a small way in the mercantile line. In the fall of that year he invested in stock, moved to Mariposa County and a dry year following he was forced to sell at a sacrifice. The gold fever had not left him and for a time he mined at Dry Diggings, and for sixteen years lived in the mining district. For years he was deputy sheriff at a time when it was necessary that an officer of the peace needs be a brave and courageous man. For one year he ran the Gilroy stage line; in 1867 he was in Tulare as a rancher and house builder and later at Whitesbridge in this county, named for him, making his home there for eighteen years, successfully engaged in ranching, sheep raising and merchandising. It was in 1885 that he moved to Fresno and made large investments during the land boom, became a director of the Fresno Loan and Savings Bank, president of the first street railroad company, was identified with other corporate enterprises and was a man of affairs. He held valuable properties in Fresno, owned a 17,000-acre wheat ranch in the valley, also two fine wheat and vegetable ranches and large warehouses near Stockton. Politically he was one of the advocates and organizers of the American Party, Thomas E. Hughes, Fulton G. Berry and others being associates with him. The White home at I and Stanislaus Streets was in its day "one of the finest in Fresno." The eldest son is John J. White well known as a peace officer, long connected with the Miller & Lux interests and chief of police under the W. Parker Lyon city regime.



Mrs. Margaret Harless, who died at the age of eighty-eight, was a resident of the county for a quarter of a century, for many years making her home with a daughter at Academy. She came to California with husband in 1859 by ox-team, were harrassed on the journey by hostile Indians with several of the party murdered. On the journey was born her son L. J. Harless, now of Lewis, Cal. The Harlesses first settled at Farmington, Calaveras County, later moved to Salt Spring Valley in Mariposa and lastly came to Fresno, the husband engaged in cattle and sheep raising and farming and the family maintained a city home and a Fruit Avenue ranch. She was a cheerful worker in the M. E. Church, South. She was hale and hearty until almost the very last.

An illness of only five days from pneumonia carried off Charles S. Pierce, president of the C. S. Pierce Lumber Company, and a well known citizen who had lived in Fresno for over thirty-five years, or half his life time. November 22, 1919, would have marked the fiftieth anniversary of his marriage to Mary E. Fitchpatrick. He came to Fresno direct in 1883 from Cherokee, Iowa, whither he had gone at twenty-one shortly after marriage. Here he entered the lumber business with his brother-in-law, F. K. Prescott, the firm of Prescott & Pierce continuing for ten years, until 1895, when the partners severed business relations and the C. S. Pierce Lumber Company was formed and is today one of the leading retail lumber companies in the valley. The Tulare County Lumber Company with yards at Visalia and Lindsay was another enterprise of his of eight years ago. He was a director of the Farmers' National Bank, for over twenty years a director of the People's Savings Bank until its sale to the Bank of Italy, which also took over the business of the Fresno National Bank to establish in this city one of its numerous branches. The subject of this obituary sketch was a staunch Republican in politics, stood high in Masonry, was prominent in the Elks and for over a quarter of a century was affiliated with the First Presbyterian Church in this city. At his death Fresno lost a public-spirited citizen. Widow and five married daughters and a sister survived him.

An historical character in one sense of the word was Elisha Harlan, who at the age of eighty-one died February 27, 1919, at Riverdale in this county, survived by widow and four children. He came to California as a boy at eight years of age and as a member of the George Harlan party from Niles, Mich., that preceded the ill-fated and historical Donner party in 1846, crossing the plains and entering the state via the Hastings Cut-off. As a young man he turned his attention to farming and stock raising in Alameda, Napa, San Luis Obispo and Fresno counties. In the early 40's the father came into possession of a little brochure descriptive of Oregon and California. He resolved to come out west in 1845 with family and earthly chattels to seek a new home. The train was of ten wagons and with it came 150 head of cattle. The winter season was spent at Lexington, Mo., and in the spring the advance was made to the edge of the settled country on the Kaw River in Kansas. Here a rest was taken to fatten the cattle on the grass and gain strength for the arduous and trying journey across the continent. Other emigrants to the number of over 500 joined them here and a general start was made under the leadership of Captain Ahrens. It became soon apparent that such a large party with so many animals could not well keep together on account of the scarcity of forage at times and so at the imminent risk of the hostile Indians the party divided into small caravans of about a score of wagons each. At Fort Bridger, Harlan, the father, met Hastings, the author of the little book that had lured him westward, and the latter told him of a cutoff that would save 300 miles of travel and offered to be the guide. Four trains chose to take the shorter route, these being in the order named: the Files, Donald, Harlan and Donner, for whom Donner Lake was named and all treated of in history. The Harlan party, reaching the canyon, found it overgrown with willows, but the Files and Donalds having driven

over the obstacles it did so also. Hastings traveling with the Harlans posted notice on a tree for the Donners that there was another trail further up on the mountain side, a little longer but probably safer. The Donner party followed it, was caught in the snow at the summit and not a few perished. The Harlan and other parties were compelled to make roads for days to overcome the boulder obstacles, suffered for lack of water for days and lost, for the same reason, many of their cattle. Finally when humans and animals were almost dying from thirst, they came on to a little stream of trickling pure water and were saved. Late in the fall they emerged from the Sierras on Bear River and after seven months of journeying arrived October 8 at Sutter's Fort, from which relief was sent out to the Donners. The Harlans were at the Santa Clara mission during the closing days of the Mexican War, when every one at the mission assisted to repel an attack. Elisha Harlan was a lad of only eight years when he participated in these scenes, the recollections of which ever remained clear in his memory. He located as a farmer or stock raiser at Mission San Jose in Alameda County, near San Lorenzo, at Calistoga and at San Ramon. In 1860 he bought land near Kingston on the lower Kings and became a stock raiser and seller. Nine years later he moved to near Riverdale, where he homesteaded 160 acres, adding to them by purchase until at death he had nearly 1,000 acres, besides cattle on pasture range near Paso Robles. For eighteen years he was postmaster at Riverdale and thirteen years ago he moved to a farm on the Laguna de Tache Grant and there he died. Lucy L. Hobough, whom he married September 14, 1871, at San Luis Obispo, survived him, likewise four children and a sister, Mrs. Mary Smith of Livermore, Cal., aged ninety-four, the last survivor of the George Harlan family of seven children. During the gold excitement of 1848 George Harlan mined for six months at Coloma in El Dorado County. From Santa Clara he and son, Joel, enlisted for service in the Mexican War. He died at Mission San Jose in June, 1850. Elisha was next to the youngest in the family.

Luke Shelley was one of the very earliest pioneers of Fresno City. He died at the age of seventy-two after a continuous residence for forty-eight years. There are very few living who knew as he did the city in its days of beginnings. He came with the railroad and was one of the first located section bosses. He became the owner of city lots which enhanced in value with the growth of the town and which a provident wife saved for a competency in old age. Mrs. Isabelle Shelley and a family of eight children and a sister, Mrs. Ann Quinn, survived him.

Harry F. Winnes, who had been a prominent business man of Reedley, died at Boston, Mass., March 1, 1919, and was given funeral here with Christian Science services, followed by those of the Masonic fraternity. Winnes had been a resident of Reedley for a quarter of a century, was a former president of the national bank there and a director at the time of death. Old friends and business associates were the pallbearers at the funeral, namely: W. W. Parlier, J. C. McCubbin, Marion Dineen, J. J. Eymann, Edwin Reed and Clyde Howell.

Mrs. Amanda Perry, nee Lowrey and widow of Peter Perry, was another of the almost extinct band of intrepid pioneers that braved the perils of the transcontinental journey by ox team, the toilsome passage enduring six months with the travelers frequently exposed to hardships and danger. The Perrys married in Tennessee in 1857, the crossing of the plains was her wedding trip and her residence in California was of sixty-two years. On this ox-team journey the leaders of the combined parties disagreed as to the best route to be followed, the caravan divided and the Perrys remained with that portion that selected the further north routing before reaching Salt Lake City. The other section was massacred by the Indians. The northern section arrived safely in California and the Perrys became early settlers at

Centerville on the Upper Kings River. The Perrys followed the Donner Lake trail. Mrs. Perry died at the age of seventy-nine, having lived for many years at Sanger. Four children, twenty-four grandchildren, seven great-grandchildren, a brother and two sisters survived her.

When Mr. Eguinian was suddenly called by death, March 25, 1919, while at his desk preparing the next issue of his paper, the Armenian colony of the county in particular, and the Armenians in America in general, lost a man conceded to have been an outstanding character. Born in Armenia in 1865 of a well-to-do family, it was reported that he received his early education at the parochial school of his native town. Actuated by a desire to aid his parents who had been impoverished by the tax exactions of the Turkish government, he came to America in 1885 to work out his own salvation. For five years in New York he worked in the silk factories and acquired a knowledge of the English language, using it for the betterment of his countrymen and co-religionists who were about that time beginning to come to the United States, driven from home by the persecutions and tyranny of the Turks. Eguinian mastered the art of printing and he it was, so it is said, that was first, scant though his means, to introduce into this country the Armenian letter types from Venice in Italy and published in New York the first Armenian newspaper "Arev" (The Sun). Despite financial stringencies and other discouragements, he published various Armenian periodicals until twenty years ago when he sold his latest, "The Tigris," to an Armenian political party. He came to California in 1899, settling in Fresno attracted by the large Armenian colony here, and associated with the late M. Markarian, published an Armenian song book, and later in 1903 founded the first Armenian newspaper in California and the west, "The Citizen," four years ago changed to "Nor Giank" (New Life), on which he was at work when death's call came after a few days of indifferent health. Eguinian was a Mason and a man actively useful to his compatriots in Armenian and American political life.

Mrs. Anna L. Woodward was the wife of O. J. Woodward, president of the First National Bank of Fresno and a resident of Fresno for thirty-four years, being the first of a colony that came from Clinton, Ill., arriving in 1885 at the beginning of the big boom and among them being the Lisenbys, the Vogels, besides others. At Clinton the husband and Jacob Vogel had been engaged in the shoe business for fourteen years before. The Woodwards were in 1883 the advance guard to come West, sojourning one year at Prescott, Ariz., later moving to Los Angeles, and to Fresno December 5, 1885. Mrs. Woodward was a woman of retiring disposition and humble aspirations notwithstanding that in later years she was in affluence. She took an active interest in the affairs of the First Presbyterian Church with which she affiliated in July, 1890. Her death followed a long illness.

Death removed, March 26, 1919, from this world Hugh Knepper, whose life activities were part of the history of California and of the county of Fresno. He was a Pennsylvanian by birth and eighty-two years of age when the summons came. It was at the age of fifteen that in 1852 he came to California and remained a resident until the Civil War when he enlisted in the Second California Cavalry at San Francisco, September 30, 1861, and mustered out from Company A at Fort Douglas, Utah, October 4, 1864. Regiment was organized under the President's second call August 14, 1861, and companies first assembled at Camp Alert in San Francisco located on the ground embraced within Mission, Folsom, Twenty-fourth and Twenty-fifth Streets, then known as the Pioneer Race Track and afterwards as ball grounds. The company was at Fort Miller in September, 1865, for one month. Leaving the army, he returned to Missouri and there in 1867 married the widow, Emily Short, mother of John W. and Frank H. Short so prominent in Fresno. A son named Charles was born of the union but he died three years ago. The stepson, John W. Short, preceded the Knepper family by

one year in coming to Fresno in 1881. Hugh Knepper engaged in cattle raising on Fancher Creek, thirty miles northeast of Fresno and this was his home until the death of his son. He engaged also in mining and his name is associated with the discovery and development of the Copper King mine, which was afterward sold to an English syndicate. He was also a vineyardist in the Fowler vicinity. He was identified with the Prohibitionist political movement and a decade ago was a candidate for the state assembly; he was affiliated with the First M. E. Church of Fresno, and prominent in the G. A. R. The death of the wife preceded his.

Hal C. Collins, born in Fresno County in 1875, and a Native Son of the Golden West, was in the earlier part of his life associated in farming and stock raising with his father, the late pioneer and ex-Sheriff J. D. Collins, was later a deputy under Sheriff R. M. Chittenden, and since then engaged in farming at Lone Star. His widow is a daughter of the pioneer, A. D. Sample, whose family is as prominent in the annals of the county since the days of the Southern war as the Collins family.

A noteworthy incident at the funeral of William Helm, April 12, 1919, was that the pallbearers were all grandsons, namely: Paul Cox, DeWitt Helm, Henry Walrond, Lawrence Maupin and Robert Thomas. William Helm was prominent in the early development of the county, in his day was perhaps the largest sheep raiser, drove his flocks over the range between Fresno City site and the foothills and as the story has it camped the winter of 1865 on the town site and where the courthouse now stands. He died at the age of eighty-two from the infirmities of old age and after an illness that had lasted some seven months. A Canadian, born of Scotch parentage, he headed "Westward Ho," spent three years as a lumberman in Wisconsin on the Chippewa and on attaining majority in 1859, turned toward San Francisco and after a sea voyage from New York of twenty-five days via the isthmus arrived with cash capital of five dollars and this he spent for a river steamer fare to Sacramento. He settled first in Placer County, mined without great success, and after various occupations followed butchering three years, engaged in the sheep business on Bear River, closing out in 1864, and driving his sheep to Oregon where he sold out for about \$15,000, representing his profits. He returned to Sacramento, bought more sheep and in July, 1865, drove them to the San Joaquin Valley, since which he had continued his residence, except for a time when he lived about the bay after his second marriage to the sister of his deceased first wife. His mother died at the age of eighty-two and was the mother of nine children. William Helm's coming to Fresno was at a time when it was only a vast vista of space and distances, with not a foot of railway and when the sheep and the cattleman was a law unto himself and maintained it with show of force, even though he might be trespassing on the prior rights of others. Especially was this so in the matter of feed ranges. On Section 4 on Dry Creek, six miles northeast of what was afterward chosen as the town site, he bought 2,600 acres of land from W. S. Chapman at one dollar an acre and launched out as a sheep raiser and dealer. His herd increased and at one time numbered 22,000 head. He bought subsequently to add to his domain until he had 16,000 acres in a body. At a later period he also had a vineyard. For eight years after settlement at Dry Creek, he had no neighbor nearer than twelve miles; his was the only settlement between the foothills and the future townsite. Helm was at that time conceded to be the largest individual sheep grower in this section of the state. He carried his wool or sheep to market to Stockton, and if there was reason for it went as far as Arizona. His residence in Fresno City dated from 1877 on a five-acre tract that was afterward the corner of Fresno and R. It was one of the finest in the city for the day with tastefully laid out and attractive grounds. He had also other valuable city property as for instance the Helm Block at Fresno and J. He was vice-president of the Bank of Central California, president

at one time of the Fresno Canal and Irrigation Company, and a stockholder in the Morning Republican. The improvement of his country holdings engaged his attention and he built a ditch to carry water, for irrigation, from the Kings River; afterward he was one of the stock company that built the Gould ditch with laterals running over his land. When irrigation had made these lands desirable, he sold at advantageous prices until he retained only 3,000 acres. Large crops of wheat, barley and alfalfa were raised, and his 400-acre vineyard was one of the most extensive in the county, with wine grapes a specialty. At the sheep ranch located two miles west of Fresno 3,000 Merinos were kept. It had been swamp land but was reclaimed and a part of it transformed into an alfalfa pasture. His marriage was in Placer County to Fannie S. Newman, born in England but brought up in New York. She was the mother of seven children, and at the time of his second marriage, in 1909, and before it, he made division of his property among the children, five of whom are daughters. It must be conceded that William Helm inherited the Scotch habit of thrift, was a man of industry and energy and personally took part in the great scheme of the agricultural and horticultural development of the county that he among others considered was worth nothing save as a vast feed range for the sheep and cattle. Before his property division the Helm Company was formed in 1900 with his sons associated to manage his diversified interests, the son Frank Helm president and manager. That son was the first office boy and later assistant cashier of the Bank of Central California. The father was also interested in the Farmers' National Bank, and always was a staunch Republican in politics. As a bit of family historical gossip, it is recalled that four of the five married daughters are living today on the block bounded by Fresno, S. R, and Merced, part of the original family home, and that besides his children he is survived by fifteen grandsons and granddaughters. The old Helm family residence at 2823 Fresno Street, enlarged and beautified, is occupied by Dr. J. L. Maupin, whose wife was Mary H. Helm. The funeral was from the Maupin residence with Episcopal service and of this church the first wife was a devoted member. Only the members of the family were bid to the funeral.

One of the most modest and retiring of men was Charles E. Jenney, who passed away April 6, 1919, at Colfax, Cal., where he had lived four years receiving treatment for asthma and other complications. He was a poet of some merit, a philatelist, a numismatologist, a conchologist, a naturalist and a botanist. He had been a resident of Fresno for nearly thirty years, coming from Massachusetts as a young man, was for years with Noble Bros., one of the early raisin and fruit packers, and with the dissolution of the firm on removal of the senior member of the firm to Ocean Beach engaged in the insurance business until his going to Colfax for the outdoor treatment. In his spare hours he devoted himself to literary and scientific studies and contributed to newspapers and monthly publications on the subject of California natural history. He was also a poet and newspapers and magazines have published his verses. He himself published a volume of poetry under the title of "California Nights' Entertainment." His verses may be found in most of the latest anthologies of California poetry. The verses were generously criticised for their metrical descriptions of California scenery. In a more recent volume on "Literary California" some of Jenney's poems find place with those of Bret Harte, Joaquin Miller and others and the prose descriptions of scenery of John Muir. Two of his poems, "The San Joaquin" and "The Sequoias," are reproduced in full. He was recognized as a botanist and geologist and he it was that arranged the collection on the natural history of California at the Panama-Pacific Exposition in 1915 in San Francisco. It included his own private accumulations of natural history specimens, and it is said to be one of the largest and most comprehensive in private ownership. His collection of stamps established his standing as an expert in this line. He took interest in medals and coins, in botany and in shells and was

an amateur authority on these lines. His love for the outdoor was his recommendation for appointment as a member of the city park commission from which he resigned only when he removed from Fresno. At one time he was also a trustee of the city free library. He was a prominent member of the First Congregational Church. He had come to California for his health and though never robust, found time with the inclination for his favorite studies and his ambitions were rewarded. About ten years ago, while returning from a home visit with wife, he was a sufferer in a railroad accident at Kansas City, lost a limb and so seriously injured the other foot that he was permanently crippled and his never strong health was seriously impaired. Notwithstanding the disability he continued his interest in outdoor sports in which he had been markedly proficient. His removal to Colfax was on the advice of doctors to go to a higher altitude and live in cottage in the woods near Colfax. There was a pathetic side to his life in that his talents might have had greater result but that the inspiration was not always at call in the long and overmastering struggle for health.

Robert L. Hargrove (obit April 28, 1919) was a lawyer of Madera and a recognized authority on the law pertaining to irrigation. He came to Fresno from Kansas in 1890 and associated himself with the firm of Van Meter & Warlow but settled that same year in Madera where he continued practice until health failed him. He was for years the attorney and manager of the Madera Canal & Irrigation Company, was also the attorney for the Italian-Swiss Colony and a member and first president of the Madera Chamber of Commerce. He owned one of the most valuable mining properties in the county and was high in the Masonic and Odd Fellows fraternities.

The death of William R. Hatfield at the age of seventy-four, May 1, 1919, at the cottage home at Pacific Grove in Monterey County, recalls a veteran, who had a part in the making of Fresno history. He was born in Ohio in 1845, but parents moved to Illinois and there he received his education and at Chicago his training in a military school. At sixteen he enlisted for the war and served two years. After the war, he took up railroading and, coming west, was an engineer with the Central Pacific as a pioneer of the railroad era in the state and known throughout the valley through his long residence. He was with the Southern Pacific during the construction period through the valley south from Lathrop, and was the locomotive engineer on the first train from Bakersfield to San Francisco. In 1893 he was placed on the pension list and he was one of the oldest if not the senior on that list. Because of his personal knowledge, applications for pension retirements were frequently referred to him for approval.

Mrs. Anna I. Tinnin, who died at the age of seventy-five following a stroke of apoplexy, was the widow of Wiley J. Tinnin, who died in 1910. He was a lawyer here of the days of a quarter of a century and more ago. She came by oxeam overland with her brother sixty-four years ago at the age of eleven and settled at Weaverville in Trinity County where she married at the age of seventeen. The Tinnins were prominent in Masonic circles and she in club life here. Mr. Tinnin was a miner in the early days in Trinity but all his life interested in politics as a Democrat. He is recalled as an assemblyman at the nineteenth and twentieth sessions (1871-74) from his home county and as a senator at the twenty-first session of 1875, elected to succeed William Irwin, who became governor, representing the counties of Modoc, Shasta, Siskiyou and Trinity. Tinnin was a non-partisan candidate and elected member of the second constitutional convention from the third congressional district. He was nominated for secretary of state at the May, 1879, Democratic state convention but at the election was third of the four candidates in the race, Daniel M. Burns, Republican, elected. He was defeated for the same nomination at the next Democratic state convention at San Jose, and in 1884 elected a Cleveland elector from the Trinity first district. His political career closed with the incumbency of the United States Surveyorship of the port



of San Francisco under a Cleveland appointment 1885-89. He was a fine old gentleman of the ante bellum type.

The death of Mrs. Mary E. Joplin, May 8, 1919, was at the age of eighty-seven and closed a residence in the county since 1875. Her early childhood was spent in Missouri, where at Sedalia she married Charles Joplin, a farmer, who died in 1905. The Joplins and their surviving children and the B. M. Stone family, also of two children, came to California, arriving at Kingsburg November 1, 1875, a period when it may be recalled that neither Fresno nor Kingsburg could yet boast of permanent improvements much less even of sidewalks. The families took up preemption claims about ten miles west of Kingsburg and on these lived until the Joplins moved to Fresno in 1912. In their new home conditions were so primitive and the neighborhood so thinly populated that there were only three other white women within a radius of twenty-five miles from the farms. The families assisted in putting through the first Emigrant irrigation ditch and the work demanded their absence from home in the field for the greater part of nine months. School there was none until 1878 when there was found a sufficient number to permit of the organization of the Duke district with nine children and Miss Ella Guard as the first teacher. An abandoned settler's cabin was used as a school house, the children coming miles to attend. Mrs. Joplin had been a member of the M. E. Church South since her eighteenth year, and was born in the District of Columbia. The Duke settlement was one of strong sympathizers with the Southern cause.

Mrs. Mary Qualls, who died at Sanger when seventy-four years of age, was a native of Ireland, who came to California from Missouri in 1867 and to America from the old country at the age of nine years. She was the widow of N. E. Qualls, known to earlier residents as "Uncle Nick" Qualls, whose death had preceded by twelve years. Their residences in California were: first in Stanislaus County, and after 1873 in Fresno County, locating near Fairview.

B. E. Hutchinson, who died from an illness of six years aggravated by a street car accident in Los Angeles with spine injury, would have been eighty-three years of age had he lived until June, 1919. He had been a resident of the county for thirty-five years, locating at Fowler after coming from Des Moines, Iowa. He was interested in the organization of the Iowa and California Fruit Company and in a half section of land which was developed into one of the model fruit farms of the county. The Hutchinson home was a part of the property of which he was the managing superintendent. He was considered an expert on fruit growing and in the early days identified in this section with fruit growing activities. In later years he was engaged in the insurance business in Fresno and also in San Francisco. His second wife and widow is Marie Van Loo of Fowler.

George C. Tabor, who died at the age of forty-nine from pneumonia, was at the time of his demise cashier of the California Associated Raisin Company. Although a member of the state bar he had never practised law in California, though he was a practitioner in Boston, Mass., before coming to Fresno seven years before. With the organization of the association he was in charge of the law department, but during the war period accompanied the president, Wylie M. Giffen, as secretary of the Fresno City Exemption Board, returning to the association work as cashier. He was a native of New Brunswick and a sister was Mrs. G. R. E. MacDonald, wife of the rector of St. James Pro-Cathedral. His fatal ailment followed an operation for appendicitis, which at the last took on an acute stage.

Notable in the pioneer and official life of Fresno, in the days after the war, was William B. Dennett, widely known as Major Dennett. He died at the Soldiers' Home at Sawtelle, Los Angeles County, admitted thereto by virtue of his service in the War with Mexico. He was the first city clerk of Fresno and his official records are models of punctuality and method. He

came to the county about 1870, from Alabama, with the "Alabama Colony" that settled, for agricultural pursuits, in that part of the county now known as Borden, in Madera. The party came via Panama, and included families that later took a prominent part in the political and social life of the county, but who came, as war-impoverished Southerners to make new homes, attracted by the glowing accounts of those who had preceded them to California and settled in the San Joaquin Valley. It was these Southerners who gave cotton-planting here the impetus that it enjoyed at one time. The Major engaged in wheat-farming, but farming was not to the liking of these Southerners, who had been accustomed to have their labor performed by negro slaves. The settlers had their successes and failures. The settlement was finally abandoned after several dry years, following the ravages of the loose cattle, before the days of the No-Fence law. The Major lost his home by fire, and while a farmer had an unfortunate accident in operating a harrow, almost losing an eye and receiving a scar that remained with him until death. Major Dennett was a fine gentleman of the old school and none will recall him save in kindest remembrance. Mr. and Mrs. Dennett came to Fresno about 1880 and bought a small cottage on the terrace on the west side of Van Ness Avenue, between Tulare and Kern. It stood as one of the city's landmarks until about 1900, when, after the death of his wife, the property was sold and the house moved to Diana Street, where it now stands. The Dennett cottage was on the four lots immediately adjoining the present Liberty Theater property. It had been constructed by Mr. Hale, father-in-law of the late Dr. Chester Rowell. With the incorporation of the City of Fresno and the organization of the municipal government, the Major was appointed city clerk, also serving as city assessor, and held the former until the political upheaval of 1893, when the Democratic "triangle" that had held sway in the city board of trustees was ousted, to be followed by the Spinney Republican administration, which transition was characterized by some as jumping from the frying-pan into the fire. The Major retired from political life and was appointed secretary of the chamber of commerce, in charge of its exhibit and publicity work. In this activity he continued until the summer of 1902. Thereafter he lived a life of congenial ease, active until the last, claiming two states as his home, and one year making a last visit to his native state. The Major was a native of Huntsville, Ala., born June 12, 1829, and early in life was apprenticed to the printer's trade and worked in his day as a compositor on the papers of New Orleans and other southern cities. He maintained to the last, and even in his days of affluence, his membership in the International Typographical Union, and was always proud of that membership. He was a youth in years when he enlisted, from his native state, for service in the Mexican War, and he was in some of the early engagements in the northern part of Mexico. The spirit of adventure fastened strong hold on him and, in the late fifties, when filibustering was the fashion, especially along the Gulf of Mexico, he joined, as a volunteer, the ill-fated Lopez Cuban filibuster expedition, a desperate adventure, that challenged the sanity of its members. He related many romantic and hair-raising tales of his connection with that ill-advised project and of escapes from military execution after capture by the Spaniards. Having had a taste of soldiering as a private in the Mexican War, he volunteered on the side of the South in the War of the Rebellion, in an Alabama regiment, and having influence, was given a commission and rose to the rank of major. In fact, during the war, he was practically in command as acting lieutenant-colonel, and thus he was "Colonel" to his friends and acquaintances in Alabama and "Major" to his later and newer friends in California. Coming to Fresno from the "Alabama Settlement" at Borden, Dennett worked at his trade as printer on the Fresno papers, but after final retirement he spent the following seventeen years, part of the time in San Diego with the family of Mrs. D. A. Dunbar, an adopted daughter, partly in

Colorado at the Printers' National Home, and, when tiring of it, coming to California to tarry awhile in the sunny clime here at the Soldiers' Home. His last visit to Fresno was about 1910, and three years later he suffered a stroke of apoplexy from which he never fully recovered. Mr. Dennett was twice married, the first wife being a Miss Amanda Hope, who died early, and the second was Caroline Horton, of Alabama, who came with him and the "Alabama party." She was a member of the Presbyterian Church and her death was in Fresno, December 13, 1901. Major Dennett became a Mason in Alabama, transferred to Fresno and, as with his printing card, maintained that membership until the end. An only known relative in California is a nephew, Wilson D. Dennett of San Francisco. "Dennett Avenue" is named for the Major. At the time of his death he was a few days less than ninety years of age. He could hold his auditors for hours with the tales of experiences in his adventurous and picturesque career.

John J. Kern's death followed an illness of only a fortnight. Thirty-two years a resident of this country, twenty-four of them were spent here. He was one of the oldest saloon-keepers in the city, a genial and kindly man. A son, Sergt. Harry Kern, of Company E, One Hundred Sixty-second U. S. Infantry, returned from over-sea service only the day before his father's death. The decedent was a member of the chamber of commerce, the Owls, Foresters of America, the A. O. U. W. and the Sons of Hermann. In his latter days he impoverished himself in oil exploitations on the West Side of the county, in the vicinity of Silver Creek, and while indications were found the Kern Oil Company had located too high up on the mountainside and the deep and costly drilling crippled it financially.

Mrs. Leota I. Zapp, nee Burnside, and widow of the late John Zapp, died, from cancer of the stomach after a long and lingering illness, at the age of forty-one. Their name is connected with the amusement resort here when it was the only one in kind, and she will be remembered as a skillful and clever horsewoman, with a reputation as such earned in participation in many street parades and at county and state fairs, as a celebrity with her pretty and well-trained horses. She was a native of Monterey County, moved to Hollister when a child, and to Fresno at the age of thirteen. She was a charter member and first treasurer of the Fresno Parlor, N. D. G. W., and remembered the organization at death with the gift of a glass punch-bowl and cups. The Native Daughters officiated at the funeral. An intimate friend sang, at request, a favorite selection of the decedent, and at her special request, also, Rev. Duncan Wallace, as the clergyman, conveyed a message to the mourners from her, of the pathetic reconciliation with her husband, summoned at her request, he falling a victim of the Spanish influenza and both at reconciliation after divorce, realizing that their days were numbered. Once well-to-do as the Zapps were, the petition for the probate of her will was in an estate valued at less than \$10,000 consisting of an equity in two parcels of land of forty-five acres and a city-addition lot.

Julian J. Miley was a settler in the county in 1889 and later became prominent in the business world. He devoted himself to farming and was interested in Kern County oil during the development stage. At the time of his death he was a stockholder in two of the local banks and president of the Fresno Crematory Company. He was a director of the Chamber of Commerce and member of the Commercial Club. He was prominent also in fraternal orders, especially in the Knights of Pythias, of which he was elected a Grand Trustee at the state Grand Lodge meeting in Fresno, in May, 1919. He was also affiliated with the Woodmen of the World and the Modern Woodmen of America. He had political ambitions and several times was a candidate for supervisor but never held office. After the oil discoveries in Oklahoma, he was an absentee from Fresno for a few years, as the business manager there of the interests of A. B. Butler, formerly of

Fresno, who was heavily interested in the territory and recouped a fortune there.

Morris E. Dailey, for eighteen years president of the State Normal School at San Jose, was found dead at his summer home at Pacific Grove, on the morning of July 5, 1919. Death was presumably from apoplexy. The decedent was fifty-two years of age and a man of fine physique. He was principal of the Fresno high school for two years, 1897-99, from here going to the vice-principalship of the Normal and succeeding to the presidency two years later. He was a graduate of the Indiana University.

## WAR REMINDERS

No "slacker" was Fresno in this allied war against the Hun but it "went over the top" on every war measure. No county in the state has perhaps a greater cosmopolitan population. The war spirit was intense. Popular petition before the city trustees resulted in the change of the name of "Kaiser" Street to "Liberty," and another before the supervisors of "German" to "Kirk Avenue" after the near by school named for the late Thomas J. Kirk, who was county school superintendent and later state superintendent of public instruction. Private citizens also changed their names of German origin. Notably among the latter was the former secretary-manager of the Commercial Club, E. A. von Hasslocher, who was at the time immersed in Red Cross work and would not have his patriotism challenged. He changed his name to "Vaughan" and dropped the "von."

The 1917 quota of Fresno was \$1,600 towards the million-dollar fund to provide books for the soldiers at the American military training camps.

The campaign for the third Liberty loan opened April 6, 1918, first anniversary of the declaration of a state of war between America and Germany, a day to be in future remembered as Liberty Day.

To such proportions had grown the business of the salvage department of the Red Cross Chapter that early in June, 1918, it was reported that the time had come when the work should be placed in the charge of a wide-awake business man to devote his entire time to it. An institute of the bureau of salvage of the Pacific Division of the American Red Cross was held this month to make Fresno headquarters for the southern part of the valley in the work from Merced to Bakersfield. The encouragement that this work received was an inspiration. Even boxes were hung to the electroliers in town for the reception of tin and lead foil.

Interesting figures are disclosed in the City Exemption Board's report of the first call for selective men for the service: Registrants 3,718, quota due 152, called for examination 854, absent fifty-two, accepted on examination 434, rejected 163, certified up 189, ordered to camp 165, failed to report three and nine rejected. Exemption claimants 469, allowed 443, denied twenty-six. Claimants included four clergymen, a German and 171 other aliens, two postoffice and a government employe, two hundred twelve married men, twenty-four with widowed mothers to support, twenty supporting aged and infirm parents, two supporting motherless children under sixteen, three claiming religious scruples, and two felons. Registered married men 1,722, unmarried 1,996. Married men called 390, accepted seventeen; single men called 462, accepted 172; married exempts 373, single 292.

The "small boy" could not contain himself while the war spirit was rampant. There was a battalion of six companies of the Junior Marine Scouts and another of three troops of the Boy Scouts of America with unattached troops in country towns. These boys gave much help in war work. The Junior Scouts for instance placarded the town one night with over 10,000 third Liberty bond posters and pieces of literature; the American Scouts in June made a canvass of city and county to locate every black walnut tree, securing options for the government use of the trees for the manufacture of rifle stocks and aviator planes. Who will say hereafter that there is no place in this world for the small boy and his invariable companion, pet dog?

In the foyer of the city hall was displayed for the first time on a day in February, 1918, a silken flag with twenty-nine stars in the union representing

as many city employes as had entered the military service. The number of stars has been increased to thirty-five, and they represent the following:

Fire Department—James H. Brewer, William Nelson, John A. Brame, Samuel Parks, Chester A. Packard, Harry Hicks, J. C. Wagner, R. S. Shoun, W. S. Gilliam, J. A. Devlin, Tref Lassenay, John F. H. Fickel, L. M. Trivly, Walter I. Enright, Charles F. Freeman—fifteen. The name of Samuel Parks represents the first golden star on that flag.

Play Ground Department—W. F. Marsh, Wallace Boren, Mark Kellogg, Adrian Harp, Miller Allen, Miller Henderson—six.

Health Department—Drs. K. J. Staniford and W. L. Adams; Drs. J. H. Pettis and Clifford H. Sweet; Inspectors G. R. Hilliker and G. M. Jovich—six.

Street Department—G. W. Barnes and V. A. Shaw—two.

Electric Department—C. T. Coyle, Herold Hiatt and K. W. Schroeder—three.

Parks Department—George L. Lambert and Claude Alexander—two.

Police Department—J. P. Murphy—one.

Service flags are shown everywhere, corporations employing large numbers of men and fraternal organizations rivaling with each other in show of stars. To mention only two—there's the raisin association with 177 stars in the flag and the San Joaquin Light and Power Company with 101 for the district served by it.

Uncle Sam's postoffice has a service flag with ten stars in June, 1918, including Leon Camy and Fred P. Reiss, former employes over in France. The others in training camps were: C. W. Benedict Jr., Edward Hoffman, H. A. Fages, James Camel, Walter Moore, John A. Haynes, Dillon A. Wilkins and Fred Gallman.

In Department 1 of the Superior court of Fresno County over the judge's bench hang the American flag and a service flag, the latter showing the younger members of the bar that were in the service of the country. They are: Arthur Allyn, Loren A. Butts, Royle A. Carter, Floyd Cowan, G. Penn Cummings, Arthur H. Drew, Earl Fenstermacher, Bertrand W. Gearhart, J. C. Hammel, Ray W. Hays, Floyd H. Kellas, Herbert F. McDowell, John A. Shishmanian, Strother P. Walton, Chester Warlow, Earl Wooley—sixteen.

In government employ—H. W. Stammers, Charles Hill, Earl J. Church—three.

Registrants of twenty-onesters June 5, 1918, in the state with a few country and mountain districts not reporting, totalled 16,891—white citizens and declarants 13,105, negro declarants 205, aliens all races 3,581.

Before the war, Fresno city had Companies C and K of the Second Infantry Regiment of the National Guard of California as part of the valley battalion of which Will Kelly was the major. The companies were sent for service and were for seven months on the Mexican border, returning and on the declaration of war were federalized and sent for duty in scattered parts as far as Nevada, Company K being on guard at the Union Iron Works in Alameda, Cal. Later the companies were concentrated at Camp Kearney—C under Capt. Frank D. Hopkins and K under Capt. Claude Fowler and still later consolidated as Company L of the One Hundred Fifty-ninth U. S. Infantry, the company officers assigned to other commands in the service and Kelly continuing as battalion major in the regiment. A machine gun corps was recruited in Fresno by Capt. T. L. Stephenson and sent to Camp Kearney at the inception of that training camp, leaving here August 4, 1917. All the Fresno company commanders were severed from their commands



and assigned to other organizations in the interest of discipline. The machine gun corps became Company C of the One Hundred Forty-fifth Machine Gun Corps Battalion. It was officered then: Captain Hugh Sydenham of Sacramento; First Lieutenant Frank G. Everts and Second Lieutenants James Madison and Irving L. Toomey, the subalterns from Fresno.

Fresno has a Home Guards Battalion of Spanish War veterans and others who because of age were excluded from active service. It was originally of four companies and in November, 1917, was officially constituted and designated as the Third Battalion of California Home Guards. Its fourth company was heavily drawn upon later to recruit up two companies of National Guards under some mistaken interpretation of the state adjutant general's office, creating much disappointment and dashing the hopes of many an ambitious young fellow. After heroic efforts at recruiting two national guard companies for home service, replacements were made drawing from the Fifty-ninth Company of the Home Guards battalion but they had never much more than a beginning when the held out hope of active service in training camp proved a delusion. The officers held commissions in companies that had existence only on paper. One of these companies was officered by S. L. Gallaher as captain and B. U. Brandt and Ray M. Carlisle as lieutenants, and the other by B. A. Primrose as captain and Ferd Deto and Marvin J. Nichols as lieutenants. Carlisle and Nichols entered the service; Carlisle in the engineer corps as a railroad man, crossed the sea and was assigned to other duty, and the other entering the naval training school at San Diego.

The main business of the Fresno City High School with its state recognized and armed battalion of cadets was to help teach how to win this war. A total of 345 students and alumni represented the school in the service, seventy-one having gone from the school this year of 1918. The school contributed about \$120,000 to the various phases of war work in 1918—more than \$90,000 to the second Liberty loan, \$24,000 to the third and \$4,500 to War Savings Stamps and Red Cross work. The spirit of war had infused every department of school work; the details are too many to particularize; not a department or class in high or junior college but has done something.

April 30, 1918, War Savings Stamps sales amounted to \$213,871.74, placing Fresno third in the list of cities of the state for total subscribed.

All Liberty loans were oversubscribed. City quota on No. 1 was \$1,125,000; subscribed \$1,402,950. Quota on No. 2 was \$2,500,000; subscribed \$2,980,000. Quota on No. 3 was \$1,865,000 and over the top went Fresno April 20 rolling up a total of \$1,875,000. In the Red Cross drive of 1917 the Fresno Chapter, which does not include Selma or Coalinga, raised \$89,000. The Red Cross has 8,000 members in Fresno city and 32,000 in the chapter district. Speaking in round figures, Fresno raised \$50,000 for the Y. M. C. A. war fund, \$25,000 for Armenian relief, \$13,000 for the Salvation Army Hut fund, \$12,000 for the Y. W. C. A. war fund, \$10,000 for the Belgian relief, \$6,000 for the Knights of Columbus war fund, \$3,250 for Smile-age books, \$1,500 for athletic outfits for soldiers, \$1,100 for the mess fund of the machine gun corps, \$275 for the mess fund of Companies C and K, has sent Christmas and Raisin Day packages by the ton to the soldier boys besides tons of clothing and shoes to Belgian sufferers. It has turned a deaf ear to no appeal on account of this war.

The showing on the third Liberty loan was a remarkable one. It was 100 per cent. all over—100 per cent. for the county as a whole and 100 per cent. for every community moreover. All towns in the county were honor towns and all have flags; some stars in addition; Del Rey three stars and each star represented 100 per cent., and all this accomplished in six working days. Fresno went \$10,000 over the quota and the county \$494,400—proof again of the great resources and wealth of this county. Fresno's Honor Flag was raised from the courthouse pole on Raisin Day of 1918 as part of

the day's exercises. The record is of interest how the towns ranked in "going over the top," listing them in the order of subscriptions:

Town	Subscription	Quota	Honor Reward
Fresno County .....	\$3,044,400	\$2,550,000	Flag
Fresno City .....	1,875,000	1,865,000	Flag
Coalinga .....	237,500	117,100	Star
Selma .....	208,800	151,250	Flag
Reedley .....	130,000	100,600	Flag
Kingsburg .....	119,000	83,000	Flag
Sanger .....	110,500	77,050	Flag
Clovis .....	87,900	41,000	Star
Fowler .....	77,350	52,000	Flag
Riverdale .....	70,650	22,750	2 Stars
Parlier .....	64,200	27,750	Star
Kerman .....	36,500	16,150	Star
Del Rey .....	36,000	9,000	3 Stars
Laton .....	13,200	13,000	Flag

Kerman was reported to be the first town in the state to go over the top.

During the third Liberty loan drive, five teams of city letter carriers sold in two weeks \$49,750 of war thrift stamps.

November 4, 1917, saw depart for Camp Lewis at American Lake, Wash., Fresno's fifth contingent and the last lot of men under the first draft army call. In the number were 172 from Fresno and ten from other counties and cities. Fresno had sent quota as follows: District 1, 380; District 2, 351; Fresno City, 152—total 883. To secure these there had to be examined: District 1, 2,460; District 2, 2,300; Fresno City, 854—total 5,614 men.

Olaf C. Neilsen of Route H, Box 81, was the second Fresnan to be wounded in action in France, according to a message of May 3, 1918. He was in the Fifth Regiment U. S. M. C., arriving at the front in July, 1917.

Harold Franck of Clovis was mentioned by Admiral Davis for heroic rescue of thirty-five of the crew of seventy-five of the American munition ship "Florence H" which caught fire April 7, 1918, in French waters and broke in two. Franck is nineteen years old and the French admiral joined in the commendation. He was one of four brothers in the national service.

As a war measure in 1918, the Yosemite Valley was opened as a range for the small cattlemen, the allotment for Fresno being about 6,000 head of cattle. On account of the 1917-18 drought season, cattlemen were also privileged in 1918 to use the Fresno Forest reserve ranges one month in advance of the season to conserve the winter feed on the plains and in the foothills.

In the latter part of May, 1918, 170 tons of flour in four cars were sent on to the allies in Europe, each sack bearing the inscription: "Flour saved by Fresno, California." Shipment was the first tangible result of the campaign in the reduction in the use of flour in the city alone by bakeries and households. Administrator G. S. Waterman estimated at this time that housewives had reduced flour consumption seventy-five per cent. since the rules went into effect.

In one city lodge room alone—that of the Woodmen of the World—hung five war service flags showing in June, 1918, stars as follows: Manzanita Camp No. 160, W. of W., forty-nine; Fresno F. O. E. Lodge No. 39, thirty-three; Pitiaches Tribe No. 144, I. O. R. M., twenty-one; K. of P. Lodge No. 138, fifteen, and I. O. B. B. Lodge No. 723, five.

Thirty members were at the dissolution June 11, 1918, of the German Language Club of the city high school. The German Club as it was known was next to the oldest existing organization in the school, formed under the leadership of Miss Florence Robinson, the teacher, in September, 1913, the Senate with its twenty-eight years being the oldest organization. Other school clubs have been formed and disbanded, but the German after five

years disbanded in the face of public opinion on the war. Besides taking part in war saving stamps, Red Cross and soldier activities, it adopted a French orphan and bought a fifty-dollar Liberty bond which has been given to the Red Cross.

Fresno contributed \$1,259.98 to the million-dollar national fund for technical books for the soldiers of the army and the sailors of the navy.

The feature in the 4th of July, 1918, parade in Fresno city when every participant was on foot was the display of service flags by individuals, societies, churches, mercantile and business enterprises showing in stars the number of relatives, members or employes in war service. The procession was headed by a banner with seventeen golden stars as the number that had given up their lives in action or in training camps. Another feature was the unfurling from the courthouse of a county service flag with the figure of "5740" as representatives in war service. The honor of hoisting this flag was conferred on Mrs. Mary E. Mankins of 2056 South Van Ness, the mother of Homer H. Blevins, the first Fresno city youth killed in action in France as a Marine Corps soldier.

The statement was made at the Red Cross Institute meeting in Fresno by A. B. C. Dohrmann as assistant manager of the Red Cross Pacific Division that the salvage work will eventually prove to be one of the great sources of income of the society, taking its place with the annual membership subscriptions and annual war fund campaigns. In holding the institute June 18 and 19, Fresno was making history. It was the first institute in the division and the first salvage institute in the United States. The Lower San Joaquin Valley Salvage division of ten chapters was formed with Fresno as central headquarters.

The returns on the last of the ten days of the drive of June 28, 1918, for pledges for War Savings Stamps with quota placed at \$2,000,000 were:

City and Rural Districts .....	\$1,400,000
Outside Towns .....	650,000
Total .....	\$2,050,000

According to official figures, Fresno led all the counties of the state in this war savings drive. In actual dollars turned in on the quota, San Francisco was at the top of the list with Fresno second. But in proportion to population and quota, Fresno is first. Four counties in the state exceeded their allotments by more than \$100,000, namely:

County.	Excess.
San Francisco .....	\$756,720
Fresno .....	360,610
San Mateo .....	167,283
Yuba .....	112,910

San Francisco with a population of over half a million had a quota of \$9,420,460; Fresno with a population of 103,000 a quota of \$2,054,000, giving an excess which is nearly half of San Francisco's over subscription with its more than five times the population. In all nineteen counties over subscribed and Los Angeles again failed in its quota.

It was stated that the impossible had been accomplished by pledging over \$1,000,000 in about six hours and that the amazing feature of the achievement was that no figures had been held back to be cast into the total at the last. Yet only a day or so before, it was heralded that the county was \$1,000,000 short in the drive and the county as one of the richest communities in the world, worth in round numbers \$300,000,000, was in danger of having the "calamity" and "humiliation" befall it of "being classed as a slacker," because at date it had paid into the war funds only two and one-half per cent. of its wealth and three-fourths of this of interest bearing bonds. It was too much of the "Wolf! Wolf!" cry of the fable. The drive was

started with \$412,000 already saved and invested in savings stamps, leaving \$1,588,000 as the goal. The following table gives the quotas for the towns of the county, in the War Stamps drive:

Fresno .....	\$1,407,100	Clovis .....	\$ 40,000
Coalinga .....	119,700	Kerman .....	30,900
Selma .....	123,000	Parlier .....	30,200
Reedley .....	83,800	Riverdale .....	19,300
Kingsburg .....	69,700	Laton .....	16,300
Sanger .....	60,000	Del Rey .....	13,900
Fowler .....	50,500		

County registrants of 1918, being those that attained the age of twenty-one since the first military draft registration of June 5, 1917, numbered less than 700 distributed as follows:

County Board No. 1 .....	234
County Board No. 2 .....	201
Fresno City Board .....	243
Total .....	678

The steamship "Fresno" was launched in the Alameda estuary on the evening of May 18 and Thursday, June 20 steamed out of the Golden Gate for the successful trial test of her machinery. This was considered speedy work on war time shipbuilding schedule. The mayor of the city and his wife, who christened the vessel, were on the trial trip.

Reuben Tufenkjian, living on ranch three miles northwest of Fresno, was the first, at the close of June, 1918, Fresno boy to be returned home from France wounded. He was pilot of a large American bombing plane and severely wounded in combat with German plane on the western French front. He had enlisted four months before in the engineer department as a truck driver, later transferred to the aviation and within three months after enlistment was in service in the American sector. During his six weeks at the front, he was in six combats with German machines and though wounded more than once not until the last did he receive injury severe enough to compel temporary retirement from service. Observer and bomb thrower were also hurt and plane of the Hun captured shortly after.

Fourth of July, 1918, a service flag was hoisted from the courthouse to show that 5,740 men from the county had entered the war service. The figure represented the men that had been drafted and those that had volunteered in local recruiting offices, according to data secured by the exemption boards but not including volunteer enlistments before America declared war or enlistments of Fresnoans in other cities and recruiting offices and not credited to the county. The figure is, however, approximately correct. The flag shows in fact the figure of 5,700, the idea being to record the service men according to hundreds to make it unnecessary to so frequently alter the displayed figure.

One of the most touching letters is the one that was received from Homer H. Blevins, the first Fresno boy to be killed in action in France. It was written before he went into battle and his whole heart went out to his "dear little mother." It was his goodbye letter and was as follows:

"May 15, 1918.

"Dear Mother:—Well, Mamma, I guess you have received my letter by this time. I am writing you this letter and am leaving it with the Y. M. C. A. man so that if I am killed you will get this letter. If you will receive this letter, you will know that I have done my bit in this war. And do not grieve over my death for we have only one life to live and one time to die.

"Tell Walter and Ollie that their brother's last request is to take care

of their dear old mother, till the good Lord takes her away from you, for she is all you have in this world and when you lose her you have no other.

"Well, mother, I can say this—I died for my country and for my people and I died with a smile on my face, thinking of my dear little mother.

"Well, Mother, I will close for I haven't much time to write.

"Well, good-bye and God be with you till we meet in Heaven.

"Your Son,

"Pvt. Homer H. Blevins,

Co. E., 8th U. S. Inf."

"France.

This letter came with another from "the Y. M. C. A. man" dated June 8, 1918. The boy's mother hoisted on July 4th the county service flag at the courthouse after the morning parade. To make a presentable appearance she had to make appeal to the Citizens' Committee on Arrangements to provide her with a black garment fitting the occasion.

Death came suddenly to Caswell B. Howard Jr., member of the Home Guards, after the 4th of July, 1918, parade in which he participated. It was from heart failure. Having been accepted, signed up and awaiting call to service in the naval reserves, the fact entitled him to military funeral and burial in the county Liberty Cemetery for soldiers. He was a barber by vocation, whose relatives lived at Clovis and who had a brother in the naval service in Virginia and another in Alaska.

In response to an appeal from the Gas Defense Service, U. S. A., the California Peach Growers, Inc., forbade its members to use peach pits in order to reserve all from the 1918 crop for the government, which would pay \$7.50 a ton delivered at any of the warehouses on the railroad main lines. The pits were desired in the manufacture of patent gas masks. The pit charcoal has extraordinary qualities of absorption making it possible for men to remain in "gassed" trenches for eighteen hours, while with ordinary charcoal the masks become saturated in three hours. The secret process of manufacture was guarded by the government and early action was taken to prevent cornering of the pit market by enemy manipulation.

An interesting coincidence was connected with Seth McConnell, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. F. McConnell of near Clark's bridge, east of Kingsburg, who in July, 1918, was with the colors at Jacksonville, Fla. He was a student of the Fresno State Normal School after graduation from the Kingsburg high school. During the Civil War, grandfather was a prisoner of war at Jacksonville, during the Spanish-American War an uncle was stationed there, and Seth is the third of consecutive generations to be in Jacksonville, each in connection with a different war in the history of the nation.

Drs. J. H. Pettis and C. D. Sweet resigned from the Fresno city board of health in August, 1918, and also Dr. A. B. McConnell, they having been called into war service. Drs. C. P. Kjaerbye and George H. Aiken were appointed in their places. Dr. C. D. Collins, resident physician at the county hospital, resigned on like call and so did Drs. W. L. Adams and F. K. Pomeroy of the city emergency hospital. Not a few of the younger surgical and medical practitioners of the city and county answered the call of the government. Former City Health Officer L. R. Willson was another.

Corporal James Bonnar of Battery A of the Thirteenth Field Artillery was the first Fresno hero to return home September 28, 1918, from the battle field of Chateau-Thierry. He came from Fort Bayard, Texas, in the hospital of which he was under treatment after having been seriously gassed in the historic dash of the Yanks resulting in the smoothing out of the Rheims-Soissons salient. He returned home at the request of the citizens' committee to aid by his presence in raising the fourth Liberty loan but missing railroad connections arrived the morning after the campaign opening parade of the night before. He was accorded many honors.

At the ceremony attending the dedication of the state service flag at Sacramento August 16, 1918, reminder was given that a total of 130,339 Californians had then entered the military or naval service of the United States, either voluntarily or through the draft, distributed as follows as to service branches:

Army Draft .....	66,862
Enlisted .....	32,686
National Guard .....	10,110
Navy .....	17,458
Submarines .....	3,254
Naval Militia .....	969

The number reported then killed in action or in service was 218.

No war record can ignore the wonderful achievement of the people in the subscriptions to the Liberty loans. It is without precedent in the history of the world for the enormity of the sums of money loaned to the government for the conduct of the war. It is the best answer to the question whether the heart of the people was in the war. The United States of America entered that war on April 6, 1917, and eighteen days later congress authorized the Liberty Loan Bond Bill by which popular name it will go down into history. On May 2 the First Liberty Loan was announced and twelve days later the details were given out; one day later the campaign opened and one month later it was closed. The issue was for \$2,000,000,000, bearing three and one-half per cent. interest and running for fifteen-thirty years. Bonds carried the conversion privilege entitling holder to convert them into bonds of a later issue bearing a higher interest rate. Four and a half million subscribers in every section of the land representing every class, race and condition subscribed for more than \$3,000,000,000 but only \$2,000,000,000 was allotted. Features of this loan were the promptness with which it was arranged and conducted, the universal patriotism with which the people labored for its success with the result of the over subscription of more than fifty per cent. Equally as notable a feature was the one that there was no interruption of the country's business by reason of this unprecedented demand upon the nation's money resources. On October 1, 1917, opened the Second Liberty Loan campaign and it closed on the twenty-seventh. The bonds bore four per cent. interest and run for ten-twenty-five years, carrying the conversion privilege. It was announced that one-half of the over subscriptions would be accepted. Nine million subscribers took \$4,617,532,000 of the bonds, an over subscription of fifty-four per cent. and \$3,808,766,150 were allotted. The enthusiasm was as great as that which supported the first, labor and fraternal organizations being especially active in the campaign and the women of the land giving splendid organized work to contribute to the success of the campaign. On the first anniversary day of the country's entry into the war, the Third Liberty Loan campaign opened on April 6, 1918, and closed May 1. These bonds bear four and one-quarter per cent. interest, run for ten years but are not subject to redemption before maturity and do not carry the conversion privilege. The loan was announced for \$3,000,000,000 but the right was reserved to accept all additional subscriptions. Seventeen million subscribers signed up for \$4,170,019,650 and this was also the amount of the allotment. Feature of this loan was its very wide distribution and notably that the country districts so promptly and heavily subscribed, in a great measure making up their quotas before the cities. This loan was pronounced to have been the soundest of national financing. About a year before there were some 300,000 United States bond holders; with the third loan there were between 20,000,000 and 25,000,000. The Fourth Liberty Loan campaign opened Saturday, September 28, and closed October 19, the goal \$6,000,000,000, the most stupendous financial achievement for any purpose ever undertaken by this or any other nation



in the world's history and one which no other nation than this would attempt or could carry out to success. Six thousand million dollars—six thousand times a thousand thousand dollars! The human mind cannot grasp the enormity of these figures. The mere mention of them gives no adequate idea of their stupendousness. They are incomprehensible. Some one somewhere has tried to convey the idea of what this mountain of money represents, pointing out that it would take 200 years to count it a dollar at a time, that it would meet the pay rolls of the contending armies in the American Civil War for fifty years, endow the world's universities and build all the canals the world would ever have need of. Magnificent showing of the American spirit in this war, backed by the soul of the greatest republic in the world's history. Fresno's quota was \$4,500,000—the city \$3,009,200, the county \$1,490,800.

Miss Margaret Staples, formerly of Fresno where she was employed in a bookstore, gained the distinction in October, 1918, of being the first San Francisco girl to apply for admission and enlistment in the Marines as a marinette, as also the first to be sworn in as a private in the service. The marinette wears uniform, her work is that of a clerical stenographer and for every woman enlisted a male marine is sent back to barracks for duty as a soldier.

According to returns under date of Sacramento, October 11, 1918, California's service flag was entitled then to show 296 golden stars. Killed in action numbered 158; died from wounds forty-nine; from disease thirty-four; in airplane accidents sixteen; from accidents and other causes thirty-nine. As the total number of Californians was then more than 131,000, the percentage of actual loss was deemed small. No considerable portion of Californian troops had then crossed the ocean.

J. B. Welliver, who with wife conduct the club at Fresno Beach on the San Joaquin River, claim to have contributed the prize war family to the war with nine sons enlisted or in the selective draft. Welliver himself served in the Civil War from 1862 to 1865, then in Indian wars in a Kansas regiment. He was seventy-seven years of age and the sons ranged in age from thirty-nine as the oldest to twenty-one as the youngest.

April 6, 1917, the date that President Wilson signed the war resolution, is formally fixed as the legal date of the beginning of the war with Germany. This is according to an opinion of the judge advocate general of the army.

The forward change or "daylight saving" move was made on the last Sunday in March, 1918, the 31st. The clocks were set back one hour to normal time Saturday, October 27, 1918. Officially the hour hand was moved back to one at two o'clock on the following Sunday morning.

The two national dates for registration for the army were June 5, 1917, and September 12, 1918. There was also a registration June 5, 1918, of those who since one year before had attained the age of twenty-one. The first registration under the selective service law was of those between the ages of twenty-one and thirty-one; those of September, 1918, between the ages of eighteen and forty-five. The latter was estimated to have given 4,950 city and 10,050 county men—total 15,000, and in the state 406,700. The twenty-onesters' registration returned about 800 in county.

October 6, 1917, collection was made of old shoes by the Red Cross for shipment to Belgium. The footwear was deposited at the entrance of the courthouse park, back of the Salvation Army fountain. The pile of shoes made heap as wide as the thirty-foot wide circular base of the fountain and as high as the height of the central figure of the fountain. The "guess" was that 30,000 pairs of shoes of every size, color and condition were gathered and every pair worth a dollar.

The Fresno Home Guards Battalion of four companies was mustered in in November, 1917, in the service of the state. Edward Jones, former chief of police, with a record of a quarter of a century's military training, a captain

in the Spanish-American War and for some years a major in the State National Guard, was afterward elected and commissioned major commanding the battalion. It was uniformed and armed with rifles. Coalinga, Fowler, Selma and other communities in the county had unattached Home Guard companies for protective police duty.

In September, 1917, the University Club had thirty-one of its members in the army in various branches. Many of these same members were credited as war service men by other organizations to which they belonged.

With its two national guard companies accepted in the service, and the Home Guards drilling in the Fresno Auditorium, the state under orders received October 18, 1917, abandoned the lease of the city armory on I Street and surrendered possession. A rental of \$150 a month was being paid for the upstairs premises with no present use for them during the war. Not since 1884 had there been a time when Fresno was without a city armory.

A warm greeting was given Fresno's Companies C and K of the Second Infantry Regiment as they passed through Fresno with the other companies of accepted state regiment from the north in two sections of a train of twenty-one passenger cars with a dozen freight car loads of equipment en route on the evening of October 29, 1917, to the army cantonment at San Diego.

The first men from the county to leave for the national army training camp at American Lake in Washington brought to Fresno something of the war consciousness. The early draft departures were these: September 9, 1917, as the first contingent forty-five men; September 20 second of 352; October 5 third of 353; November 4 fourth of 183. There have been other draft departures, small and large since then, including one of colored boys exclusively. The two national guard companies took away 240 men, the company recruited as a machine gun corps seventy, another as an artillery battery as many and probably 500 from the county enlisted in the regular army and navy branches and marine corps, all of which found Fresno a good enlisting field.

Monday, the 11th of November, 1918, will be a memorable date in history. It was Der Tag of the acceptance of the armistice conditions exacted by the allied nations from conquered and vanquished Germany in the most cruel and inhuman war waged since the days of the early barbarians. The beaten Huns were given a taste of some of their own schrecklichkeit in the conditions. The news of the signing of the armistice came long after the hour of midnight. A great din was raised with the blowing of sirens and whistles and the ringing of bells. There was a wild and delirious parade between the hours of two and two-thirty A. M., to be resumed by another noisy and riotous parade at nine A. M. with speechmaking from the steps of the courthouse. A public holiday was proclaimed and the jubilation continued throughout the day and was furiously resumed at night until every one was exhausted. On the afternoon of Friday, three days before, false telegraphic report had come of the signing of the armistice and the expectant started a jubilation parade that did not grow to great dimensions so rapid was the circulation of the falsity of the telegraphed report.

Total subscriptions to the Fourth Liberty Loan were \$6,989,047,000, the oversubscription having been \$989,047,000 or 16.48 per cent. and every federal reserve district having exceeded its allotted quota. The fourth was by far the greatest war loan ever floated by any government. All the over-subscribed war loans and the war savings stamps raised \$17,852,000,000 in popular loans, not including the not accepted over-subscriptions. The San Francisco district's quota was \$402,000,000, the subscription \$459,000,000, percentage 114.17. The district was seventh in over-subscriptions in the twelve federal reserve districts in the nation. The war savings amounted in November, 1918, to \$879,300,000. By the terms of the bonds,

the treasury by exercising its options can cancel in the nation's war debt for redemption in installments every five years until 1947.

December 1, 1918, the chairman of the History Committee of the State Council of Defense reported that California was entitled to carry 1,033 gold stars in its war service flag and of this number 421 were killed in action, 139 died from wounds received in battle and the remainder made the sacrifice in airplane accidents and as the result of other causes. Los Angeles county made the largest contribution with 315, San Francisco is next with 134, and Alameda County with 102. Fresno reported seventeen killed in action, six died of wounds, sixteen of disease and ten from other causes; total forty-nine, being fourth in the list of counties. The state furnished for the national army and navy a total of 137,033 men between the time the national guard of the state was ordered mobilized March 26, 1917, and the signing of the armistice. The first men called into the service were the three state infantry regiments, the Second, Fifth and Seventh. The naval militia was called into the service April, 1917, the day that the declaration of war was signed. All state organizations were called into the federal service on or before August 5, 1917, and made up a total of 11,562. California's contribution of men to the national service was made up as follows:

State troops .....	11,562
Army volunteers .....	32,686
Navy volunteers .....	17,458
Marine Corps .....	2,254
Draft inductions .....	73,073
<hr/>	
Total .....	137,033

The armistice had been signed, the censorship lifted and the war was practically over before the people of Fresno first learned of the career on her first trans-Atlantic voyage of the good ship Fresno built in record time, launched on the Alameda estuary on the bay of San Francisco and unheralded sent on her mission as one of the vessels of the war emergency Yankee merchant fleet. The news came in a round-about way and because of the censorship escaped the notice of the newspapers. After her launch and trial trip, the people of Fresno had lost all trace of the existence of the craft. The news came to the city clerk of Fresno from the city clerk of Manhattan Beach, Cal., Llewellyn Price, who is also the city recorder and assessor. The writer's oldest son Llewellyn J. Price had volunteered into the service, was assigned to the Fresno, rated quartermaster, third class, and having had sea experience was the first hand to take the wheel as she left the dock in San Francisco on her first across-the-sea voyage. That voyage was not without incident. "My idea in writing to you," said the writer, "was in the belief that the citizens of Fresno should know and be proud of the record of the ship bearing the name of Fresno." After taking on a general cargo at San Francisco, the Fresno made the trip to New York via the Panama Canal and joined a British convoy of thirty-one vessels all told with a British battleship at the head as flagship with admiral on board. When only a few hours out of New York, the convoy was attacked by a German submarine. Young Price was sleeping at the time but awakened by the rush of shrapnel overhead rushed on deck to behold the sub not far astern coming after the Fresno and firing 4.7 shell and shrapnel. Orders were signalled to disperse at top speed and in an hour the Fresno had caught up with the admiral, the boys in the fire room blowing the boilers off all the time. As they made the first quick turn to dodge, the sub dropped a shell in the Fresno's wake. One of the convoyed having engine trouble had dropped astern and the sub gave this vessel battle. In an exchange of shots the sub was hit and at once submerged. An American destroyer leading the convoy circled back as the sub arose badly damaged and after taking off the crew blew up sub.

On the voyage a sailor on one of the ships died and was buried at sea with half mast colors and other ceremonies. Nearing the British coast, the convoy was joined by more destroyers, also hydroplanes and dirigibles until the craft were covered from every angle. The fleet laid over one night at Spithead, Eng., proceeding next morning across the Channel to Le Havre to discharge cargo, returning to England where it joined another convoy homeward bound, the vessels scattering after getting through the submarine zone and making good sailing time until within 100 miles from the American coast. About an hour before sunset a hydroplane was sighted and were found aboard three men almost dead—two ensigns and a machinist—who had been adrift two days and three nights having run out of gasoline. They had drunk all the water from the radiator and had only a five-cent bar of chocolate between them in that time. Their joy was frantic at being rescued.

After hoisting the plane aboard, the Fresno proceeded to New York. "My boy says," wrote the informant, "the crew is sure a nervy bunch, all of them being real men, and the City of Fresno can well be proud of them and the record of the ship. They are now (November 15, 1918) on their second trip, and it is hoped that it will be as successful as the first was."

Fresno County and city had nearly 800 technical army deserters according to the final report of the exemption boards—that is to say that number of registrants did not answer questionnaires or appear for physical examinations. The 800 were nearly all of foreign birth and illiterates, hundreds of them working at the time in the district but leaving afterward and to locate those transients would have been equal to the task of finding the needle in a haystack.

Audit for two years of receipts and expenditures of the Fresno Chapter of the American Red Cross showed income up to June 30, 1918, \$92,622.48, cash in bank \$4,989.24 and cash in hand \$45.80.

The Fresno report on the fourth Liberty loan made the following showing:

County subscription .....	\$5,946,550
County quota .....	4,501,000
Oversubscription .....	\$1,445,550
Fresno city subscription .....	\$3,886,900
Fresno city quota .....	3,009,200
Oversubscription .....	\$ 877,700
County subscribers .....	11,732
City subscribers .....	20,381
Total .....	32,113

Each of the twelve community centers oversubscribed.

No military organization of Fresno found its way as an original and intact unit to the battle fronts in Europe. The machine gun company of eighty-seven men recruited in Fresno was attached as a unit of a regimental organization that was sent across and was in the Ninetieth Division. The "Grizzlies" from California were still in military training camp in France when the armistice was signed. The "Grizzlies" (One Hundred Forty-fourth Field Artillery), Col. Thornwell Mullaly, were among the first troops returned to America from the continent and Bordeaux for San Francisco to be quartered at the Presidio for demobilization. Fresno's Companies C and K of the Second Infantry Regiment of the State National Guard were accepted for the national army but afterward consolidated as Company L of the One Hundred Fifty-ninth Infantry Regiment. After acceptance into the service the Fresno units lost their local officers by transfer in the regi-

mental organization for the good of the service and to break up the too personal relations between officers and men from a common home locality. The Grizzlies, notable California regiment, of the Fortieth Division—fifty-eight officers and 1,440 men, arrived at New York January 3, 1919, by the transport Matsonia. This division composed of Colorado, Utah, Arizona, New Mexico and California troops was located at Revigny and St. Dizier when the armistice was signed. Fifty-five per cent. of the 691 men of the One Hundred Forty-third Artillery of the division were members of the California National Guard, the returning units comprising headquarters, supply and Batteries C, D, E and F. The returning number by the Matsonia was 3,207 officers and men, with 140 wounded.

Rand McCabe, who had the distinction of being the first Fresno boy in France to have his name appear in the casualty list, added later the further distinction of being with the first Yanks to enter for occupancy the German principality of Luxemburg, as he wrote to his father.

Lieut. Harry Janson of Bakersfield, son of H. D. Janson, a former raisin grower of Fresno, looked not upon the price to hear his mother's voice upon arrival at New York from France on Christmas eve. He called her up on the long distance telephone at the Hotel Tegeler at Bakersfield. Step-mother and son talked for four minutes and the charge was twenty-four dollars.

The story of California's participation in the government's war measures has yet to be told. That task will be accomplished by the County War History Committees named under state authority in connection with the State Council of Defense. The matter is being collated as available in completeness and not neglected as to time as was done after the Civil War, because it will be a record of the greatest war of all times for which the masses were called upon to make personal sacrifices, money contributions to the nation, and comply with demands as never before exacted. In California's contributions to the war, the San Joaquin Valley did its full share. To the four Liberty bond loans nearly 100,000 individuals and firms in the valley subscribed \$45,178,810. Counties and towns went over their quota, some as high as 300 and 400 per cent. over. War saving stamps of the value of \$3,978,774 were bought. The pledges were for almost as much more. Fourteen chapters of the Red Cross in the valley counties contributed \$753,316.88. This money for war work was raised in two war fund drives. The membership of the chapters was in the hundred thousands and the war articles that were manufactured are counted by the millions. For United War Work the seven organizations were given a half million in the last drive and in the previous one a quarter of a million. More than \$30,000 was given in the valley for Belgian relief, besides tons upon tons of clothing and shoes. According to draft figures and recruiting estimates, nearly 19,000 went forth to the war in army, navy and marine corps of America, or of allied nations. The exemption boards inducted 9,336 men into the military service. A total of 90,216 registered for service. Available records show that 451 secured commissions in army or navy, thirty-five in the navy. Casualty lists up to December 21 showed that 142 men were killed in action, thirty-five died from wounds, thirty as the result of accidents and 142 from disease—total of 349. There were forty-six listed as missing, five of these located afterward in German prison camps. Total wounded at the date named 328, making the then known casualties of the valley 723.

Company C of Fresno of the Second Infantry of the National Guard en-trained for service April 2, seventy strong, and Company K, 112 strong, April 4, 1917. They were officered as follows: C—Capt. Frank D. Hopkins; Lieutenants Beach E. Traber and Edward C. Neal. K—Capt. C. H. Fowler; Lieutenants Arthur H. Drew (afterward taking training in officers' school, attached to U. S. Infantry Regiment and sent on the Siberian expedition via San Francisco) and Emery C. Burroughs. The orders to recruit to war

strength and be ready to be nationalized were received March 25 and the call to report at state camps on the thirtieth.

Sergeants M. Abbey and Phillip H. Williams were the longest stationed in Fresno in charge of the U. S. marine and army recruiting service respectively. The Canadian and British recruiting offices had joint use of the recruiting offices for a time.

The Home Guards of Sanger were mustered in with seventy-five on the roll which roster was reduced and maintained at fifty-seven. Leroy Walton, principal of the Tampa, Ariz., high school, was the organizer while at home on summer vacation but returning in September. Ensign J. L. Hand elected captain was called for service in the navy and Ben Rose, captain of the high school cadets, was chosen commander. As the other guard companies in the county they were uniformed in khaki and equipped with Winchester rifles.

Without entering into all the details, suffice it to say that the District Board for Division No. 2 of the Southern District of California handled after organization August 1, 1917, the largest number of cases of any of the five district boards in the state. As organized George C. Roeding was its first chairman. He resigned to take up work with the National Food Administration at Washington. He was succeeded by W. B. Nichols of Dinuba who was called into like service. The district board sat at Bakersfield.

The Coalinga Home Guard Company officially known as the Forty-fifth Company, California Military Reserves, was organized with a charter roll of sixty-nine in August, 1917. Its officers were: Capt. E. J. McCroskey; Lieuts. L. D. Goldman and R. J. Swanzey, veterans of the Spanish War. It steadily maintained a full membership complement of seventy-five and organized a rifle club.

It was in June, 1917, that Capt. L. T. Stephenson, a veteran of the Spanish War and a company commander of the national guard, was authorized to organize a machine gun troop in Fresno. Eighty-five were enrolled, the number was reduced by enlistments into active service in other organizations but by July 27 the company was inspected for acceptance into the service with eighty-eight men and as officers: Capt. L. T. Stephenson, First Lieutenant F. G. Everts and Second Lieutenants I. F. Toomey, a son of the mayor, and James Madison Jr. The corps entrained August 14, 1917, with a \$1,500 mess fund and train loaded down with presents, for the "Lucky" Baldwin ranch, near Los Angeles, and prepared for service at Camp Kearney later. With troop fairly well filled, attention was turned to the field artillery battery that was being organized by Jefferson G. Graves and Dewitt H. Gray and as such mustered in August 4 as a detachment of Battery C with the recruits from Fresno and vicinity. It was encamped at the old Tanforan race track and 104 strong was accepted as a unit for the service and went across sea. It lost its individuality after acceptance into the service.

In connection with the raisin association is a Sun Maid Patrol, a semi-military organization, which sent about 200 of its members into the service after America was engulfed in the European war. The original purpose of the patrol was for a better discipline and spirit and to encourage more effective work by the packing house employes and the members of the Sun Maid Welfare League of the association. The organization of which L. R. Payne was a leading spirit dates from January, 1916. The drill companies of about 250 association operatives were first formed to give special eclat to Raisin Day. They became proficient and by Raisin Day, 1916, were nattily uniformed and were led by a forty-piece band and a drum and bugle corps. They were always features in the public and war parades. The officers were Patrol Major James Hartigan; Captains Roy A. Bishop and T. E. McKeighan. War having been declared, the patrol desired to enter the service in a body so high was the spirit but it was not to be and the ranks thinned out with individual enlistments of the eligible.



Dikran Davidian of Reedley, who was killed in action November 2, 1918, in France (place of the fighting not named), was the first Armenian youth in the county to volunteer for war service. His last letter to parents stated that he was receiving then special instruction in the use of a new gas.

The Home Guards as at first called was an organization active and foremost in all the military and practical war work from the first to the last. With an enrollment of from 175 to 200 men at organization in four companies reduced later to three, it gave military training to hundreds, furnished a half hundred for active duty in the service, was called out on four emergency occasions to patrol the lines at fires, was depended upon as a reserve police force, cleared buildings for the influenza epidemic, furnished all the guard duty on public occasions, participated in numerous parades, helped in the war fund drives, escorted departing draft soldiers, officiated at the burials of the dead and rendered the last honors—in short was a busy organization ready for every call of duty. Six of the officers had seen service in the Philippines and three, long service in the national guard. Scarcely had the latter been called for war service, than the Home Guards were organized as a home military force, the first signing up on the night of April 6, 1917, and the organization perfected November 1 as a battalion of four companies, later designated officially as the Third Battalion, because the third organized in the state. Battalion was later reduced to three companies, the Fifty-ninth forming the nucleus of a national guard company that was never officially organized. The guards were armed with Winchester rifles and unlike the other military organizations wore a distinctive steel blue instead of brown khaki uniform. The major commanding was Edward Jones, who had held like rank in the national guard, with G. C. Hughes as organization adjutant, C. B. Jackson quartermaster and William Glass commissary. The original companies with their officers were:

Fifty-sixth—E. B. Russell captain; Fred Meyer and G. R. Walling lieutenants.

Fifty-seventh—C. W. Kopley, captain; lieutenants, William Ross and H. H. McClung and D. D. Dennis.

Fifty-eighth—H. A. Sessions, captain; lieutenants William Ross and L. H. Corse Jr.

Fifty-ninth—S. L. Gallaher, captain; lieutenants, B. U. Brandt and Bert A. Primrose.

The tentative national guard organization movement during the war was abandoned, the U. S. Military Guards of men who qualified for military war service but not physically fit for the across-the-sea service, taking their place in the government plan at first misconceived and assigned to duty at various posts.

The Fresno County Food Administration which had intimate relation with the home life of the people and with the wheat flour substitutes not soon forgotten was in charge of George S. Waterman, one of the trustees of the city. He had as assistant Miss Flora M. Ebby. The conservation of food stuffs in the county was closely looked after and an immense amount of work undertaken. With this work was connected the Car Service Section of the Division of Transportation, U. S. Railway Administration, with J. W. Walker of the Santa Fe as the chairman.

Fresno is given credit of having been the first community to have set aside a cemetery for the soldier dead in this war—the Liberty Cemetery as it is known. It was formally and publicly dedicated Memorial Day in 1918. The location of this cemetery was made possible by the deed gift by the trustees Sol B. Goodman, Louis Solomon and the late Herman Levy of the four acres of the B'nai B'rith in Mountain View Cemetery and adjoining the G. A. R. cemetery plot. The configuration of the donated acreage is such as to lend itself admirably to landscape purposes. The laying out of the grounds April 11 was by volunteers headed by the mayor. It is planned

to permanently improve and beautify it. It has been undertaken to raise by popular subscription \$30,000 to erect memorial gates at the entrance and deposit a great granite stone as a monument which shall on four bronze tablets bear the names of Fresno's soldier dead, this monument to be erected on the crest of the rolling hill forming the center of the cemetery acreage. T. J. Hammond is the chairman of the cemetery committee of citizens.

The Fresno Fuel Administration opened its activities November 14, 1917, and the city committee was Charles H. Riege, A. O. Warner and W. B. Holland. A. G. Wishon of the San Joaquin Light and Power Company and other enterprises was county administrator. Its conservation campaign with the Monday and Tuesday lightless nights will not soon be forgotten, nor its campaign in May, 1918, urging the purchase then of wood and coal to save cars in the fall and winter for the transportation of soldiers and food across the continent and on to Europe—to Berlin as the schedule called for then. No pretense will be made to enumerate all the restrictions that were placed and complied with at the request of all the war-time administration boards.

Not until September 30, 1918, were offices opened nor called into being by the State Council of Defense was the Non War-Construction Board. The Fresno committee was constituted of H. A. Pratt, Thomas E. Risley and William Newman. Its duties never went beyond the limitation of construction of buildings of over \$25,000 in cost. Its work continued not long before the armistice was signed. For a time and excepting for unfinished work, there was an almost total cessation of new construction.

No organization so jumped into public favor during the war as the Salvation Army and it was because it so speedily found its way into the hearts of the soldiers themselves according to all the advices from the front, where it operated in its huts to cheer the doughboy spiritually and physically with its hot coffee, doughnuts or pies. The aim of the army was at first to work outside of the camps, but the chaplains themselves sought its co-operation. The Salvation Army was close behind the front trenches with its workers and especially the lassies to give the home touch and the cheery smile in providing the field comforts for the men in the trenches. Its work proved one of the features of the war. At inception it was backed by voluntary subscriptions but demands became so great on it that subscriptions on a large scale were invited. The local county chamber of commerce undertook to raise money for the purpose and though the demand was not great the amount asked for was raised. The boys in the army take their hats off to the men and women of the Salvation Army and its work assumed such proportions at the front, behind the lines and in the training camps that it was one of the war services included in the U. S. War drive of November, 1918. It started its work unostentatiously with the outbreak of war and earned the gratitude of the allied world.

The patriotic record of war service participation by the faculty and student body of the Fresno State Normal School was a creditable one not only for practical and substantial achievements but for uplift of ideals. The contributed aids are too many to name in detail. The money contributions alone amounted to \$32,645. The assurance was that from this institution would go out each term groups of teachers imbued with the American ideal of right and justice as factors to help make those ideals more a part of the national life.

There was active drilling of "Crowder's Men"—those between sixteen and forty-five years of age—to hasten the training and seasoning of those who were expected to be called into the service under the second registration and draft call but it was a measure that in the last months of the war did not yield direct results because that war was so abruptly ended. The speeding up on training was recommended in orders from the state adjutant general announced by District Chairman F. A. Homan of the Council of Defense September 20, at a mass meeting on the twenty-sixth 375 men volunteered in

one night, like meetings were held throughout the county and in about two weeks there was an enrollment of some 1,200. Officers of the Home Guards and of the former national guard were the drill masters, but the Germans met their match at Chateau Thierry and the end was soon in coming.

So it was also when the call came to organize twelve new state national guard companies in the state in 1916. December 7 the Sixth Separate Company of one hundred forty men was a fact in Fresno. By February 26, 1917, a second company, the Tenth, was ready for muster. The recruiting for them was attended by many discouragements. No sooner was the maximum reached than there was a wholesale departure in enlistments for army or navy war service. The national guard plan was abandoned long before the armistice. The Sixth Separate Company first designated as F Company was officered by Capt. S. L. Gallaher and Lieutenants B. U. Brandt and George Walling, Ray Carlisle later succeeding Walling; the Tenth by Bert A. Primrose as captain and by Fernand Detoy and Martin Nichols as lieutenants. The Home Guards continued as the military organization to fill the interim between the demobilization of the national army and a time when the government decides how to fill the place of the state guards.

A live Home Guard was the one of Selma organized early in April, 1918, with fifty members and certificated June 4. It was mustered up to a membership of seventy-five that was maintained with a waiting list. Its officers were: A. M. Frost as captain and organizer; Lieutenants J. J. Vanderburgh and G. M. Black.

The early and varied work of the County Council of Defense would of itself fill a volume. It was organized as all the others were in the state of designated county officials with civilian members. Its work was of an advisory and protection suggesting body. It had to do with uncovering sedition and alien activities, it dealt with the growing and increase of crops, the supply of labor, to produce as well as to garner and generally to augment the food supply by every manner of means with a great army to be sent to another continent and its every want to be supplied from home. The first chairman of the council was Judge H. Z. Austin of the superior court. With the reorganization plan of the state council all county official members or candidates for reelection resigned as requested, September 1, 1917. F. A. Homan vice chairman and one of the three holdover members was made chairman and council became the Fresno Division of the State Council of Defense of California. The chairmen of war work committees were at the close the following named:

W. O. Miles of the General Liberty Loan,  
E. E. Manheim of War Savings,  
M. B. Harris of Four-Minute Men,  
William Glass of Red Cross,  
George S. Waterman of county food administration,  
Charles H. Riege of city fuel administration,  
A. J. Wishon of county fuel administration,  
Mrs. E. A. Williams of Woman's Committee,  
F. P. Roullard, county horticultural commissioner,  
H. A. Pratt of Non War-Construction Board,  
Harry C. Wilber of Community Councils,  
Leroy B. Smith, Farm Adviser,  
C. L. McLane of History Committee,  
Mrs. Henry Hawson of Woman's Food Administration,  
Dean G. R. E. MacDonald of Americanization work,  
M. L. Neeley of War Donations,  
L. R. Payne of Fire Protection Committee,  
R. Schmidt of War Gardens,  
Mrs. H. A. Goddard and Senator W. F. Chandler, unassigned,  
Louis Detoy, secretary.

Ahead of the council is the task yet of looking after reconstruction work upon return of the soldiers, the work of Americanization and the history record of the county's participation in the war. Much was done for the security of the community. Grain production was increased 100 per cent. During the period of I. W. W. incendiary fires when much foodstuff and feed material were burned, armed guards were placed at every plant and lights were multiplied as a further protection, this work in charge of L. R. Payne. Providentially that at this time the secret service jailed the incendiaryists, and remarkable incendiarism also ceased with their incarceration. It was the council that took charge of the first training of the eighteen to forty-five men, of the hunting down of slackers and draft deserters, hunted out the disloyal and the over-zealous pro-German and fostered the Home Guards. The evidence at the Sacramento trial in the federal court and also at Chicago of the I. W. W.'s was proof of the thoroughness with which one phase of this work was pursued in Fresno and in the San Joaquin Valley.

Red Cross activities in the county lacked not money backing as the result of three campaigns. The first drive was June 18-25 in 1917 and the result was \$104,000. George C. Roeding was chairman of the committee with H. E. Patterson as manager and E. E. Manheim, Wylie M. Giffen, Milo F. Rowell and E. A. Berg. In May, 1918, was the second campaign to raise \$100,000 quota; drive May 21-27 and \$204,000 was raised. W. F. Chandler was the chairman with Ward B. Minturn as the manager and assisting F. A. Homan, W. M. Giffen, William Glass, E. E. Manheim, M. B. Harris, H. E. Patterson and George C. Roeding. The Christmas Roll Call quota was \$22,000 and on that day \$12,090.20 was in hand, the drive much impeded by the influenza epidemic, wherefore the time for contributions was extended into January with not the slightest doubt of reaching the 22,000-dollar membership. Another membership campaign will not be made until Christmas, 1919. The last drive committee was: Chase S. Osborn Jr., chairman, H. E. Patterson assistant; Mrs. A. S. Baker cashier; David Anderson publicity man; Hugo F. Allerdt speakers' bureau, L. J. Allen supply manager and Miss Sarah McCordle in charge of woman's participation work.

The Fresno Chapter of the Red Cross made a stupendous growth during the war. It was organized with eighty-three signing members at a meeting on the morning of April 3, 1917, at the Kinema Theater. Three days later war was declared and out of this small beginning at the theater the membership has grown to 20,871 with the Christmas roll call addition, and there have developed twenty-two branches and sixty-two auxiliaries, covering the territory of the county with exception of Coalinga and Selma which have their own chapters. The original officers were: Chester H. Rowell honorary president; William Glass, chairman; Mrs. W. A. Sutherland, vice chairman; Berton Einstein, treasurer, succeeded by Bishop L. C. Sanford, and Mrs. Al Braverman, secretary. The activities of the Red Cross were varied. There was the Military Relief or Productions Department for the making of refugee and hospital garments and linen, surgical dressings and knitted garments and socks. The Salvage Department proved one of the most remunerative branches. The Civilian Relief accomplished its work in a confidential way. The Junior Red Cross brought together in closer relation the schools of the county and in this connection it should be stated that no class devoted to the war work more time, enthusiasm and effort with results than the teachers. The young ladies' canteen company of the Red Cross did much appreciated work in lunch services to departing men of the draft, military organizations passing through the city when notice was given of their coming, which was not always because of the secrecy maintained as regards the movement of troops, and later again in the welcome receptions to home coming organizations after the armistice for demobilization. A motor corps was another adjunct which was of service in connection with the salvage work and during the influenza epidemic assisted in conveying patients to the emer-

gency hospitals. The Red Cross is an institution that is enshrined in the grateful hearts of the people for the devoted work of the women who at home were one of the factors in this war, and abroad close to the battlefields and in the hospitals conspicuous. The Fresno chapter sent several representatives from home to Red Cross work, notably Miss Florence Phillis in response to the appeal for clerical assistance and in service at Paris; David L. Newman who went to fill a demand in Italy; Mrs. Eve S. Bangs called by Pacific division headquarters in San Francisco to fill a niche in the publicity department and Robert J. West to enter the chapter organization department in San Francisco. It provided soap, emergency cots, pads, and jellies for California convalescent camps, assisted the Belgian Relief Commission on two occasions in campaigns for clothing, helped to send remembrances at Christmas to the boys in home camps and overseas and took over the emergency hospital at the high school during the second city influenza visitation. The Red Cross like the Salvation Army was an organization that by its unselfish work commanded the fullest confidence and support of the masses. A chapter alone might be written on the work of the Coalinga chapter organized June 8, 1917, with twelve general and ten school auxiliaries and A. E. Webb as chairman, Max Shaffroth as vice, Mrs. A. S. Taylor as secretary, and J. A. Fluetsch as treasurer and R. W. Dallas, S. A. Buchanan, Miss Anna M. Steele, Mrs. H. G. Anderson, A. T. Borst, Dr. C. W. Hutchinson and Miss Pearl Watkins as the board of managers. The Fresno military relief department committee was headed by E. B. Walthall as chairman with Mrs. W. J. McNulty as vice. As one of the twenty-five canteen stations in the state that of Fresno was organized in June, 1918, and Carl E. Lindsay was the chairman with the personnel mostly women. Its train service was established in October. The salvage department as before stated proved a lucrative source of income. Mrs. George H. Taylor was the guiding spirit of this work with Ivan McAdoo as her lieutenant, E. C. Madden as the manager and H. A. Goerz as the accountant with the work later brought under a system by F. M. Frazer and assistants. When he retired from active participation he was succeeded by Mrs. W. B. Isaacs. The first salvage sale shop was opened after hasty preparations June 1, 1918, in a store room placed at service by the late Hans Graff, collection of salvaged goods started in the Chaddock & Company raisin warehouse March 29 with paper and junk as the first merchantable collections. A branch of this department was originated by Miss Jane Whitney in June to serve tea at the Liberty Theater, ice cream at the district fair and at the Sunday night public concerts at the courthouse park. For the months of May to October, 1918, the shop receipts were \$9,137.16 and the tea room \$2,892.33, a total of \$12,029.49, a net profit of \$9,030.46. Where so much wonderful work was done, it is impossible to give individual credit to all entitled to it. It would be gross ingratitude, however, to overlook the 100 per cent. Americanism of the Musicians' Union in its unselfishness in furnishing the music for all the public occasions that the war work projects demanded. Nor should the members of the city fire department be overlooked. In addition to their duties, they devoted their resting time to the work of the Red Cross, the fire houses being made substations for the receipt of salvageable goods and the firemen giving their time to the collection and segregation of the material in their districts. Fresno is a remote corner on this continent but the whole souled patriotism evinced in that corner is an evidence of what was many thousand times multiplied in the nation in a wonderful and glorious spirit. Little wonder that the fighters at the front accomplished what they did, once permitted to take active part and confident of the spirit backing them at home. With that spirit and that undivided patriotism behind them, the end could not have been other than what it was. It was one of the many things in America that the pig-headed Hun overlooked in his calculations.

The Selma Red Cross chapter was in the county work. It was organized May 5, 1916, and has substantial accomplishments to its credit. It had an adult membership of 1,497 and 1,027 juniors with St. Ansgar auxiliary of November 8, 1917, of seventy-two members. The chapter handled finances amounting to \$8,740.69 with balance in treasury of \$2,146.65. It responded to every call upon it. A detailed account of its activities could not make this assertion any the stronger.

In November, 1917, a campaign was made for funds for the War Camp Community Service. In this county the campaign was under the care of the Chamber of Commerce with A. Mattei Jr. as the vice chairman in charge. The national quota was \$3,750,000 and the county's \$4,000. The women called into the work under the leadership of Mrs. W. F. Chandler organized a Harvest Home Festival at the city auditorium resulting in a contribution of \$1,600. The quota was raised. The service was one factor that proved to be a potent agency in keeping up the morale and spirit of the soldiery in training camps at home and abroad—the morale and spirit that as Marshal Foch conceded made the American such a superb soldier.

The Y. M. C. A. was perhaps the one large organization that the government found ready at the declaration of war to undertake the task that was to be shouldered upon it at home and abroad because of the important bearing that it was to have on the war through the individual soldier. That work is familiar. The Fresno organization did its part and demonstrated its usefulness as a contributory war work activity organization. Its general local secretary W. D. Eastman entered the service early in August, 1917, at San Diego. The assistant, L. T. Lewis, next entered that service at Camp Fremont. Following the national Y. M. C. A. war work drive, George A. Forbes, general secretary at Spokane, was assigned to the general secretaryship here and entered upon his duties December 10, 1917, contributed notably in the activities of the times, especially in the recruiting of war work secretaries to send out men of character beyond the military age and yet bursting with patriotism to serve in some capacity whether in camp, on the front line or at home in keeping the home fires burning. The Fresno Y. M. C. A. established an enviable record. It sent out as war workers the following named as recalled: R. C. Avery who gave up business pursuits to become secretary of the naval training station camp at San Diego. L. T. Lewis, assistant secretary, who was sent to Camp Fremont as a volunteer. He was early in the work and had charge of supplying books and magazines for the soldiers passing through Fresno en route to various training camps. Charles H. Tooze, who was physical director of the Y. M. C. A. and at the time of assignment, city sanitary inspector. He was sent to the work in France. Another one sent to France was Leslie M. Drew, who had been secretary of the consolidated irrigation canal companies and resigned his position to be with the soldiers. A younger brother is a lieutenant in the Eighth U. S. Infantry sent with the American Expeditionary Force to Siberia. Hayden Jones who had been in the real estate agency business and prominent in the affairs of the Fresno Commercial Club was another that was sent to France and was with the boys at the front in the last days and at the signing of the armistice. In this war work the Y. M. C. A. departed notably from its too narrow and restricted lines in peace times. It is agreed that in countenancing of entertainments, notably in dancing, in the distribution of tobacco, in cigarettes, and cigars and pipes to the soldiers it actually "became human" and the spirit had its effect on the soldiers. Hayden related that his record was the distribution of 3,500 cigarettes in a day to the boys behind the line awaiting the word to go over. He had three assistants to distribute the cigarettes, he following briquet in hand for the boys to light their smokes with. The First Congregational Church gave its pastor, Rev. T. T. Giffen, leave of absence for the duration of the war rather than accept his resignation for the war work secretaryship of the naval camps about San Diego



with headquarters at Los Angeles. He was a man active in many lines of civic welfare. John H. Lyons, teacher of vocal music in the public schools and for several years director of music of St. James' Pro-cathedral, was sent to Camp Lewis and there made a reputation as a leader of mass singing. He became known as "Everybody Sing" Lyons from a favorite expression of his. As a leader in mass singing he achieved a reputation in all the training camps. At the Tacoma Stadium he led, it is said, a chorus of 50,000 voices. While on furlough, he organized street concerts at home to aid the United War work. His song, "Here at Home We're Backing You," was chosen as the campaign song of Washington state for the Fourth Liberty Loan drive and locally for the United War Work drive. The smiles and the singing of the American soldiers were two things that all the war correspondents commented upon as evincing the remarkable spirit of the Yanks. A. E. McGuffin, D. R. Aimsley and J. J. Gofnett, who was with the Fresno Rescue Mission, also were sent to France. Harry A. James, a newspaper reporter with a talent for musical and monologue entertainments was sent to Kelly Field, Texas, and later took up Red Cross work. Rev. Sidney Pope was another accepted worker sent on to Rockford, Ill., also L. R. Elliott and C. F. Cowan to Camp Kearney; and Charles Kerney, who was a real estate agent and deputy tax collector, sent to San Diego as a co-worker with Secretaries R. C. Avery and Rev. Giffen. Former Secretary Eastman volunteered for foreign service and from San Diego went on to France. Others that went on to camps were Elbert L. Evans of Selma, Tracey Cox who was physical instructor at the Fresno high school, Rev. S. Mogensen of Oleander and William Virgo. Rev. H. N. McKee of the Christian Church of Fowler was assigned overseas in April, 1918, and wounded by shrapnel on the front line receiving six wounds but recovered and took up the work again. Rev. Jerome G. Van Zandt of the Baptist Church of Fowler who entered the work in March and for two months did relief work at San Pedro was sent to France and in August was also wounded. He was a Southern California settlement worker and had come from San Bernardino to Fresno, where he was connected with the Fresno Junior College. The Y. M. C. A. participated locally in many activities, not to be forgotten the recruiting of young men to go out into the vineyards and the orchards to save the crops by reason of the shortage of labor depleted in the county by the draft calls. Never in its history had the Y. M. C. A. done more practical work.

The Knights of Columbus was one of the seven war service organizations included in the United War Work drive in November, 1918, for providing recreational and physical comforts for the soldiers in camp and to give the religious comforts to soldiers of the Catholic faith. The national drive quota opened November 29, 1917, was for \$12,000,000, California's quota \$300,000 and Fresno County's \$5,000. The subscriptions though open to the public were for the most part obtained from members of the local council of the knights and the quota was made up in three weeks. The executive committee in charge consisted of: John Birmingham, chairman; B. J. Maltry, treasurer, and H. A. Formanek, Eugene Rahill, James Gallagher, Thomas Collins, Rev. Daniel O'Connell, E. A. Thoman, S. L. Riddell, Oliver Kehrlein and H. G. Nolan.

For the first Y. M. C. A. War Work campaign the national quota was placed at \$35,000,000, California's at \$750,000, Fresno City's at \$25,000 and the county's at \$18,000. Originally it was intended to appeal for an additional \$30,000 to meet local needs of the association, making the city's quota \$55,000. There being opposition against combining the two funds compromise was arrived at by which the local association should receive \$18,500 and all else of the \$55,000 and whatever over to go to the war fund. The city subscribed \$26,409.85 and the county \$22,000, the city went \$1,409.85 to the good and the county \$4,000. The drive lasted November 11-20, 1917, and had been preceded by the first two Liberty loans. The war work campaign

was something new directed to the moral and physical well being of the young soldiers and sailors. The one appealed to patriotism; the other to sentimental and other considerations of a personal character, essential though the government regarded them. A campaign of education was necessary. The drive was to be unsectarian. John Fechter, a former Fresno and later Oakland general secretary of the Y. M. C. A. but at the time of the campaign war work secretary in army and navy camps about San Diego, was appointed manager in charge by the state committee for the valley district. The executive committee for this county was named of Max Cahen as chairman, M. B. Harris, Hans Graff, F. D. Prescott, Berton Einstein, Peter Droge and Frank H. Homan and as a general committee of team captains the following named: Dr. L. R. Packwood, H. H. Holland, W. H. Peterson, Edward Hughson, Chester Stewart, C. H. Cobb, Frank G. Hood, George S. Waterman, R. B. Covington, Edward Hertweck, R. W. Potter, Horace Thorwaldsen, Dr. J. M. Crawford, Ben Epstein, F. L. Swartz, W. H. Henderson, S. S. Hockett, G. E. Kennedy, J. E. Dickinson, N. E. Carnine and Arthur Bernhauer. The canvass was organized on an elaborate system for the \$25,000 war fund, \$18,500 for the association budget for that year and all in excess of the \$43,500 apportioned to the general. The county canvass was carried on by local committees under the charge of Neil Locke as manager. The success of the drive was a source of much gratification. It was the first in the county on a broadly organized basis. The Liberty bonds were an investment; this a gift with no selfish returns. The people were educated in the idea of giving. Whether investment or gift both were essentials in the prosecution of the war.

Not behind the work of the Y. M. C. A. was that of the Y. W. C. A. which latter in camp and field made the Blue Triangle as its association insignia familiar and beloved. The part of the American woman in this war is one of the chapters that the future historian will write about. All the home activities that the Y. W. C. A. encouraged and sponsored, a publication having the limitations of this work cannot deal with. The best women were associated with them locally. The list of names is such a large one that it cannot be reproduced. Their work contributed to the national spirit which was such a magnificent thing during the war. Where woman will lead the way, man will follow. Woman blazed a wide path of patriotism in the war, the effect of which was felt to the farthestmost listening post looking out on No Man's Land beyond the farthest front trench line. Woman made as great sacrifices as the men in the field. The war work campaign of the Y. W. C. A. December 3-10, 1917, came after the Y. M. C. A. and the two first Liberty loans and there never was doubt of its success. Another surprise was in store locally. The national fund to be raised was \$4,000,000, the state's quota \$350,000, Fresno County's \$10,000. The purpose of this fund as well as of the others every one knows. The local campaign was opened at a meeting of women at the Hotel Fresno November 25, 1917, addressed by Mrs. Gaillard M. Stoney of San Francisco. The executive committee and officers appointed were the following: Chairman, Mrs. Berton Einstein; vice, Mrs. E. A. Williams and W. A. Fitzgerald; executive secretary, Mrs. Thomas F. Lopez; recording secretary, Miss Belle Ritchie; treasurer, Mrs. Anna Newman; directors, Mrs. W. F. Chandler and Mrs. Chester Rowell besides a large membership in the war work council composed of the best known women of the county. All the minutiae of organization were undertaken by these enthusiastic women, the interest was kept up at fever heat and on last day of the campaign the quota was exceeded with \$10,978, the county had again been placed in the class of exceeding its quota and this whirlwind campaign was carried through at an expense at \$110.

Martyred Armenia's agonizing appeal for aid was made even before the United States' entry into the world's war. America answered these appeals and since the organization of the central committee in New York in 1915

over \$8,000,000 has been the response distributed in money or in kind. In no part of the west probably is there a larger Armenian population centered than in Fresno County. For years there has been relief going on from here to the old country. The influx of emigrants also has been steady to find here a haven of refuge and safety among relatives and friends who have prospered following agricultural occupations in a climate not unlike that of the home land. An executive and general committee as a part of the national relief movement was not organized here until December, 1917, before which there were two other independent agencies interested in the work of gathering money relief for the Armenians and Syrians, one a branch of the national fund for Armenian and Syrian relief and the other an independent committee of Armenian citizens working to the same end. The executive committee for the local campaign was constituted of E. A. Williams, chairman; K. Arakelian, vice chairman; E. S. Ardzrooni, secretary; E. E. Manheim, treasurer; G. L. Aynesworth, George Ohannessian and Rev. T. T. Giffen, besides a general committee of twenty-six largely of Armenians. Following the launch of the campaign December 10, 1917, a great meeting at the city auditorium addressed by Dr. Riggs, an American missionary from Armenia, resulted in a collection of \$4,500 mainly the contribution of the Armenian race while another and similar meeting at Turlock, attended by Rev. M. G. Papazian of the Pilgrim Congregational Church of Fresno, added \$2,000 to the fund. Local records show a total of almost \$27,000 subscribed with \$19,700 forwarded to the national treasurer in New York. Individual service stands pre-eminent in the undertaking. Rev. Mr. Papazian was asked by the national committee to tour the United States and speak in behalf of the fund and left Fresno September 18 and returned December 15, 1917, speaking en tour 111 times in thirty-eight days and traveling 13,400 miles. He is one of the ablest exponents in this country of the cause.

Coalinga had a District War Fund Association organized January 21, 1918, to divide equally between all people in the territory the calls upon the community for war funds, the association to be kept intact until peace terms were signed and the war declared officially ended. Since organization the agency paid in \$38,576.49 for various funds and had a balance of \$2,975.40 after having met every quota call on Coalinga, with expenses less than seven per cent. of the money handled. C. A. Hiveley was the president; R. H. Stickel and P. A. Hussey, the vice presidents; A. H. Good Jr., secretary and G. S. Hughes, treasurer of the association.

The Jewish Welfare Board also was included in the government's recognized United War Work. It organized in the spring of 1917. Fresno County had a committee of the board and it did its work unostentatiously, collecting and forwarding contributions to national headquarters. No race is more given to works of charity than the Hebrew. The Fresno officers are Ben Epstein, chairman; L. I. Diamond, secretary; L. M. Mendelsohn, Saul Samuels and Harry Ziedell. The committee never made a so-called "drive" until its inclusion in the United War Work. The money raised by the Jewish Relief Committee was expended for the benefit of Jews in all the countries engaged in the war. The contributions have been from the members of the race, every cent going to the sufferers and the cost of administration borne by the officials and workers. The Jews of Fresno County contributed \$2,500 a year since the war to the fund and after the armistice have been called upon to raise \$10,000 for the cause. The relief committee work was carried on since 1914 and contributions have been free will offerings. The committee: M. L. Mendelsohn, chairman; L. I. Diamond, secretary; Ben Epstein, Saul Samuels, Harry Ziedell and Sigismund Wormser.

The Smileage book sale campaign of January, 1918, by the Rotary Clubs of the state resulted in the disposal of about 4,500 such books in Fresno city.

When Serbia was invaded after the declaration of war against it by Austria, the Serbs gathered and organized in Fresno a branch of the Serbian

National Defense League of America, a body that originated during the Balkan War. The Serbs generally in the valley became members and several thousands of dollars were subscribed to the Servian Red Cross fund. The local organization was officered by Charles Jovanovich as president; Veljko Radojevich secretary and Milan Vucovich treasurer, John Miscovich undertaking a tour of the valley to call on compatriots for funds in the appeal to save the Servians from extinction as a nation. In this county the Servians sent on \$10,000 to the Serbian Red Cross and War Orphan funds. Some 100 young men from the valley enlisted for service early in the war and the fares of not a few of these to Servia were prepaid. The local Servians have contributed to the home cause independent of the funds, and for American Liberty bonds they are said to have invested as much as \$75,000. Among the active local workers were Lazar Popovich and the most prominent, Dusan Tripevich, who was head accountant for H. Graff & Company and placed himself at the disposal of the home government. The supreme president in New York of the Servian Federation chose him as his personal representative to go Servia and consult with the government regarding the disposal of the American collected funds. Through this agency shiploads of food and medical stores were sent from New York and this relief came at opportune time during the typhus epidemic that ravaged the people when the army lost almost everything in the retreat over the Albanian Mountains. The Fresno man was called upon to render important work in London and Paris, was decorated with the Servian Cross of Honor, on his return to America was made supreme secretary of the federation and joining the American army became a lieutenant.

The appeal to Fresno for relief in behalf of poor little outraged Belgium was not in vain, drained as she was of resources and population during the four years of occupation by the soulless and pitiless Hunnish hounds. Herbert Hoover of the food administration bureau was in charge of the Belgium Relief Commission and the local aid given to it was largely again in the sympathetic work of the women. It was in November, 1917, that field secretaries of the relief movement made survey of Fresno to arouse interest, and other visitors told the harrowing tales to maintain that interest. A drive for funds followed and pledge cards were signed up as a result of which the local relief was enabled for the first few months after organization to send monthly \$500 for the cause and after that \$700. Funds and subscriptions then began to run low and to replenish them another "drive" was the project for the year 1919. The shoe-drive in November, 1917, was a great success with four tons of footwear as the result. So again in March, 1918, the appeal for clothing filling thirty-nine packing boxes weighing five tons, and again in September when it required a furniture car to ship the twelve and one-half tons of clothing that came in response to appeals. Benefit teas and concerts were given to add to the fund and Belgian children were adopted and cared for by the French class of the Fresno high school, the Student Body of the school, the Parlier Country Club and the Misses Marian and Dorothy Payne. The Ladies' Relief Society has had for its officers: Mrs. L. L. Cory, chairman; Mrs. Anna Newman, vice; Mrs. Milo Rowell, secretary-treasurer; Miss Adeline Thornton, secretary, with E. E. Manheim, treasurer, besides a board of directors and auxiliary committees at Clovis, Fowler, Kingsburg, Laton, Reedley, Tranquillity and Corcoran in Tulare County. Milk bottles were placed about town to catch the pennies and small change for the milk fund for Belgian babes. There was probably not a war time activity not represented in the county. There was a Red Cross auxiliary of the colored women of Fresno city and it sponsored an ambitious public entertainment on the occasion of the draft contingent departure of the colored youths to join the service. The Japanese more than the Chinese took a large part in the patriotic and Liberty loan parades, though both races were liberal contributors to war funds and bonds.

The United War Fund Drive had behind it perhaps one of the most comprehensive organizations of workers in any of the war fund raising campaigns. It continued November 11-18, 1918. It was not opened under the most auspicious conditions for its success, yet again the county "went over the top." The seven war service organizations which the fund was to help out were the Y. M. C. A. and the Y. W. C. A., the Knights of Columbus, the Jewish Welfare League, the Salvation Army, the War Community Service and the American Library Association. The national quota was \$170,500,000 and the percentage apportionments to the services the following: 58.65, 8.80, 17.60, 2.05, 2.05, 8.80 and 2.05. The time for the campaign was made a late one that it would not interfere with the Red Cross war relief effort, the welfare organizations having been allotted the winter season, the relief efforts the spring time, and the Liberty loans between times as far as practical. With the last campaign started, things looked bad for the German armies and while there was general belief that the end was near it was not believed it would come so soon. The end was not expected until the spring of 1919. This big war drive had by reason of local conditions to be continued until after the cessation of hostilities. It opened on the very day of the signing of the armistice with suspension of hostilities. Fresno was in the midst of the influenza epidemic, there had been no great meetings and in the street corner gatherings the speakers wore masks. Lastly there was indifference to subscribe, now that for all practical purposes the war had ended. The greatest indifference was shown on the two first days of the campaign. The preparations for it were elaborate, and it was no time to abandon the effort, as the argument was made that with hostilities ended the work of the war service would be greater than ever until the soldiers came home to be demobilized, and how long they might be kept over as the army of occupation and reconstruction and for what ever else the future might have in store no one could tell. The work went on despite the interruptions and adverse conditions. Well it was that the efforts had been concentrated. The newspapers were the only means of publicity, and as with everything connected with the war efforts that publicity was not spared. In Liberty loan publicity the newspapers of the land gave the government column space, the value of which cannot be estimated in dollars. The newspapers with rare exceptions were 100 per cent. American. At the close of the allotted time the subscriptions came in and on the last day the report was that Fresno had exceeded its quota of \$146,250 by \$9,361, and state returns showed that Fresno ranked fourth for the amount subscribed and third among those that had exceeded their quotas. For the nation the total was \$203,179,038 or \$32,679,038 in excess of what had been asked for the demobilization period. The sum subscribed is said to have been the largest ever raised as an unqualified donation or gift in the history of the world. It was the answer whether the people at home were backing the American soldier abroad. The Fresno County Executive Committee in charge of this splendid campaign was of the following named: F. D. Prescott, chairman; H. E. Patterson, campaign manager; H. F. Allardt, John A. Neu, Ben Epstein, Miss Julia Sayre, Miss Sarah McCardle, E. W. Lindsay, Raymond Quigley and George A. Forbes. It had as assistants the Fresno city and county general committees, the school district committees, a Japanese committee, a women's committee, rating and preliminary gifts committees, and specials with Wick W. Parsons as the campaign treasurer and Mrs. A. S. Baker cashier.

One of the monumental achievements of the war times was the virtual breaking up of the I. W. W. organization with its reign of terror as the result of investigation and plot disclosures centering out of Fresno. For nearly ten years this organization had been a menace. In the winter of 1917 there were probably about 2,500 of these plotters in the state. California's "arson squad" operated over the west coast and in the northwestern states.

Its activities went back to pre-war days. Its first positive overt acts in the San Joaquin Valley came early after the country entered the war. They antedated by nearly one year the arson fires in Fresno. The "Reign of Terror" at Modesto was precipitated on the night of October 6-7 when the confederates of one of the agitators that had been jailed set nine fires in Modesto, terrorized the inhabitants but made for other parts after the population had organized 1,000 men to apprehend and deal justice to the arsonists. Space will not permit following up all the activities of the plotters. The invasion of Fresno was in August, 1917, followed September 3 by the setting fire with phosphorus of barn and seven haystacks north of Fresno. This was on the eve of the raid on I. W. W. headquarters in many parts of the United States by the federal authorities September 5, 1917. United States Deputy Marshal S. J. Shannon conducted a noon day raid on the Fresno local headquarters at 816 I Street, catching nineteen fellows, and among them the local secretary, one Glenn A. Roberts. The round up lasted an afternoon and 125 fellows were searched and questioned. A wagon load of "literature" was confiscated. The I. W. W.'s claimed to have at the time a membership of half a thousand in the county. Fred Little, who was hanged at Butte, Mont., was a Fresno product. The raiding was authorized by federal search warrants for inciting insubordination, disloyalty and mutiny and refusal to perform duty in the army and navy while the country was at war. The raid sweep continued throughout the district and the jail colony in the end numbered thirty-five. The federal grand jury indicted locally twenty-five of the number. Notable is the fact that three, James Elliott, C. McWhirt and G. A. Roberts, secretaries of the local, were later indicted at Chicago and imprisoned after conviction. Most of the twenty-five were dismissed at the time, but eleven of them were one year later indicted at Sacramento for complicity in a conspiracy to burn fifteen million dollars worth of property in the state, millions of which were actually destroyed. Eleven of the eighteen indicted at Sacramento were siftings of the 1917 local catch. The 1917 raid climax was followed October 6-7 by about a score of incendiary fires simultaneously at Stockton, Modesto and at Manteca, according to a pre-arranged plan. Followed then a lull for about eighteen months but the arsonists were busy plotting in a jungle in the neighborhood of Knights Landing and the secret service had its operatives in the councils in July. A defective shipment of phosphorus delayed the game and the springing of the traps. The mistake was rectified, in August began the trapping in various parts of the state, and by October 14 there were fourteen of the leading firebugs of the west in the jails of half a dozen counties. In the technical language of the I. W. W.'s the arsonist is a "cat." At least four "cats" were busy in Fresno and vicinity. The Madary and Hollenbeck-Bush mill fire was one piece of work of the "cats;" loss about \$500,000. On the same night there was a \$3,000 haystack fire at Rolinda. About the same time, August 15, a \$750,000 canning plant fire at Hanford in Kings County and so on at various places in near by valley counties. Following that fire was that on August 17 of the Fresno hay market and of the Kutner-Goldstein fire in Fresno city, five ineffectual attempts to fire the Griffin-Skelley packing house in Fresno, and the previous fire of the California Products Company with loss of nearly a million in buildings, machinery, food and other products. That the "cats" did not destroy more was because of the swift and secret action in rounding them up. The federal trial at Chicago and at Sacramento resulted in wholesale convictions. The work of the assisting U. S. Secret Service and the U. S. Army Intelligence Bureau was an invaluable aid and how well pursued was made manifest in the disclosures at the two trials with the mass of incriminating evidence adduced.

The Boy Scouts of America consisting of three troops in Fresno city organized in March, 1918, with thirty-five boys helped to make the city's war work a success. They sold \$9,500 of the War Savings and Thrift Stamps.



In the third Liberty loan they turned in \$1,650 in sold bonds. For that loan campaign and also the fourth they distributed all the campaign literature and placards, several times placarding the city in a night. They also acted as the messengers at subscription loan meetings, were in attendance at loan campaign headquarters and the three troops increased in membership to ninety. When the aviation and ordnance branches of the army and navy sent out call through the forestry department for "black walnut wood" for air-ship propellers, blades and rifle-stocks, the Boy Scouts made the census of the trees. When the gas defense league through the Red Cross appealed for fruit pits to make charcoal for the gas masks, the Scouts gave their aid. In the fourth Liberty loan with a membership of about seventy, the Scouts started out to establish a record in the last eight days and turned in a total of 363 bonds sold valued at \$31,250.

Fresno sent its men into national war work and also to enter the service of the state in carrying out the national emergency food and war material policies under Herbert Hoover, who is a California man. In the dried fruit and fuel oil lines, California and Fresno men were of signal service in safeguarding the rights of consumers as well as of producers. In the U. S. Food service was J. F. Niswander, manager of the California Peach Company, who was made director of the division of dried fruit of the U. S. Food Administration, May 9, 1918. He was one of your dollar-a-year men. Niswander took up his duties at Washington with Charles Bentley, also a Californian. Their work was to encourage maximum production and prevent hoarding, speculation and unreasonable profiteering. W. B. Nichols, a Dinuba banker, went in July to Washington on appointment to be Niswander's assistant. H. H. Welsh, attorney, oilman and rancher, abandoned his work with the county exemption board to go to Washington as a dollar-a-year man to join the staff as a member of the fuel oil board and became assistant to Mark L. Requa in shaping government policies regarding the California oil fields. George C. Roeding did not take up his residence at the national capital but he was a member of the original Agricultural Producers' Advisory Committee to the Hoover administration and made frequent journeys east to advise on national and regional agricultural policies. He was of the district board of appeals in the draft exemption work at home. He also took up the contract to buy up the peach and apricot pits in California for the war department to prevent their passing into the hands of enemy agencies in the gas mask making service. Thomas H. Lynch became a captain in the army quartermaster corps for the New York department to avail itself of his business capacities. Connected also with the food department administration were Charles A. Hill, formerly with the law firm of Barbour & Cashin, and H. W. Stammers, who was with L. L. Cory, the lawyer. S. P. Frisselle, superintendent of the Kearney Farm for the state university, was called to San Francisco to become an assistant of Ralph P. Merritt as food administrator for California, and was in charge more particularly of the feed and coarse grain department. L. A. Nares of the canal and irrigation company was live stock commissioner to avert the feed shortage that enabled the state to produce its quota of stock. Milo F. Rowell had charge of the perishable department in a consolidation of the cold storage interests to save and cheapen foods and in the distribution of vegetables, cheese, eggs and milk and to bring berry and fruit canners together. Aside from his work in the live stock line, L. A. Nares as president of the highway association and of the California Automobile Association served the government and the army in organizing western transportation service as director for three states. Lieut. Lester H. Eastin was first assistant to Milo F. Rowell, assisting to supply and distribute sugar in California and encourage the production of more beets, and became head of the manufacture and purchase of gas service supplies. F. M. Hill, as a member of the Highways Transport Committee of the National Council of Defense was director of traffic in California with

general supervision over the highways of three states organizing traffic in the state and arranging to co-ordinate the three branches of railroads, waterways and highways. Miss Maud L. Mast, in charge of the children's department of the free library and formerly with the Madera library, went to Washington to do classification work; likewise Miss Norah Sullivan and Miss Jeanette Morgan, formerly in the cataloguing department to do clerical work, and Miss Sarah F. Rabourn of the high school faculty to take up clerical and statistical work for the war department. Chester H. Rowell, was in the state council of defense.

The speaking bureau for publicity work at the theaters of the country was known as the "Four Minute Men" as their talks to audiences were limited to four minutes. M. B. Harris was appointed Fresno County chairman in September, 1917, and named as his executive committee Floyd W. Cowan, Arthur Allyn and Robert J. West. The first Four-minute speeches were made on Saturday night, September 15, 1917, and the subject was; "What Our Enemy Really Is," speaking for the second Liberty loan then and also for all the governmental activities thereafter at the theaters and the school houses in the county in the war drives. In December, 1917, Cowan enlisted in the navy, and later was commissioned an ensign, Allyn enlisted in the infantry, and West took up Y. M. C. A. work at San Francisco and the executive work was carried out to the end by Frank A. Willey, he having been named to succeed Cowan as secretary. One of the most effective pieces of work of the Four Minute Men was in response to the appeal, "Eyes for the Navy," for powerful glasses which were absolutely necessary for the work of the enlarged navy, the stock in the hands of dealers exhausted and the urgency of the need of them precluding the waiting of the long process of manufacture. In response to the appeal the assistant secretary of the navy calculated that 23,852 glasses were turned in and probably the 13,000 more that came in later could also have been traced to the same effort. Fresno County loaned to the navy some 200 such glasses. The Four Minute Men's organization was discontinued December 24, 1918. It is stated that approximately 1,000 speeches were made in the county and the speakers were the lawyers, the preachers and almost every young man of note before the public.

Fresno County has every reason to be proud of its achievements in going well over the top on every subscription in the four Liberty loans. They demonstrated the patriotic spirit of the citizenry. The responses were hearty and every town in the county made good. The first and fourth loans were carried through against heavy handicaps. The best obtainable returns at this writing are given in the following tabulation:

	Maximum Quota	Subscription	Over Subscription
First loan .....	\$ 2,000,000	\$ 2,300,000	\$ 300,000
Second loan .....	4,016,982	4,117,000	100,018
Third loan .....	2,545,175	3,949,050	1,403,875
Fourth loan .....	4,501,000	5,946,550	1,445,550
Total .....	\$13,063,157	\$16,312,600	\$3,249,343

The following figures of individual subscribers may be illuminating as showing the steady growth of the "war consciousness:"

First loan .....	7,200
Second loan .....	14,800
Third loan .....	20,284
Fourth loan .....	32,213

The "Liberty Loan of 1917" was launched in May and was for two billions. The bonds of this first issue will probably always be regarded with more sentiment than the others. They are held by some 3,300 subscribers.

That loan drive reached its height with the issue of the first draft call and when men were registering. The public sentiment in America had not yet been welded. It had not yet awakened to the German propagandism in America. It had not yet heard of Gerard's reported threat of the kaiser: "We'll stand no nonsense from America after this war is over." Nor to the other threatened uprising of 500,000 Germans in this country, and Gerard's reply as to the handiness of lampposts for these uprisers in Yankeeland. Many things had not yet happened to unify the Americans. There was yet a too great divergence of popular views. That first drive was an unorganized effort popularly, carried out in the main by the bankers and not to be compared with the subsequent efforts when the country was thoroughly awakened to the situation. No country was more woefully unprepared for everything than America save in its resourcefulness and latent wealth. There was yet no war consciousness in the west with the call for this first loan to the government. Even the federal reserve bank records of that first subscription are limited or lacking. There was another spirit with the second loan. Pershing was in France with a quarter of a million of those wonderful Yanks and he had made his reported speech over La Fayette's tomb, "La Fayette, we are here." The second contingent of future soldiers drafted into the service was in training camps. The thrills of war were being felt. In Fresno County the raisin growers had harvested the greatest crop in history. In this drive the government had set a minimum and also a maximum quota for Fresno, \$2,410,189 on a three billion loan and \$4,106,982 on a five billion allotment. The third loan came after the Yanks "had made good" at Chantigny and the marines had been baptized by the Huns with the name of "Die Teuffels Hunde." The Tuscania transport had been torpedoed and there were American soldier graves on the northern shore of Scotland. There had also been a change of policy. Honor flags were awarded every town and county that exceeded its quota, with a star added when the quota was doubled. The war was being brought nearer home, the county was better organized, returning wounded of the allies appeared before the public and confirmed the atrocities of the Huns. The loan was oversubscribed and the achievement was considered a notable one. Came then the fourth and the result was almost beyond belief. It was conducted under the greatest handicaps, yet the record is unique in that in spite of them it was again oversubscribed, notwithstanding a German peace offensive, locally a great loss in raisin crop by reason of rain, and the outbreak of the influenza epidemic. It was the largest loan oversubscription and the number of subscribers was the largest, remembering that the population had been reduced by the demands of the service in some 8,000 men. And the time for the drive was one week less than any other. A volume might be written of the concerted and individual efforts in carrying through these loan campaigns. Never was there more earnest, patriotic and unselfish labor. That first fight to carry Fresno over the top was a difficult one. That first issue of bonds carried only three and one-half per cent. interest and the lenders of money to the government must be taught to disregard interest rates when placing their dollars behind the government at the lesser rate, not as an investment but as a necessity and to credit the difference in rates to duty and patriotism. O. J. Woodward of the First National Bank was the general county chairman of the first campaign with E. E. Manheim of the Farmers' National as the vice, W. O. Miles of the Union National, Berton Einstein of the Bank and Trust Company of Central California and Dan Brown of the Bank of Italy as the executive committee. The theaters were in this campaign first used for publicity speeches, the bankers for a time carried on the drive without outside aid, the period June 3-8, 1917, was designated as Liberty Loan week, the slogan was "Pay Up or Go to War," June 1 Frank H. Homan of the Merchants' Association named a merchants' committee to lend aid, William Neilsen came from the federal reserve bank in San Francisco to establish

loan headquarters locally. Chase S. Osborn Jr. was named chairman of publicity, E. A. Berg of the display advertising, Carl A. Lisenby of public utilities and manufactures, L. R. Payne of the raisin and Samuel Samelson of the peach industry, and June 15 after strenuous efforts the drive closed. The result a city oversubscription of \$250,000 and the county communities of \$50,000. Reedley was the only town community that failed in its quota—\$22,600 short on quota of \$47,400. In the end the government returned all oversubscriptions on the first loan. The second drive was launched September 31, and unlike any of the others was directed for the four counties of Fresno, Kings, Madera and Tulare from Fresno by William Neilsen as special representative. This plan was afterward abandoned as impracticable because of too great an area to be covered and too large a population to be reached. There was then another general organization of committees. With a total of \$6,779,100 the four counties exceeded their minimum allotments and only Kings and Tulare did not come up to their maximum. That second drive in Fresno city was carried by a wonderful eleventh hour drive on an announcement that it lacked \$490,000 on its maximum of \$3,000,000. Another strenuous effort and the limit on the last day was exceeded by \$11,750. O. J. Woodward retired from the general chairmanship and with the third loan approaching W. O. Miles was chosen and another campaign manager was sent by the reserve bank. No announcements were made and Fresno prepared to raise a great quota. The plan adopted provided for an educational campaign of one month before taking subscriptions to be undertaken by the Four Minute Men and the newspapers to make clear the atrocious character of the foe that would be faced overseas. Another general committee organization of the county followed until the formal opening of the drive April 6, 1918. There was a great demonstration in a parade followed by a mass meeting in the city auditorium, Frank G. Hood as the marshal of the parade. The country was invited to parade and participate, the fraternal societies were a feature, the women's division was another, so were the labor organizations and the Masons. So great the throng in the pageant that the auditorium could not contain it and overflow meetings were held at the courthouse park, that night over \$700,000 was subscribed and the fraternal organizations came in with their subscriptions. It was a night of greatest excitement and enthusiasm. Tremendous work was done day after day. Through the Parlor Lecture Club the women contributed \$350,000. William Farnum, the movie star, spoke for eight minutes at the Liberty Theater and the speech yielded at the rate of \$1,000 a minute. On Monday following the opening day there had been subscribed \$1,331,600. The high school pupils had pledged \$100,000. The country district campaign was carried even into the mountain regions. April 11 a great mass meeting of the women was held and on that day every town in the county had gone over the top save Fresno, and the total paid on subscriptions was only \$812,000. Display advertising in the newspapers was paid for by patriotic merchants or groups of merchants as a feature. Sunday, April 14 the Armenians at a special service subscribed \$16,450 in addition to their previous large subscriptions. Saturday, April 20, was held a mass meeting for the distribution of the honor flags that had been earned, and on that morning Fresno city was alone in not having such a flag while many of the towns had won stars for their flags. Fresno struggled to the last to earn the star but it could not double its quota. On the afternoon of April 23, Maj. Gen. E. D. Swinton of the British army, inventor of the tanks and commander of them in their first appearance at the front, addressed a great meeting, declaring that the fight was against "Hun savages led by gorillas." In all the drives Fresno was visited and addressed by notable speakers of the war days. Every expedient within reason was taken avail of to keep the public interest at fever heat. Friday, April 26, was designated as Liberty day and honor flags were raised over the city hall and from the flag pole in front of the county court-

house with parades and speechmaking. That same night "Doc" Wells, the Canadian sergeant that lost an arm and was bayoneted and gassed in the first attack on the Canadians at Ypres, was brought to Fresno by the Rotary Club to speak "to men only" at the big auditorium on the atrocities of the Huns, and there was gathered the greatest throng that had ever assembled in that capacious edifice. His visit resulted in a big jump in the subscriptions on the following day. "Don't Quit" was the slogan of the closing week of the drive. Thursday, May 2, Marie Dressler, the actress, was a speaker making her 340th speech during the drive. She was accompanied by four sailor boys and their appeals brought in \$25,000 in money. Of course with such unremitting and unflagging efforts the drive was bound to prove a success, although there was well founded criticism that the promoters were always raising the cry of "Wolf! Wolf!" to frighten the people into a belief that failure threatened and Fresno would be disgraced. Signal as in the end the success of this third drive was, it was to be outdistanced by another. The figures for the third loan are these:

	Fresno County	Fresno City
Quota .....	\$2,545,175	\$1,858,682
Subscribed .....	\$3,949,059	\$2,340,850
Percentage subscribed .....	155.15	125.94
Subscribers .....	20,284	11,627
Population (Census 1910) .....	75,657	42,892
Percentage subscribing .....	26.81	24.89

The fourth loan was the biggest of all. It was for six billions. In Fresno the obstacles against it have already been alluded to. There was another element that called for action. It was that there were "slackers"—people well able to lend the government money but who did not or made ridiculously small subscriptions considering their means. A meeting of the county Liberty loan chairmen was held in San Francisco in August, 1918, and the powers approved of the publication of the names of the slackers to bring them to shame. County Chairman Miles of Fresno opposed the plan but as a matter of fact such an inquisition committee of citizens did meet and slackers were brought before it and informed that they would be expected to contribute. The affair was done in secret to apply "moral suasion" arguments. However, the drive was conducted in the county without any outside aid, the first so conducted, and the record was the county turned over a pile of dollars in an oversubscription to the greatest loan in history that ever a nation has asked of its people. It is true that the morale of the atrocious Hun across the sea was at this time at low ebb, but it must have fallen to zero when the Junkers over there learned that the nation had oversubscribed the loan, that Yank soldiers were landing daily on French soil by the thousands, that the submarine had been driven from the surface of the sea and depth-bombed to smithereens to "Davy Jones' Locker," that the Yanks were at the front and making possible the offensive of the allies and forcing the "tactical retreats" of the Hun legions. "Fresno Never Fails" was the campaign slogan. The campaign was organized September 5. Frederick B. Fox was named campaign manager, Charles T. Cearley city manager and Mrs. W. A. Fitzgerald director of women's efforts as she had been in all the other like efforts. The campaign organization was the best yet. The experience of the past had taught a lesson and the combing for dollars was complete. The drive was opened by a night pageant followed not by one great mass meeting but by three. The victory at St. Mihiel to be followed by the pressing in of the salient at Chateau-Thierry had taken place. The time had come to deliver the last money blow home. The singing was a feature of that parade. The church choirs took part, the schools organized choruses, the Normal also and the Fresno Male Chorus. The marching was to the singing. And if there were 20,000 in that third Liberty loan parade, there were 35,000 in that

of the fourth. It was probably the largest street demonstration witnessed in the city. Corporal James Bonnar, Fresno's first returned war hero, a victim of a Hun gas attack, was to make appearance at the auditorium but did not arrive until the following morning, because of government red tape at the army hospital in Texas, though after coming his tales of life in the trenches and of the soldiers at the front sold thousands of dollars' worth of bonds. At the auditorium meeting \$1,776,000 was pledged, at the two overflow meetings \$60,000 and the first day's total was \$1,382,200. It rained on the opening night of the celebration and for two days after and following an interval of a day more rain. People had hardly begun to count the loss on a drying raisin crop from the rain when the beaten German began with his peace offensive. Peace? Unconditional surrender, yes; otherwise "On to Berlin!" Redemption of pledges after the first meetings was so slow that again the cry of "Wolf! Wolf!" was raised for two weeks. Redemptions were disappointing. October 1 one-third or \$1,540,000 on a quota of county fixed at \$4,501,000 had been subscribed. War movie pictures were exhibited and Liberty Loan posters in the theaters. Theaters which had aided every war move helped as never before. Four days before the close of the drive, Fresno was still nearly one million behind the goal. The epidemic was on and indoor, public meetings were under the ban. A day was set apart as "Save Fresno Day," and in the down town district street corner meetings were held and appeals made and pledges taken up. War heroes were drummed up to talk to the people from the street corners. Tanks bearing the names of the battles in which the Canadians and Americans had participated were placed at nine corners, and from these Four Minute Men addressed the populace. These and other devices were made use of to keep up the spirit on the day that closed with a great mass meeting in the courthouse park addressed by Edward F. Trefz who had spent months investigating for Hoover the food conditions in the French trenches. This day and for several following the confidential committee went on with its sessions which ran far into the night. And it is said that every one that was hailed before that committee "came through." October 19—a Saturday—the report was that the county and the city had both gone over. The figures were:

	Quota	Subscribed
Fresno City .....	\$3,009,200	\$3,107,550
Fresno County .....	4,501,000	4,774,300

The final figures showed that with the \$4,501,000 quota the county had actually subscribed \$5,946,550 only \$54,000 short of \$6,000,000, making a total over-subscription of \$1,445,550. This by about one-third of the estimated population.

Of unquestioned educational value was the yard garden planting campaign begun in April, 1918, by the children of the public schools under the supervision of Richard Schmidt, war garden director and supervisor of vocational agriculture in the city high school. The work was confined to the pupils of the grammar schools from the fourth to the eighth grades. County Horticultural Commissioner F. P. Roullard gave his services to familiarize student inspectors with the insect pests, and give in the schools illustrated lectures on insects of economic value, the film illustrations being by Claud C. Laval the photographer and moving picture man. Besides aiding in the raising of vegetables, the children made exhibition at the county fair in October, 1918, and prizes amounting to \$100 in thrift stamps were awarded as follows:

Thirty dollars, Grand Prize—Modena Prouty.

Fifteen dollars, First Prize—Helen Macon, James Shelbourne and J. B. Ostrander.

Nine dollars, Second Prize—Frederick Hammond, Silvio Digiola, Gerald Wenke and Richard Dwyer.



Three dollars, Third Prize—John Riggins, Eral Ritter and Clement Edwards.

Fresno led in the state with a record for War Savings Stamps pledges on National War Savings Day—June 28, 1918—memorable year of wonderful achievements in the war. In six hours pledges were added which totaled \$2,360,000 and carried county over the year's allotment of \$2,000,000 until a surplus of \$360,000 was rolled up. With the close of the year a drive was on to collect on the unredeemed pledges to wipe out the million dollar indebtedness to the government to start out the new year with clean slate and it was done. The June big drive was from the 18th to the 28th. The result was to show Fresno in first place among the counties for percentage of oversubscriptions; in second for total oversubscribed; San Francisco with a population of half a million had oversubscribed three-quarters of a million. Retarded two months in the start, Fresno ended first. The work of the campaign was under the direction of the following named: County Director—E. E. Manheim; Assistant and Campaign Manager—Harry C. Wilber; City Director—Thomas E. Risley; Postmaster Earle E. Hughes, Ralph W. Woodward, Ben Epstein and W. A. Durfey. The personnel underwent changes, M. B. Harris succeeding Woodward, City School Superintendent Jerome O. Cross supplanting Epstein and D. S. Ricker, Durfey. In the pledge redemption campaign, Mrs. E. A. Williams directed the women's activities and A. E. Berg was director of display advertising. A campaign of education was launched, the W. S. S. and T. S. plan of aiding the allies financially being a new gospel of thrift. The speaking campaign was organized and conducted by the Four Minute Men and 800 stamp selling agencies were established in the county. The two million quota had been arbitrarily set to be saved by self-denial, the elimination of non-essentials and the saving of the cost of living in every department during the year 1918. The inculcation of thrift was the cardinal aim. The schools were thoroughly organized, even to weekly thrift-stamp school parades. No child paraded that had not saved and bought at least one twenty-five-cent thrift stamp. And the children of foreign parentage told of it at home. The first street drive was opened March 9, Mrs. W. A. Fitzgerald was the leader of the women, with Mrs. Pete Droge in charge of the store booths, and Mrs. O. L. Everts as the treasurer. The work in these booths overcame the loss by a delayed start for a total of over \$300,000 had been rolled up by April 1. New devices to stimulate the sale of stamps were devised week after week. And in the county communities the work proceeded as tirelessly. A notable achievement was that of Letter Carrier C. A. Tockstein who had read that a Springfield, Ill., carrier held the national record for the largest sale of stamps in a one-day drive by one man in the postal service. The mark was \$3,000. Tockstein chose his own day, confining himself to his own route and he turned in for the day \$9,640, smashing the record by \$6,640. The Junior Americans of the city schools undertook a week's drive June 3-8, had a general campaign committee, conducted a school children's parade, with Alfred Serpa as marshal, Junior American four-minute speakers invaded the theaters, barkers and spielers addressed the crowds from street rostrums, held a big meeting at the auditorium with Claude Minard as chairman with a play picturing a boy who would not save his money on candy and the movies for war stamps, had bad dreams and awoke a patriot, and the drive resulted in the sale of \$20,000 in stamps. About this time the plan was changed giving up the thrift idea and going out after the money in five-dollar stamps and under the readjusted program a ten days' drive was put on during June 18-28. On the starting day Fresno's taken up stock of stamps was \$412,000 and to make up the \$2,000,000 quota \$1,588,000 in pledges were required. The city's goal was \$1,200,000, the difference between amount of stamps sold in the city and quota \$788,000. A house to house canvass was resolved upon by the women and placed in charge of an executive committee of four, namely:

Mrs. C. F. Reilly, Miss Emma Brix, Mrs. W. F. Fitzgerald and Mrs. Montgomery Thomas with district captains. The letter carriers also put on a drive and in one week gathered in \$49,000. The campaign resulted in an oversubscription as follows:

War Savings Stamps sold 212,351; face value \$887,502.

Thrift Stamps sold 573,995; face value \$143,498.75.

Total face value \$1,031,000.75; maturity value \$1,205,253.75.

The women's committee was an important adjunct of the Fresno County Unit of the Council of National and State Defense organized July 1, 1917, with Mrs. H. A. Goddard as president, Mrs. S. L. Pratt as treasurer and Mrs. C. Matheney of Clovis as secretary. The committee's first activity was the distribution of the pledge cards for conservation of food on the lines laid down by Herbert Hoover, resulting in signatures to about 3,000 cards. The committee work was extended to the county towns. Next was taken up the question of house deliveries especially by the grocers and that service was cut down to two daily deliveries. August 24, 1917, a swimming party was given and funds were raised to finance the committee for the first six months of its existence. August 1 slips had been printed which merchants distributed with every purchase parcel giving the following reminder:

Your country needs your help.

Eat no white bread on Wednesdays.

Eat no meat on Fridays.

Eat no lamb nor veal at any time.

Help to feed the boys who are fighting for us.

In November, 1917, the second food campaign was started and continued for one month and in its interest Edward F. Trefz of Hoover's staff made his first appearance in Fresno. Nearly 25,000 signatures were secured and window cards distributed with the shield of the U. S. Food Administration. In November Mrs. E. A. Williams succeeded to the presidency, the work was more definitely organized by state headquarters and fifteen chairmen were named to conduct the work of the various departments. Thus Mrs. W. A. Fitzgerald was in charge of the work for the four Liberty loan drives, Miss Beulah Miller with Miss Isabel Tapscott in charge of the weighing and measuring of babies needing medical attention to the end of bringing up "Better Babies." Two thousand seven hundred forty-one children in all were medically examined. Dental examination was also given. Miss L. Dahlgren as teacher of domestic science of the high school was in charge of the Home Economics Department and had to aid her the domestic science teachers in the county high schools. A booklet of conservation recipes was published and distributed and a series of food conservation demonstration lessons was given on these and other lines. Posters were placed in theaters and stores during the week of the potato drive. Plans for a community kitchen were well under way but interrupted by the influenza epidemic. Mrs. Henry Hawson had charge of the food conservation after the November drive with ten active assisting sub-chairmen in the outside towns. Special drive efforts were made for 400 fruit jars to teach the Indians how to preserve their fruits and then there was the potato drive. Survey was made of the foreign population patronized groceries for cooperation and the use of recipes for the use of substitutes and 2,000 such printed recipes in foreign languages were distributed. Mrs. C. M. Hill had charge of the publicity and was aided by the county librarian Miss Sarah McCardle in the distribution of literature and the exhibition of placards and posters in the main library and its branches throughout the county. In all the loan drives the committee lent assistance and Vice Chairman Mrs. H. E. Patterson undertook a drive for nurses to enter the Army School for Nurses as well as civil hospitals to release trained nurses for service across the seas. Forty-five were enrolled and most of these were assigned for duty in hospitals in California and out of it. As did most of the women's committees, at a standstill

during the epidemic, it gave over its office and helpers to the work of supplying nurses for influenza sufferers.

Registrations in Fresno city under the selective draft calls were:

June 5, 1917 .....	3,784
June 5 and August 24, 1918.....	326
September 12, 1918, 18-45ers.....	8,023
Total .....	12,133

Claiming exemption and classed as aliens were 2,253. Total Class 1 subject to military service 2,172. Physically examined 2,315. Qualified for general service 1,161. For limited service 230—total qualified 1,391. Ordered to camp 919. Inducted Students' Army Training Corps sixty-five—total inducted 984. Delinquents 270. Deserted six. Physically disqualified 217. Statistics of registrations prior to September 12, 1918, are:

White .....	3,797
Colored .....	57
Oriental .....	255
Total .....	4,109

Examined physically 1,756. Qualified for general service 833. For special or limited 199—total qualified 1,032. Ordered to entrain 906. Failed to report at camp six. Rejected at camp seventy-two—total seventy-eight. Remaining in service 828. Employed by Emergency Fleet Corps twelve. Registrations cancelled thirty-one. According to citizenship the figures are:

Native born .....	2,638
Naturalized .....	129
Aliens .....	1,311

The aliens in Class 1 numbered 210; in the deferred class 1,099. The married men in Class 1, 156; deferred 1,608—total 1,764. The single in Class 1, 975; the deferred 1,339—total 2,314. According to ages from twenty-one to thirty the number in Class 1 was 1,131 and the deferred 2,947. Total registrations after all cancellations 4,078; total delinquents reported sixty-four. The youngest registrant was Webster R. Davis, then of 654 M Street, fifteen years of age on March 4, 1918. On the September 12, 1918, registration eight men of the age of forty-six and four between the ages of forty-seven and fifty-seven registered. One hundred eighty aged between twenty-one and thirty-one who were required to register at previous registrations came to the fore. The city exemption board continued almost until the end with only one change in personnel. Wylie M. Giffen retired on the opening day of the Fourth Liberty Loan because his personal and other public work would not longer permit giving so much of his time to war work. So also George C. Tabor retired from the clerkship and returned to his former duties as attorney for the California Associated Raisin Company. At the end the city board's personnel was of Alva E. Snow, Pete Droge and Charles T. Cearley, with Thomas E. McKnight as clerk.

Among the minor organizations that lent their aid in war work should not be forgotten the Junior Naval and Marine Scouts, fostered by the local marine recruiting station, chartered by Marine Scout headquarters in New York, January 1, 1918, with Raymond L. Quigley, city superintendent of playgrounds, as the county commissioner; David L. Newman as quartermaster and the city playgrounds commission as the executive committee with the five companies taken under its protecting wings. The recruited boys were from the city schools and gathered in localities contiguous to the various playgrounds. The organization was a semi-military one and no task, however small in connection with the patriotic efforts of the times,

was disregarded by the Scouts but taken up with all the enthusiasm of the restless small boy. Notable was the work in connection with the fourth Liberty loan when it sold 184 bonds amounting to about \$20,000. The other semi-military organization which had its origin in a desire of the playgrounds commission to furnish recreation for working girls was the four-company battalion of Sammiettes commanded by Mrs. Ethel Griffin as majorette to whom was assigned the task as one of the playgrounds supervisors, the captains being assistant supervisors. The girls wore a neat khaki uniform. Like the Scouts and the other organizations, the Sammiettes were never backward to offer their services because the girls were not one whit less patriotic than the boys. One of the year's notable events was the twelve-day camp that the girls held at General Grant Park and the expense of the outing was limited to about five dollars per participant. The organization has a beautiful battalion flag that was the embroidery work of the girls themselves. The Scouts and Sammiettes had marine or army recruiting sergeants as drill masters.

The first registration for the war of all males between the ages of twenty-one and thirty-one inclusive was held June 5, 1917, and throughout the nation on that day a census was taken in twenty-four hours of all military eligibles. The declaration of war was on the memorable date of May 18. According to the plan in all cities of more than 30,000 inhabitants the city clerk and the mayor were to conduct that registration and in the counties the sheriff and the county clerk. Clerk D. M. Barnwell and Sheriff Horace Thorwaldson located the registration centers in every precinct voting place as on the occasions of an election, from two to four registrars were appointed for every precinct, all the preliminary arrangements were made by the clerk's force, supplies delivered to the registrants, additional supplies and registration cards, in this work citizens lent their assistance with loans of autos and the day's work was done and the services rendered as a patriotic tender as the government made no appropriation for that great day's work. The result of the day's registration was to be delivered to the county clerk at noon on the day after and the clerk to report returns to the provost marshal at Washington, D. C., and to the governor of the state. Fresno County was divided into three general districts, the city constituting one, County Division No. 1 embracing the Fiftieth Assembly district and that part of the Fifty-first lying outside of the city and Division No. 2 taking in the territory of the Fifty-second district. The two county exemption boards were organized July 3, 1917, and the county clerk delivered all records to them. They conducted their business in the cramped and inadequate quarters of the county clerk at the courthouse until December 1, 1917, when they and the city board removed to quarters in the Cory building and there continued their activities with the second day of registration, September 12, 1918, until the closing up of the records following that day of great rejoicing in the signing of the armistice. That second but smaller registration was on June 5, 1918, of those who reached majority since the first registration; a third on August 24 of those who had become twenty-one since the previous registration and the fourth and last to take in then all between the ages of eighteen and forty-five inclusive. The original personnel of the two county boards was of the following named:

Division No. 1—Dr. R. B. Hollingsworth Jr., R. C. Baker and L. J. Arrants.

Division No. 2—H. H. Welsh, W. H. Shafer and Geo. B. Possons.

December 7, 1917, E. J. Bullard succeeded Arrants and Geo. Feaver Jr., took the place of Shafer, both taking up other essential government work. April 6, 1918, L. W. Gibson succeeded Welsh appointed assistant to Mark L. Requa of the fuel oil administration and August 12, 1918, Charles G. Bonner succeeding Possons who resigned because of ill health, leaving to the last on the board Dr. Hollingsworth and Baker of the original member-

ship. The three boards performed an immense amount of labor and the work in connection with the registrations and the drafts demanded a large clerical force. Roy D. Marshall was the secretary of the county boards. The county physical examinations were conducted in the courthouse law library, those of the city drafted at the city hall council chamber and for these the physicians, dentists and citizens volunteered their professional and clerical services. So also in the filling out of the questionnaires, the county bar association made details of its members to give aid to those not familiar with these complicated forms. These questionnaires were not used prior to December 15, 1917. In this registration and draft work, the first general activity in connection with the war, a splendid example of the whole souled patriotism and accord of the people that was to follow was furnished. Registrants under the two county boards were:

Division 1 .....	10,565
Division 2 .....	10,009
Total .....	20,574

For the four registrations the number was:

June 5, 1917 .....	7,634
June 5, 1918 .....	440
August 24, 1918 .....	119
September 12, 1918 .....	12,381
Total .....	20,574
Native born registered .....	13,299
Naturalized registered .....	7,375
Native born examined .....	5,980
Naturalized examined .....	611

Of the registered naturalized the national contributions were: Austria-Hungary 189, Belgium 1, Bulgaria 137, Central and South Americas thirteen, China fifty-two, Denmark 217, France eighty-four, Germany forty-six, England and colonies 482, Italy 790, Japan 1,988, Mexico 1,089, Netherlands twenty-one, Norway twenty-four, Portugal 124, Roumania one, Russia 671, Servia forty-four, Spain 227, Sweden 110, Switzerland sixty-nine, Turkey (Armenians) 545 and all others 307.

A vivid tale was outlined, June 6, 1919, in court, in support of the application of D. L. Bachant for letters in the estate of his son, Jesse R. Bachant, who had been a Fresno high-school boy and manager of the Bachant ranch. He was killed in the fighting in the Argonne Forest in France, October 15, 1918. The youth left school in his second year to take charge of his father's ranch near Sanger. His estate consisted of forty acres of promising oil property near Coalinga, a birthday gift from his father. Bachant's comrades were, at the time of the court application, with the Army of Occupation and the remains of the young hero were buried under a white cross on Magdalene farm, near the forest, where he and sixty-nine comrades were mowed down by machine-gun fire. Bachant had enlisted here in September, 1917, was sent to Camp Kearney, remained there eleven months, and having been sent across sea, arrived in France, in July, 1918. According to the story of his comrades, he was sent with Company K, Thirtieth United States Infantry, of the Third Division, to Chateau Thierry, and there volunteered as a dispatch runner, carrying orders and messages through barrages, rifle and machine-gun fire, to and from the front lines. He escaped here unscathed, but having been transferred to the Argonne, he was killed in an attack after the objective had been attained, and sixty-nine that fell around him on the field were buried with him in a common grave. There was also

the story that single-handed he had captured and brought into the American lines eleven German prisoners, and that while yet in the United States he had declined a commission because it would have kept him out of the fight at the front.

According to report made in June, 1919, the Fresno City Fire Department contributed \$16,237.50 to the Liberty loans and other war work relief, besides being active in Red Cross work and giving service during the influenza epidemic in the fall of 1918, each fire-house being a depot for Red Cross salvage, and the firemen driving the truck, assisting in the improvement of the Liberty Cemetery, and driving an ambulance during the epidemic. Loan subscriptions were: First and second, \$1,500; third, \$4,750; fourth, \$4,250, and fifth, \$5,000; total, \$15,500. Donations were: Red Cross, \$285; War Work, \$250; Salvation Army, \$53.50; Coast Department Fire Ambulance, \$75; Liberty Cemetery, \$74; total, \$737.50; grand total \$16,237.50.

The Fresno City Police Department is also proud of its war-contribution record. Liberty bond subscription by the relief association was \$2,000, other subscriptions, \$100; total, \$2,100. Tinfoil (3,260 pounds collected for Red Cross), \$456.40; individual Liberty bond subscriptions, \$7,600; war stamps, \$845.45; Red Cross, \$307; Y. M. C. A., \$78.50; Y. W. C. A., \$21.50; other organizations, \$162. Grand total, \$9,470.85. There is also to be credited the service that the police were called upon to render the government in assisting the secret service and federal operatives, in the great amount of work that they were not equipped to undertake, unassisted, and with danger lurking in unlooked-for places.

Fresno Post of the American Legion was organized on the night of May 29, 1919, as the first unit in the league of veterans of the European war, the coming soldiers', sailors' and marines' national organization as formulated at the convention at St. Louis. The post was said to have been the first in the state. With the post organized, there ceased to exist the tentative soldiers' organization known as the World War Veterans. The legion is on broader lines than the Grand Army of the Republic of the Civil War or the United Veterans of the Spanish American War. An auxiliary of the mothers, wives and sisters of the legionaries is proposed. The post started with a signed-up membership of over 400. Abolition of rank-distinction between officers and men of the legion and prohibition of any state or county political office-holder filling a station of power or trust in the legion were amendments at the second organization meeting of the post. A portion of the upper floor of the Short Building, at 1033 J Street, was leased for one year for meeting-place, reading-room and rendezvous. B. W. Gearhart, J. G. Crichton and Arthur H. Drew were the committee to present the formal draft of the post constitution. No post of the legion may be named for any living participant in the war, this being regarded as a posthumous distinction and honor.

A pretty story published in the New York papers and confirmed in part in correspondence between Secretary of War Newton D. Baker and George C. Roeding, under dates of March 18, and June 19, 1919, is the one that the Fresno president of the state board of horticulture refunded to the government \$50,000 for patriotic reasons, turning back checks for that amount due him for the purchase of peach, apricot and nut pits and shells, for the manufacture of carbon for war gas-masks. The government had allowed him \$12.50 per ton, but he was able to buy the material for \$6.80, and the Fresno man gave Uncle Sam the "war profit". Altogether he bought 17,000 tons when the world's supply of cocoanut shells had been exhausted. Mr. Roeding took up the work while in Washington, in March and April, 1918, at a session of the national advisory board of the food administration. The point was to buy pits quickly and secretly to prevent German agents from cornering the market, destroying the visible supply or inflating the price. He was authorized to buy all that was offered at \$12.50 a ton. The 1917



crop of shells was taken up at \$6.80 and the 1918 crop of peach pits at \$7.50. At the time of signing the armistice, 8,000 tons were piled up at the San Francisco Potrero to be manufactured there into carbon, to reduce the shipment weight from 100 to 15 tons per lot. The carbonizing was done by the Pacific Gas & Electric Company. In the purchasing work Mr. Roeding was greatly aided by C. W. Griffin of the California Packing Corporation. Of the 1917 crop alone, costing \$29,524.19, the refund was \$20,-153.91. The utilization of the charcoal from fruit pits in the saving of American lives in gas-attack warfare is interesting. It was soon found that wood charcoal became saturated with the gas, making the masks ineffective after three hours in action, whereas the charcoal from cocoanut shells, fruit pits or nut shells was effective much longer.

The final report for the County on the Fifth Liberty Loan is as follows:

	Subscribed.	Quota.	Per ct.	Subscribers.
Fresno City .....	\$2,526,850	\$2,515,950	100	8299
Coalinga .....	273,800	165,600	165	1155
Clovis .....	73,800	58,700	126	453
Del Rey .....	19,750	15,750	125	136
Fowler .....	76,450	62,550	122	442
Firebaugh .....	15,200	21,100	72	36
Kerman .....	23,700	19,600	121	209
Kingsburg .....	121,700	119,000	102	904
Laton .....	21,050	14,400	145	142
Parlier .....	47,800	38,000	126	402
Reedley .....	173,650	159,100	109	914
Riverdale .....	36,950	34,200	108	194
Sanger .....	115,600	101,000	114	773
Selma .....	224,050	197,100	115	818
	\$3,750,350	\$3,522,150	106	14,877

City of Fresno oversubscribed, \$10,900.

County as whole oversubscribed, \$228,200.

The Civil War had its famous Gridley sack of flour for Red Cross war funds. The European War had its equally famous Shriners Red Cross Sack of Flour. The Shriners' sack beat the long held record of the Gridley sack in two regards. Mark Twain says that the Gridley sack largest sale was among the Virginia City (Nev.) Comstock miners, and it was \$40,000. Oklahoma's Shriners doubled that sale. The Gridley sack traveled 15,000 miles, while the Shriners' sack traveled 35,000 miles and wore out twelve commercial flour-sacks in the handling. On May 21, 1919, John D. McGilvrey, potentate of Islam Temple of San Francisco, received the famous Shriners' sack of flour, started in that Temple by Historian Clarence F. Pratt, in May, 1917. The sack visited fourteen states, including Ohio, Alabama, Iowa, Montana, Virginia, Wyoming, New Jersey, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Tennessee and Michigan. It was sold at Honolulu; was twice sold on the Pacific Ocean, and sales in California were held at San Francisco, Oakland, Fresno, and Santa Rosa. It was sold twenty-three times in the fourteen states, and the total was \$134,512.84. The largest sale was by Oklahoma's Shriners for \$86,675. San Francisco was next, with \$28,701.25. Oklahoma's challenge to every temple in North America to meet its mark was never equalled. Sack was routed and booked like a traveling theatrical company because of the long jumps to accommodate Shriners' meetings and ceremonials, and frequently the booking had to be done by telegraph from San Francisco. Sack was lost for two weeks on the journey from Wyoming to New Jersey, but arrived at the temple at Trenton one hour before the announced sale. At Honolulu the island Shriners wove a lauhala covering around the commercial covering. At Helena, Mont., the nobles

of Algeria Temple placed a bearskin over the Honolulu covering; at Butte, Mont., Bagdad Temple made a copper fez and band out of native copper, and the Oklahomites built a miniature oil derrick of silver and nickel and placed it over all the coverings.

Revised figures, by the war department, May 15, 1919, of the casualties of the American Expeditionary Forces in Europe are: Killed in battle, 48,909; wounded, 237,135; total, 286,044. Loss in prisoners, 4,434. The number of wounded represents a duplication of some 7,000, that many being wounded more than once. The losses in prisoners were no longer included as casualties because of their having returned to their regiments.

A hospitable welcome was given the eight officers and 137 men that constituted the representation of the Fresno company of the One Hundred Forty-fifth Machine Gun Corps Battalion which was permitted by the War Department to stop over in Fresno, Tuesday morning, May 20, 1919, en route over the Southern Pacific on the final journey from France to the San Francisco Presidio for muster out. So many had been the changes in the organization since it was formed in the summer of 1887 that only one officer of the original organization and not more than thirty of the enlisted men returned with it for welcome in the home town of the company. That welcome for "Fresno's Own" was none the less hearty. Company was received at the depot by a committee representative of the Rotary Club, Chamber of Commerce and Raisin Festival Association, the original intention having been to have the company here on Raisin Day to participate as the guest of honor on that festive occasion, but it was the old tale of man proposing and some other power disposing. Capt. Clyde E. Ely, who was not a Fresnan, was in command of the detachment. The corps members were escorted to the Elks' Club and breakfasted, those who could go home taking advantage of the occasion. The Elks were the waiters at the breakfast and the Club was headquarters for the guests of the day. There was a parade at 11 A. M., starting from and ending at the Elks' Club, the high school closing a few hours for its cadet battalion and band to participate in the parade. At noon the gunners were assembled at the Forum Cafe for luncheon. The mayor made an address of welcome, and there were other short talks and responses. Girls decorated every soldier with a carnation button-hole bouquet. The siren whistles announced the parade and the Elks pinned on every soldier a purple and gold badge, with the legend "Welcome Home." In the afternoon the boys were left to follow their own bent and the theaters and the natatoriums were open to them. Every man had also been given a ticket entitling him to dinner at the principal cafes and restaurants. For the officers there was a dinner in the evening at the Budo Cafe with twenty-five plates reserved. At night there was a reception and dance at the Commercial Club. Frank Everts, who went out as second lieutenant, and Donald Forsyth, as sergeant, returned with the rank of captain. The company did not see service under fire.

Miss Wilhelmina Miller, admitted to citizenship on May 21, 1919, before Judge H. Z. Austin, was said to be the first woman alien in the land to receive that recognition at the hands of Uncle Sam for her war service as a nurse. On her discharge from the United States Navy Nurse Corps, she did not have to file declaration of intention. She is a native of Denmark, entered the service October 22, 1917; was discharged February 24, 1919, and returned to America, landing at Boston, Mass., May 4, 1919. She crossed the submarine-infested seas, to care for the wounded in a base hospital in Scotland and, returning to California, became a nurse at the Burnett Hospital and decided to become an American under the war emergency measure favoring service men and women, which was given a liberal interpretation with regard to nurses.

"Welcome Home Day" celebration, for the returned soldiers, sailors and marines from California, has been set for September 9th, which is the day of the admission of California as a state of the union and therefore deemed an especially apt and appropriate one. The day set earlier in the year had to be foregone as the returning soldiers were too few in number to warrant a state-wide observance. The matter was submitted to a referendum of the counties and they being undecided as between the 4th of July and September 9th, the latter date was chosen by the State Committee on Readjustment.

According to an official report of July 8, 1919, including all corrections and alterations to July 2nd, the total casualties in the American Expeditionary Forces were given as 297,147. This was a net increase of 1,565 over the report of June 25th. Battle deaths were increased by 321, to a total of 50,150, and the total deaths by 400, to 78,917. The wounded numbered 216,309, and the missing 1,921, a decrease from the last previously reported total.

On June 20, 1919, the army local recruiting office received a few of the silver Victory Buttons, the first instalment issued to discharged soldiers. The bronze buttons are given to all who served in whatever capacity between April 6, 1917, and November 11, 1918; the silver buttons are given to those who received wounds in service. The first was issued to Private of the First Class, John B. Bingham of Fresno City, who lost his right arm in the Argonne Forest near Very, France, September 29, 1918, as a member of Company A, Three Hundred Sixteenth Engineers, of the famous Ninety-first Division. The second was awarded to Lieut. Edward Kellas, also of this city, and a member of the Ninety-first Division, in command of the supply company of the above engineers. Kellas is a young attorney.

The participation of the county in the Great War is in the hands of the Fresno County War History Committee to prepare a complete and verified casualty list of the soldiers in the war from the county, working in collaboration with a state committee. This history was scheduled to be completed about May 12, 1919. The question arose in the committee whether Homer H. Blevins listed as the first Fresno youth to lose his life in the war is entitled to classification as a Fresnan. Report was made and on the statements of facts made and learned the committee confirmed Blevins as on the casualty list. It is not to establish without controversy that his was the first life sacrificed. At any rate there is no report of any previous death loss. The investigation established that young Blevins lived with mother and other members of the family in Fresno from February to April, 1914, when they removed to Jacksonville, Ore. In February, 1917, he went to Dallas, Texas, on a visit and while there enlisted in the infantry, U. S. A. About the time of his enlistment, mother and family, she being a widow who had remarried, returned to Fresno and had since lived here. In his enlistment he gave his address as with his mother, Mrs. M. E. Mankins of 2056 South Van Ness Avenue, Fresno. Blevins was born August 27, 1900, and was less than seventeen years of age when he entered the army and less than eighteen when his life was sacrificed to his country. She it was that as the mother of the first one from Fresno to fall in battle was accorded the honor of drawing the string that unfurled the county's service flag that waved from the courthouse entrance during the period of the war.

The brave exploit of a Fresnan was pictorialized in a film by the government for exhibition in connection with the Victory Loan—an exploit that cost that hero his life. The film was shown here at the Liberty Theater, it was the first official film sent through California by the government to carry the loan, and the 100 feet of film came in a box bearing on its face the announcement: "Official Film. Victory Loan. Property of the United States Government." Inside was the title of the life drama as the plea of one who would never come back but who sleeps under a white cross on the field where Pershing's Yanks fell on the Prussian Guards and so hotly pressed

them as to turn the tide of the battle and also end the war at Chateau Thierry. The simple title was:

Dramatization of the Heroic Deed

— of —

James I. Metrovitch  
of Fresno, Cal.,  
Sergt. Co. M., 11th Inf.

Metrovitch lost his life August 10, 1918, and strange to say his name was not in the war history list. He died on the field carrying one of his wounded comrades on his back from the scene of carnage and forfeiting his own in the act. The French Croix de Guerre and the American Distinguished Service Cross were awarded him after death. Of the fourteen heroic acts of the war selected by the government to be filmed in an awakening of America to a sense of the obligation to the boys who were sent across the sea to make the sacrifice for victory that of Sergt. Metrovitch was one.

It was the Elks' Club of Fresno that on the evening of March 6, 1919, launched locally the country wide campaign to raise the \$822,000 fund for the support of the home service of the Salvation Army. Fresno County's quota was \$15,500 or approximately eleven per cent. of its quota in the last United War work. The campaign lasted one week from Salvation Army Sunday, March 23-31. The Elks the country over directed the national drive. Dr. Charles Wheeler of Chicago was one of the orators sent to Fresno to carry it over the top and tell of the Army's work in war. The sale of doughnuts, March 29, in the streets by seventy-five Salvation Army lassies netted over \$1,000, and the highest price paid for a doughnut was twenty-five dollars. Fresno easily made up its allotment and a little more.

Miss Leona B. Mitchell of Selma had the distinction of being one woman entitled to wear the United States uniform of a yeoman attached to the naval service. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James W. Mitchell and was a graduate of the Selma high and grammar schools, of the Fresno Normal school, and of Heald's Business College of Oakland, Cal. She volunteered as a second class yeomanette August 25, 1918, and in January received second highest standing in her class in the examination for first class rating. She was serving as a telegram clerk in the issuing section of the supply department at the Mare Island navy yard.

It was County Recorder R. N. Barstow that was first in the state with the approval of the supervisors to suggest the free recording of the army and navy discharges of returned men from the service. It was Fresno County that suggested the introduction in the legislature of such a bill as a matter of public interest and one to be strongly recommended not only by the citizens of the state at large but by official bodies and organizations as furnishing a record of the military service of its citizens of the counties and tending also in a measure to express the appreciation of the state for the services of its citizens. It was Senator B. M. Harris of Fresno who introduced the bill in the senate and it was passed and signed by the governor. The recording fee was eighty cents and many a soldier appeared that did not have that much to spare to preserve his discharge paper as a public document.

To help out the quota on the Fourth Liberty Loan, the county made a subscription of \$100,000 purchased through the five commercial banks of the city. This gave the county an investment of \$400,500 in government war bonds. The \$500 represents a Fourth Liberty bond left with the supervisors to guarantee the donor a permanent home with the County Home for Old People.

Instructions came May 10 from Provost Marshal General E. H. Crowder for the official disbanding of the selective draft organization in the state,

May 15, 1919. The state adjutant general planned then to begin at an early date to reorganize the National Guard and restore it to its pre-war authorized strength of 8,000 officers and men, which it never had.

The fifth Victory Liberty Loan was for a total of \$4,500,000,000. It was announced to be the last of the Liberty loans. The buyer was given six months to pay for his bond. The quota of Fresno County was \$3,522,150, and of the city \$2,515,950. The drive was to continue eighteen days and close May 10. There were three days of volunteer subscription-taking with a total of \$200,000, requiring a total of \$2,315,950 to be collected to carry the city over the top in the allotted time, in other words daily subscriptions of \$128,499. The county loan quota was made up as follows according to towns and community centers:

Clovis .....	\$ 58,700
Coalinga .....	165,600
Del Rey .....	15,750
Firebaugh .....	21,150
Fowler .....	62,500
Fresno City .....	2,515,950
Kerman .....	19,600
Kingsburg .....	119,950
Laton .....	14,400
Parlier .....	38,000
Reedley .....	159,100
Riverdale .....	101,000
Sanger .....	101,000
Selma .....	197,100

The tag day, Friday, April 5, 1919, for the relief of maimed and disabled French soldiers broke the record for city tag day subscriptions and by \$500 exceeded the quota expected to be raised. The cash collections were \$1,748.03, added to which was a donation of a lot of at least \$100 value. The 5,000 tags sent here by the central committee in San Francisco were exhausted early in the day. The tags sold for twenty-five cents each. City School Superintendent Jerome Cross had the management of the campaign, and with the collection of \$100 at the auditorium meeting at the illustrated talk on the "Battlefields of France" a round \$2,000 was Fresno's contribution to this cause. Never had there been a tag day in Fresno with the receipts over \$1,000. The lot donor was Mrs. Viva La Moine of 1515 J Street, who gave deed to a lot at Port Angeles, Wash. The tag day fund was for "La Protection du Reformé No. 2," those maimed and disabled soldiers who, actually suffering as the result of the life and exposures in the trenches, are not eligible for French government pensions. The government pensions only those who are wounded in action and so sorely was the French national treasury depleted by the war that however much the government wished it there was not money to meet the demand for pensions for these poor fellows.

Revised army casualties made public April 15, by the war department, showed major casualties of 244,759 as follows:

Killed in action (including 381 at sea), 2,284.

Died of wounds received in action, 13,435.

Died of disease, 22,656.

From accident or other causes 4,248.

Wounded in action with over eighty-five per cent. returned, 197,574.

Missing in action (not including prisoners released and returned), 4,562.

A striking feature of the record was a reduction of 337 by reason of the identification of dead and the return of prisoners. Rechecking of the records resulted in the report May 1, 1919, of additions to the list of major casualties, bringing the total to 275,820. Corrected total of wounded was 201,847.

On the 20th of February, 1919, Mrs. Fannie H. Paine of Twin Willow Vineyard near Fowler enjoyed a happy family reunion with the gathering of five sons from war service in the American navy, the first reunion of the group to have been featured in twelve years. In the party were: Ensign Harry F. Paine, who had come overseas to visit mother on a furlough; Jack C. Paine, first class boatswain's mate who had arrived from China and the Philippines stations after four years, and on the torpedo destroyer Williams to leave San Francisco for New York and oversea service; J. Lee Paine who had come from the East where he was fireman on the U. S. ship New Mexico; Lyman H. Paine also from the war zone and chief machinist on submarine chasers and mine sweepers; James S. Paine who having served a previous enlistment had come from San Francisco where he was engaged in the building of torpedo destroyers.

According to the grand jury report the supervisors allowed the following total claims on account of national administration war demands:

County Exemption Boards.....	\$14,312.72
Council of Defense.....	1,188.45
Food Administration .....	1,180.44
Total .....	<u>\$16,681.61</u>

The figures of the state registrar would show that during the war years of 1917-18 there was a decrease in marriages in the state in the leading counties with notable exception of San Diego, where the increase was from 1,690 to 2,008 and where Camp Kearney training camp was located. Fresno's figures were, for the years named 1,155 and 909.

February 20, 1919, was the date in company orders for the assembly of members of the Sixth and Tenth Companies of the California Infantry for muster out, S. L. Gallaher and Bert A. Primrose, the respective captains. They were at the time paper companies in a misunderstood plan of an organization to replace the state guard companies during the continuance of the war. The companies had existed in name only since their strength went into federal service, when it became apparent that they would never be called upon for other than armory service at home, after all the representations made to induce men to join.

The orders from Provost Marshal Enoch H. Crowder were for the closing of the two county and the city exemption boards in Fresno March 31, 1919, after having been in the service of the government since July 3, 1917. These orders were for the discharge of the clerical help, the members to continue until later in the year. In round figures the county boards examined and classified 20,500 and the city board approximately 12,500 men under the various calls. The last job was the assortment of the registration cards in dictionary alphabetical order and the filing of all duplicate cards returned to the boards by the district board at Bakersfield as to age classification from eighteen to forty-five, also in the order as the other. All cards were sent to Washington, there to be re-classified according to the same system for the state to become a permanent government record of men under the draft regulations.

Mrs. Carrie S. E. Thompson of 141 Fresno Avenue was regarded as one of Fresno's greatest knitters. She was eighty-three years of age and besides doing the housework for herself and son knitted 175 pairs of socks, also making pneumonia jackets during the influenza epidemic. She was a member of the First Christian Church auxiliary of the Red Cross but also knitted for St. John's and the Masonic auxiliaries. She knitted for the boys in the World War and had also knitted for those in gray in the Civil War.

The "daylight schedule" was revived by government request in 1919 on Sunday, March 30, and clocks were set one hour ahead as during the year before.



Miss Edith Evans, daughter of Mrs. G. B. Evans, was in March, 1919, the first woman from Fresno to return from France as one of a detachment of nurses attached to the American base hospital at Royat and after nine months work abroad. Her turn at work at the front trenches had not come November 11, when the armistice was signed. The Hospital at Royat was closed January 19. Royat was a popular summer resort with mineral springs in the hills, several large hotels having been assigned as quarters. The work there was continuous, with as many as 3,000 wounded at a time. It received the men from Chateau Thierry and Belleau Wood and those burned with chlorine fumes and mustard gas.

Lieut. William Ross, aged thirty-four years, of the tank corps died in France February 27, the day before his organization left for home. He was a former chief clerk for the California Peach Growers, Inc. He was buried at Marseilles with military honors and had served with the first American tank corps of the British forces in several of the big battles of the last year of the war.

The Fresno committee for the Belgian Relief fund announced that official collections for the fund ceased March 31, 1919, and the monthly \$700 contribution ended. Fresno, it was published, had been the fifth city in the state for the amount of money contributed for Belgian relief, having sent on \$10,906 since relief work began in November, 1917. At first the committee set its mark at \$500 a month but responses to appeals made a monthly remittance of \$700 possible. A total of \$13,625 was taken in but a portion went for expenses. The relief ended because "the Belgian government, although sadly handicapped by the ruin left by the Hun invasion, takes the brave attitude that it can now work out its future without the further need of charity." The directors of the Belgian relief were: Mesdames L. L. Cory, G. H. Aiken, Frances E. Dean, Louis Einstein, W. B. Isaacs, Edna R. James, W. B. Holland, W. J. McNulty, Anna Newman, H. E. Patterson, Chester Rowell, W. R. Shoemaker, Milo F. Rowell, W. A. Fitzgerald and the Misses Sarah E. McCardle, Blanche Schaeffer and Adeline Thornton.

# CASUALTY LIST

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(Because of the government's restrictions on the publication of the casualties in the war, the following list cannot be offered as an officially complete one of Fresno County. It is a fairly accurate one up to January 1, 1919, based on department returns and private advices. Where not otherwise designated the casualties are of those claiming Fresno as home town.)

## IN MEMORIAM

THOMAS A. O'DONNELL—Obit December 7, 1917, at Camp Lewis, Wash.; Fresno funeral December 15, 1917, with burial at Calvary Cemetery, the first military funeral in the city of a Fresno soldier in the war.

W. LESTER CARTWRIGHT—Obit December 19, 1917, in San Pedro, Cal., harbor in the sinking of the submarine F-1; body never recovered; he was of the Cartwright family of Malaga.

RAYMOND L. DENNIS—Killed in action January 12, 1918; enlisted April 23, 1917, in U. S. M. C.; marker to be placed in Liberty Cemetery.

CLYDE JENKINS—Obit February 5, 1918; of Coalinga; a victim in the submarining of the Tuscania; buried with 164 other Americans on the southwest coast of Scotland.

CARL A. ANDERSON—Obit March 7, 1918, at Fort Sill, Okla.; from injuries received February 6 in explosion of a field gun; funeral March 16 with burial in Washington Colony Cemetery.

PETER BARSAGLINI—Obit at Camp Merritt, N. J., February 13, 1918; Fresno funeral February 22 with later burial in Liberty Cemetery; was to have been the first buried there.

JULIAN VARGAS—Obit March 4, 1918, at home on Maple Avenue on sick leave; funeral March 8, burial in Catholic Cemetery.

LESTER M. RAY KUCKENBAKER—Obit March 7, 1918, at Rockwell Field, San Diego, Cal.; buried at Laton.

HOMER L. TROWER—Obit March 19, 1918, at Fort Vancouver, Wash., funeral April 20, body having been vaulted awaiting later burial on completion of the Liberty Cemetery. He was the first city draft man to die in the service.

HARRY W. MURDOCK—Obit Camp McArthur, March 23, 1918; funeral March 30, burial in St. James' Episcopal Cemetery.

NEIL MANDEVILLE—Obit April 5, 1918, at Camp Funston, Wasco, Texas; funeral April 13, first body laid in Liberty Cemetery.

TIMOTHY HURLEY—Obit at U. S. A. General Hospital No. 1 at Williamsbridge, N. Y., April 21, 1918; funeral April 29 with burial at Calvary Cemetery; five brothers were in the service.

CHESTER D. MALOTTE—Obit May 1, 1918, at Camp Lewis, Wash.; funeral with burial at Selma in family plot. He was a member of the I. O. R. M., of the Stags and of the Sheet Metal Workers' Union.

IRVING BULLOCK—Took his life at Camp Lewis, January 20, 1918; buried in family plot in Mountain View Cemetery.

JOHN C. COX—Of Clovis; killed in action in France, June 7, 1918, as a member of Company B, Second Engineer Corps; son of John M. Cox of the Clovis high school faculty; enlisted April 1, 1917, with Idaho university class of 133 out of 140; would have been twenty-one July 21, 1918.

Telegraphic notification of death crossed mailed letter of parents with birthday money gift for a pleasure visit to Paris.

CLAUDE BERNSDORFFER—Resident of Selma since 1910, died about June 22 from wounds received in action in France, June 16, 1918, as a member of Ninety-sixth Company, Second Battalion, Sixth Regiment, U. S. M. C. He was from Oklahoma City and enlisted in Fresno.

HOMER H. BLEVINS—Killed in action in France May 27, 1918, and the first Fresno city man to make the great sacrifice; born August 27, 1900. He was a private in Company E of the Twenty-eighth U. S. Infantry. He enlisted at Dallas, Texas, where he was on a visit, having served four months under Pershing on the Mexican border and was on French soil just one year lacking a day. From early youth he craved for the life of a soldier and his ambition was to live and die in the military service.

ELWOOD MILLER—Died in training service at the naval camp at San Diego, Thursday, July 4, and his body was sent home to Reedley for burial. He had enlisted several months before in the navy. He was the son of Rev. M. Miller of the Church of the Brethren. The funeral was July 8.

HENRY J. ALLMAN—Reported in casualty list of July 10, 1918, killed in direct action in France as a member of Company E, Second U. S. Engineers. He enlisted in October, 1917, through the Sacramento recruiting office, was given intensive training at Camp Lewis and arrived in France before Christmas. He was twenty-four years old, the son of A. H. Allman of Lanare, in this county and is survived by father and sister in that town and by a brother in service somewhere in France. Young Allman was engaged at Lanare in reclamation dredging after removal thither from Healdsburg, Cal.

FRED E. PROSSER—Reported in casualty list of July 13 as killed in action. He enlisted here July 30, 1917, in marine corps and was a carpenter by occupation, resident of Fowler and before coming here of Seaside, Ore. He was thirty years of age, a single man and at enlistment passed a perfect examination. His nearest relative was William Bynard, Route D, Box 232, Fresno, on Peach Avenue two miles west of Fowler.

JOHN S. PARKES—Killed accidentally in explosion on U. S. S. Brooklyn in port of Yokohama, Japan. His death, December 11, 1918, marks the first golden star on the city of Fresno's service flag. He was a member of the Fresno city fire department and the remains were buried in the Fresno Liberty Cemetery.

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KILLED IN ACTION—Henry H. Allman, Lanare. Harry Adelsbach, Alfred E. L. Anderson, Homer H. Blevins (first Fresno boy killed). Voltaire Baker, signal corps, Selma. Jesse L. Bachant, Sanger. Carol C. Carter, John C. Cox, Clovis. Clarence Chevoy, Charles Clayton, Tranquillity. Emmett M. Combs, engineer, Oleander. George W. Camp and Ralph G. Creighton. Erwin E. Davis, Coalinga. Dikran Davidian, Reedley. Morten E. Foster, Dunlap. Loman O. Elias, Aloysius S. Feeley and John Gorehoit. Ezra Gray, Lanare. Robert S. Gray and Robert Godwin, Canadians. Paul J. Gutierrez. George H. Hathaway, Canadian, Coalinga. Corp. Clark W. Hinrich, Charles E. Irwin and Arthur C. Jacobsen. Fred C. C. Johnson, Coalinga. George Lambert and Elmer G. Larson. Frank Lamoreux, Kerman. Stanley Lilburn and John Mortensen. Johannes S. Mikelsen, Del Rey. A. G. McKewen. Alonzo Miller, Sanger. Harry A. Miller. Fred Nelly (British), Coalinga. Fred E. Proesser (marine), Fowler. Edwin P. Pielop, Tranquillity. John H. and William Pierce, Clovis. Charles H. Parke, Harry C. Roberts (marine), John Radojevich. C. A. Rasmussen (engineer), Monmouth. H. P. Robinson (British), George Stephenson (Canadian) and David Schledewitz. Harry Snyder, Coalinga. Maurice Thrupp (British), Clovis. Lloyd E. Thrush and Floyd T. Wenks. Samuel L. Catlin, Kingsburg.

**DIED FROM WOUNDS**—Claude Bernsdorffer, infantry, Selma. John J. Cress, infantry, Reedley. Leonard Elliott, infantry, Selma. Manuel J. Hauff, infantry. Alfred S. Haynes, infantry, Sanger. Bud L. Huston, infantry. Edmund A. Johnson, infantry. Otto Kintz, infantry, Reedley. Albert W. Long. William B. Minck, infantry, Tranquillity. Capt. Herbert Moore (British navy). William L. Netzer, infantry, Sanger. Joseph B. Pelpfrey, infantry, Oilfields. Vernon A. Peterson, infantry, Selma. William B. Woodhouse, infantry, Fowler.

**DIED OF ACCIDENT**—Harry Albright, navy. John Allen, infantry (drowned). Carl Anderson, artillery (gun explosion). Lieut. Harold Blakely, aviator (airplane fall). Irving Bullock, infantry. Simon Campas, infantry (hit by train). William L. Cartwright, navy (lost on Submarine F-1). Lieut. Louis E. Davis, aviator (airplane fall). Charles Fisher, navy (drowned on the Ticonderoga). Edward L. Griffin, navy, Fowler (lost on the Westover). Clyde G. Jenkins, aviation, Coalinga (lost on the Tuscania). Frank Lynn, navy (fall). Lieut. Roy McGiffin, aviator (airplane fall). Howard B. Mills, medical (poison). Peddy D. Register and Joe Rodgers, infantry, Selma. Ben Woodworth, aviation (airplane fall). William G. Wright, Calwa.

**DIED OF DISEASE**—James E. Allen, Friant. Oliver Bear, Auberry. Peter Barsaglini. Angelo Barti, Firebaugh. Charles A. Boling, Coalinga. Joseph C. Conn, Coalinga. Virgil E. Clark. Eugene F. Carmichael, Selma. Henry Clark, Kingsburg. S. W. Cunningham (Y. M.). John Cullen, navy. James A. Cowan, medical corps, Coalinga. Russell C. Doyle. Alfred A. Drew, aviation. Arthur A. Duus, Q. M. D. Sergt. Otto E. Dahlgren, Kingsburg. Raymond P. Gavin, Coalinga. Peter Giesbrecht. Timothy Hurley, Auberry. Victor Hurlburt, Selma. H. B. Hockett, marine. Nathaniel Hudson, medical corps, Wheatville. Homer Hatfield and George W. Harkness, aviators. John M. Harris, C. C. Jenkins, Coalinga. Lester Kuckenbaker, aviator, Laton. Addie S. Kaster. Howard Kavanaugh, Calwa. Emery L. Kafader, Selma. Harry Cole. Neil Manderville and Harry Murdock, aviators. Elwood Miller, navy, Reedley. Chester D. Malotte. Walter H. Martin, Kingsburg. Claude McCamish. Darrell C. Mitchell, aviator. Virl McFarland (nurse). Morrell C. McKenzie, navy, and James P. Miller. Samuel Martin, Sanger. Wallace H. Miner. Louis Nebes, Reedley. Fred Newell, Coalinga. Niels J. Nielsen and Thomas A. O'Donnell. Lawrence Pozzi. John Quantrim, Kingsburg. Theodore E. Royer, Q. M. D., Auberry. Maurice A. Reed, signal corps. Sparton W. Rhea, West Park. Lieut. Walter D. Rheno, aviator. Otto J. Runge Jr. Jonas Stohnan, navy, Caruthers. Charles M. Smith, Laton. Isaac Shahbazian aviator. Aaron B. Suderman, Parlier. Homer L. Trower. Holly Turner, Canadian (died in prison camp). Julian Vargas. Jesse D. Van Fossen, Laton, and James York, Tranquillity. Charles F. Warnock. Raymond L. Dennis.

### OTHER CASUALTIES

**REPORTED MISSING**—William J. Bent. Jesse L. Blank, Kingsburg. John M. Dill, Selma. Fred G. Estep. George Hurst, Kingsburg. Simon R. Kludjian. Roco Marfio. Alfred McKewan, Canadian. Alfred Nunes, Centerville. Martin G. Peterson, Kingsburg. Hans H. Poulson, Selma. Robert A. Rogers, Coalinga. A. H. Sanderson, Sanger. Leon Setrakian, Arthur W. Ulrich and Louis Valente.

**WOUNDED**—Leonard Anderson, Selma. Dan J. Allen, Raisin. James S. Anderson and Louis Arieta. John Anthony, Canadian, Clovis. Harvey U. Abrahamson, Kingsburg. Percy D. Alspach, Kerman. Harrold C. Brodine. William H. Brown, Selma. Jesse L. Blank. John M. Benson. Frank Bell, Clovis. Louis Brockett, Clovis. Sidney Bell, Phillip R. Boyce, Coalinga. Harry and George Brumbach, marines, Clovis. James Bonnar (gassed). T. J. Brown (Canadian). John B. Bingham. William J. Brazill, medical. George E. Bonner. Harold G. Brown. Milo R. Brown, Fowler. Otto Bier. George

D. Bruns. Louis A. Boyer. Creed H. Clark. R. S. Coleman. C. T. Coyle. Herbert Carpenter, Reedley. Anthony Catlin, Coalinga. Levi Church, navy. Jerre A. Coleman. Fred Cann, Riverdale. Corporal W. Colby. Neil G. Coker, Selma. Raymond S. Coleman. Hilge Christensen, Clovis. Lloyd E. Crosby, Del Rey. Lisle L. Case. Charles P. Cole, Kerman. Cecil Dunham, Clovis. Alex Damichalis, Centerville. A. M. Donabedian. Fred B. DeSoto, Joseph Dunton, John Donato, Otto E. Dahlgren and Joe E. Davis. Samuel J. Engholm, Oleander. Setrek Eshkamian. Frank Field, Oleander. Sergt. Andrew Folmer. Leroy Freer, marine, Fowler. Forest L. Farr and Antonio Goeta. Gordon Gouldy, Reedley. Mallin Glud and Ralph E. Grote. Sidney R. Gould, Clovis. Arthur G. Gunnerson. Sydney Gardner, Clovis. Harry George. John E. Graves, Selma. Lieut. W. H. Hammond. Lieut. Geo. B. Hodgkin (airplane accident). Stanley V. Hopkins. Finlay R. Hoffman, Calwa. William Hansen, Oleander. Corp. C. W. Hinsh. J. Henschel, Canadian, Kerman. A. R. Hopkins, Canadian. Earl Higdon, Riverdale. G. W. Hurst. Jens P. Hansen, Oleander. John E. Hohn, Kerman. Berney Joslyn. James B. Iveson. Cecil R. Johnson. Carl S. Johnson. Emil Kohnan. Lieut. Edward L. Kellas. Adam Kerber. Magos S. Kooyumjian and Harry Kulkjian. Will King, Selma. Carl E. Larsen, Kingsburg. Edward C. Lander. Rodney D. Murdock, Corp. John W. Murdock. Walter T. Moore and John Minini. Roy L. McMahaftay, Calwa. John M. Miller, Academy. Lawrence McGowan, aviator (accident). J. I. Metrovich. Mikoli Miklovich (Servian). Frank Martinez. C. Mills, Canadian, Reedley. Rand McCabe, signal corps. Rev. H. N. McKee (Y. M.), Fowler. Bruce McCubbin. Donald McPherson, Canadian. Lieut. Louis B. McWhirter (airplane accident). Melik M. Merzozian. Olaf C. Nielsen, marine. Roy E. Newington. Ben B. Nordstrom, Kingsburg. Ohannes S. Nalpantian. Arthur Olsen and Karikin Ohannesian. Fred C. Phillips, Coalinga. Lieut. J. L. Paiva. John S. Parkes, navy (accident). John C. Palmquist. William C. Patterson. Charles Petrott, Reedley. Kenneth Paterson. Charles D. Printz, Caruthers. Charles N. Parlier, marine, Parlier. Conrad Price. Hans Rasmussen. Virgil Roullard, Clovis. Clarence A. Rice, El Prado. O. H. Rasmussen. C. D. Rowe, Calwa. Albert K. Rogers. Henry T. Stokes, Tranquillity. Ralph W. Shearer, Clovis. Amos L. Salisbury, Laton. Angelo J. Sophia, Roy Stewart, Russell J. Sullivan and Bert M. Smith. Leo Sweeney, Selma. Guy C. Scheeline, Kingsburg. Clarence O. Strange. Selma. Aram Shahbazian. James Stevenson (British). S. J. Sorensen. Roger S. Smith. Clarence W. Simons, Oleander. Harry Stark, Caruthers. Russell E. Troutner. Ruben Tufenkjian, aviator. Warren Ten Eyck. Grover F. Thomas, Laton. Wilbur Taylor, Clovis. Peter Valla. Rev. J. G. Van Zandt (Y. M.), Fowler. Ed Vander Dusen and Lawrence Viau. Ray Wunderlich, Riverdale. C. H. Walker, Coalinga. Edward J. Woods (accident). George Wolfe. Fred A. Wehe, Coalinga. Wood J. Welliver. Alexander Bell, Merrill Day, Clark W. Hinton, J. B. De Jarnett, Henry D. Nunez, Coalinga. Manuel Mathias and Alfred C. Fish, Oleander. Orville Johnson, John Hughes, Sergt. Gerald James, M. D., Henry S. Williams, Ray Bolton, Coalinga. Rufus O. Hoover, Roger Steele, Selma. Alvin C. Davis and Maurice E. Jones, the latter two accidental.

### VOLUNTEER WAR NURSES

OVERSEAS—Elizabeth Holcomb, Carrie Woodsey, Margaret Sinclair, Laura Main, Lillian Hoffman, Christine and Anne Pilegard, Julia Trabucco, Phillipa Nelson, Lena Young, Marian Smith, Lou Adams, Evelyn McClure, Miss Curtis, Alberta Johnson of Parlier, Mathilda Frost, Esther Roach, Jeanne Beveridge, Nora Day, Emma Legros, Dorothea Peterson. Wilhelmina Miller, Maude Nicholson and Edith Evans.

IN HOME CANTONMENTS—Florence M. Paton, Effie Foltz, Viril McFarland (died), Mary W. McMahon, Harriette Erickson, Matilda Brooks,

Nellie Sessions, Minnie Gitchell, Dorothy Harrison, Bertha Eva, Millie Webster, Ada Woodward, Mildred Alexander, Adelaide Peyton, Laura Smith, Elizabeth Beveridge, Frances Elwell, Hallie Scott, Freda Russ (died).

AWAITING CALL—Dora Bangs, Helen Wager, Frieda Peterson, Magdeline Neilson, Mabel Kish, Lottie Parnell, Edith Hanson, Rachel Dale, Anna Marie Sackle, Olga Weisse, Letitia Tonsea, Frances Simi, Deborah Bell, Emily Satterberg, Pauline Nelson, Anna Edland, Hilda Burton and Ida Carlson of Kingsburg.

HONORABLY DISCHARGED—Nora Kenyon.











*J. C. Hopkin*

## BIOGRAPHICAL

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**JOHN C. HOXIE.**—Eminent among the early pioneers of real accomplishment who will be long and pleasantly remembered for what they contributed to the general advancement of California life, while carving out a fortune for themselves, must be mentioned John C. Hoxie, who was born on March 15, 1848, and died on November 21, just seventy years later. The end came at his home at L and Stanislaus Streets at ten o'clock in the evening after an illness of several months caused by a sunstroke sustained on a trip to the mountains the preceding June.

Mr. Hoxie's family was of English ancestry, and members resided for many years in Massachusetts. There the paternal grandfather died, leaving among others in his family a son named Clark Hoxie. He was born in Sandwich, Barnstable County, and in young manhood became a contractor and builder. In 1852, following the westward trend of civilization, he came to California via the Isthmus of Panama and located in Tuttletown, Tuolumne County, erecting the first quartz mill ever built in that vicinity. He also engaged in mining for some time, and served as justice of the peace there. In 1856 he located on the Indian reservation, where he was employed to teach carpenter work, but in 1858 he had moved to Millerton, where he conducted a blacksmith and wagon shop. He became one of the most influential men in that community and took a prominent part in local affairs, serving as a member of the first board of supervisors and also as a justice of the peace. Returning to Massachusetts in 1866 via the Isthmus, he died at the old family home-place in Sandwich. His wife, before her marriage, was Susan Fessenden. She was born in Sandwich, a daughter of Capt. Sewell Fessenden, a sea captain and hotel man there. He was a doughty patriot, and during the Revolutionary War rendered valiant service to his country as captain of the state militia.

Born at Sandwich in the year when struggles for liberty were rocking the thrones of Europe, John C. Hoxie was only ten years old when he accompanied his family to California. The journey was made via the Isthmus, and then on the steamer *Golden Age* to San Francisco, by boat to Stockton, and thence by stage to Millerton. There were no schools in that locality at the time, but Mr. Hoxie was fortunate in having a mother of rare intellect and many accomplishments, who taught him instead. Mrs. Hoxie taught a small class, privately, in Millerton in 1859-1860, and at the same time had charge of the postoffice at Millerton. Inspired with the pioneer spirit of the region and age, John Hoxie, at the age of fifteen, engaged in the stock business, and in that field he continued successfully for many years. In time he located on a ranch, which he purchased near Millerton, and engaged in farming and the raising of cattle and sheep until he had so increased his holdings that he owned several thousand acres. In 1874 he removed to Fresno, bought a block, and built the residence later occupied by Frank H. Short; and still later he erected a residence at the corner of L and Stanislaus Streets, where he was living at the time of his death.

In the early eighties Mr. Hoxie became interested in mining properties and in extensive mining operations in the mountains of Fresno and Madera Counties, and also in Inyo and Mono Counties. In conjunction with W. H. McKenzie and T. C. Hart he purchased the Mud Spring Mine, developed and operated it, and made it one of the finest mining properties in this part

of the Pacific Slope. He acted for some time as superintendent of the property, and by his rare skill and wise management did much to further the best interests of the company. His final illness was caused by a trip he was taking in the exceptionally hot weather of June to a mine beyond Piedra, on Hughes Creek.

To his many friends, Mr. Hoxie was a source of interesting reminiscence of the details of life in the days when Millerton was the leading town in Central California; for he had a marvelous memory for details, and could recount many circumstances connected with the early struggles of the pioneer miners and settlers, both in their efforts to win a livelihood and in the factional differences incident to politics, in which he was always actively engaged as a thoroughgoing Democrat. For half a century he was known to everyone as a kindly, helpful member of the community, his activity continuing up to the time of his illness. A shrewd judge of human nature, reserved in temperament, quiet in demeanor, and of much personal dignity, he was loyal and helpful to his friends and charitable towards the errors of his fellow men. With a quiet humor that recognized the inconsistencies and follies of others, he gave expression to comment without the sting of censure. John C. Hoxie will be long and kindly remembered by his intimates, and admired as a historic figure by those who knew of his large experience of affairs and his close association with the times of the pioneers. Among the many public services that he rendered, perhaps none pleased him more to remember than his part in the Panama Pacific International Exposition at San Francisco. He was engaged by the directors to make a collection of minerals and metals of Central California for the California building, and in this work he spent about a year in traveling through Central California gathering specimens from mining men and collectors. His intimate knowledge of mining conditions for fifty years enabled him to make a collection that was remarkably extensive and that commanded wide-spread attention.

On December 18, 1873, Mr. Hoxie was married at Fort Miller to Miss Mary J. McKenzie, who was born at the Fort, a member of a Scotch-Irish family hailing from County Sligo, Ireland, where their home was for several generations. Alexander McKenzie was a large landowner there, a gentleman of means and education, who provided every possible advantage for his family. A son, James McKenzie, who was born in County Sligo, came to New York about 1848, and in 1853 joined the United States Army. The regiment was ordered to the Pacific Coast in 1854 to subdue the Indians. They traveled by steamer to Aspinwall, thence across the Isthmus on mule back, thence by steamer to San Francisco, and from there to Benicia and by land to Fort Miller. Mr. McKenzie became sergeant of his company, which was commanded by Captain Loeser, and remained at Fort Miller until the company was ordered north to Oregon to serve in the Indian wars there. Having been honorably discharged in 1858, Mr. McKenzie engaged in the raising of cattle and sheep on a ranch just above the Fort, and there he remained until his death, which occurred at the early age of thirty-three, on January 1, 1864. Ten years before he had been married in New York City to Ann Brennan, also a native of County Sligo, where she was born November 7, 1826. She came to the United States in 1848 to visit a sister, and her wedding journey proved a trip to the far West. Like her husband, she rode a mule across the Isthmus and passed through many experiences incidental to pioneer life. She and her husband made their home at the Fort until 1861, when they located upon a ranch a few miles distant. It was here that Mr. McKenzie died, and thereupon the widow and her children returned to the Fort to live. She afterwards became the wife of Judge Charles A. Hart, a pioneer of California and the first judge of Fresno County. Three children were born to Mr. and Mrs. McKenzie: Mary J., who became Mrs. John C. Hoxie; William H., who married Carrie E. Hoxie; and Edward P., who became a merchant at Pollasky and later died in Fresno. Another surviving



sister of Mr. Hoxie is Mrs. L. Z. Barth of San Francisco; and there are two surviving brothers, Sewell F. Hoxie, of Pasadena, and George L. Hoxie, for many years county surveyor and city engineer of Fresno.

Mrs. John C. Hoxie was the first school teacher in Fresno City and will thus always enjoy an enviable relation to the cause of popular education here. After her graduation from the San Jose Normal School in 1872, she returned to Fresno County and taught the first school—a private one—in 1873. This was done to demonstrate the need of a public school and as a requirement of the law at that time before county money could be apportioned for school purposes, the county schools not yet having been opened. The school was held over a grocery store owned by B. S. Booker and located at the corner of Tulare and I Streets, where the Hughes Hotel now stands, and was attended by fifteen pupils. Mrs. Hoxie also helped to organize the Catholic Church in Fresno and the Leisure Hour Club, devoted to the study of literature. That was twenty-five years ago, and Mrs. Hoxie was president of the club for four years.

**HENRY CLAY DAULTON.**—An early pioneer of real accomplishment in California, whose memory deserves especial recognition at the shrine of American patriotism, because of his membership in a family noted for its association with American history and the building of a nation, was Henry Clay Daulton, the son of a soldier who went through the campaigns of 1812 and the grandson of a soldier who was among the first to seize his musket and fight in the War of the Revolution, for the freedom and founding of our country. The eighth among ten children, he was born at Marysville, Ky., April 7, 1829; but remained only a short time in his native state, inasmuch as the family moved to Hannibal, Mo., while he was yet a child, making their home near what was to be immortalized by the famous humorist, Mark Twain.

The death of his parents, when he was only fourteen, threw him entirely upon his own resources, and for a while he worked for wages as a farm laborer. On the anniversary of his birth in 1850 he started across the plains for the Pacific Coast. He was accompanied by his brother, and they traveled with ox-teams. They had the usual experiences, sometimes thrilling, sometimes amusing, often calling upon them in one way or another to show the stuff that was in them, but, on August 11, luckily arrived all right at Placerville, in Eldorado County, and there, for a couple of years, Mr. Daulton tried his luck at mining. In 1852, when it was evident to him that the steady influx of gold-seekers would demand, more and more, supplies with which to subsist, he returned East by way of Panama to buy sheep and cattle, and the following year, driving his stock before him, he once more crossed the plains. Again it was necessary to show bravery, endurance and the capacity to meet and overcome obstacles not generally contended with in the more settled and comfortable East; but the party arrived safely in Los Angeles early in November, and for a few years he remained in the San Gabriel Valley.

Later Mr. Daulton settled on a farm twelve miles northeast of Madera, where he purchased a large tract of Government land. He had served as justice of the peace in Los Angeles during his stay in the Southland, and when he came North he brought with him a certain dignity and status that was helpful and enabled him more easily to lead and help others.

In 1857, feeling that another change was desirable, Mr. Daulton settled on what is known as the Santa Rita ranch in Fresno County, and later purchased the "Shepherd's Home," an attractive farm that he made his home-place. Used to develop everything to a high standard whenever it was possible to do so, Mr. Daulton made both the necessary improvements and such as appealed to his fancy, and so made of his property such attractive places that many came from a distance to enjoy the scene and to get the benefit of whatever was new in plans or devices.

But it was not only as a successful rancher that Mr. Daulton was entitled to recognition: he held public office, and he discharged his responsibility as a public trust that had been solemnly committed to him. In 1860 he was elected supervisor of Fresno County, and held that position until 1875. He helped to organize Madera County, and was chairman of the commission when Madera County was formed on May 20, 1893. He was also elected supervisor of Madera County, was chairman of the first board, and was in office at the time of his death, on October 28, 1893.

At the San Gabriel Mission, in 1854, Mr. Daulton married Mary Jane Hildreth, a daughter of Jesse and a sister of Thomas Hildreth, who had crossed the plains in the same party with her husband. She was a woman of sterling character, and her demise in 1907 was widely regretted. Ten children were born of the union, and five are still living: Mrs. Ida Saxe of Fresno; Mrs. Maude L. Mann of Oakland; John, Jr., and Jonathan of Madera; and James William.

A self-made man, Mr. Daulton started in life very poor, yet when he died he left an estate of 18,000 acres, all in Madera land. He had, besides, a beautiful home in Oakland.

**SAMUEL BROWN.**—One of the first pioneers of Fresno County, Samuel Brown accomplished much good work toward starting this section of the state on its upward course of development. A prominent sheep and cattleman of the county, he reached success in life through habits of industry and thrift, as did the majority of our pioneers. Samuel Brown was born in Augusta, Maine, January 4, 1832. When twenty-one years old, in 1853, he sailed with a party of friends around Cape Horn for California, the trip, an arduous one of eleven months, costing two hundred dollars from Boston to San Francisco.

After his arrival here Mr. Brown went to work on the Dr. Marsh stock ranch, ten miles south of Antioch, Contra Costa County. During the last six years in their employ he was foreman of this vast stock ranch, over a league in extent. He next engaged in the butcher business, in Antioch, remaining there five years. At the end of that period, he sold out his interests and drove a band of sheep into Fresno County, in 1869, when this section of the state was one vast plain, with no sign of the present teeming city of Fresno, nor her surrounding tributaries of commerce. Here he ran sheep over the valley for many years. He homesteaded 160 acres of land, and bought an additional like amount, four miles south of Millerton, and engaged in grain farming and stock raising, also leasing three sections of land in the Garfield school district, and farmed this extensive acreage for twelve years.

The marriage of Mr. Samuel Brown, which occurred in Martinez, Contra Costa County, in 1868, united him with Sarah Jane Gift, who was born in Memphis, Tenn., June 28, 1849. She came to California with her parents, via the Isthmus of Panama, in 1856. Her father, William A. J. Gift, was a pioneer of the state, a prominent rancher and cattleman, and served as deputy sheriff of Contra Costa County. Seven children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Brown, as follows: Charles, born May 21, 1870, now deceased; George, born October 2, 1871, resides in Alpio; Mary, born January 9, 1873, is the wife of E. M. Kenneson of Fresno; John H., born September 17, 1875, now deceased; Maude S., born November 17, 1882, wife of C. A. Sample; Mrs. George Cobb, of Fresno, born December 2, 1885; and Mrs. Nellie Coleman, born April 17, 1886. Mr. Brown died on August 5, 1897.

Mrs. Brown lived near Millerton on the stock ranch until 1917, which year she moved into Fresno and bought the property at 394 Glenn Avenue, where she now makes her home. Always a devoted wife and mother, she has borne her full share of the labor and hardships incumbent on the pioneer men and women in building up our commonwealth, and to the women, no less than the men, is due our appreciation for the work so nobly done.





*Samuel H. Root*

**FRANK H. SHORT.**—Among the leading attorneys and business men of the San Joaquin Valley, is Frank H. Short, who is prominent in legal, financial and social circles. Of a strong personality, great force of character and rare mental attainments, he is justly entitled to the honorable position that he holds as one of the most brilliant lawyers, and energetic and safe business men of this part of California. Through persistency of purpose and zeal, intelligently and unerringly directed, he has achieved success at the bar and in financial circles, the influence of his masterful intellect being felt by judge and jury as well as by his associates and clientele. He is and always has been an inveterate worker, deep thinker and great traveler; has a high sense of honor and integrity, belongs to a good family and is of a genial and hospitable nature. He is philanthropic, large-minded, liberal and public spirited, and has always been in advance of the times in matters relating to the public welfare, and for many years has been recognized as one of the leaders of the Republican party of this state.

Mr. Short was born on September 12, 1862, in Shelby County, Mo., a son of Hamilton and Emily (Wharton) Short. His father, Hamilton Short, and his grandfather, John Short were both born in Delaware, of English ancestry, who immigrated to Shelby County and became pioneers. Hamilton Short was a farmer; upon the outbreak of the Civil War he enlisted in the Missouri state troops, and while serving in the army died from drinking poisoned water, being but twenty-nine years old at the time. His wife, who was born in Mount Pleasant, Ohio, spent many years of her life in Fresno, Cal. Her father, William Sayre Wharton, was a descendant of one of the early families in Delaware and was born and reared in Ohio, where he learned the trade of saddler. He located in Shelby County, Mo., and farmed until removing to California, where he spent his declining years, dying in Fresno in 1900, aged eighty-eight years. Two of his sons, Frank and F. A., served in the Union Army during the Civil War. Frank Wharton, who held a commission as lieutenant, removed to Fresno in the early days of its history, and until his death in 1889 was one of its leading citizens, being a prominent attorney, and at one time served in the state legislature.

Of the children born of the union of Hamilton and Emily (Wharton) Short, two attained maturity: John W., well-known as editor, postmaster and property owner of Fresno; and Frank H. The latter attended the public schools of Shelby County, Mo., and Hastings, Nebr., and at the age of nineteen he was engaged to teach school for a year. Removing to Fresno, Cal., in 1881, he continued teaching, in the meantime beginning the study of law under his uncle, Frank Wharton. In 1887 he was admitted to the bar, and since that time he has been successfully engaged in practice. He has conducted many important cases, and has ably filled the position of attorney for various corporations. Associated with Judge Chapman of Los Angeles, he was connected with the litigation over oil lands between scrippers and the mineral locators, and was successful in obtaining decisions of the Supreme Court of the United States and from the Secretary of the Interior in favor of the mineral locators. In his earlier practice he assisted in the prosecution of Heath for the murder of McWhorter, and defended Professor Sanders, accused of forgery and suspected of the murder of William Wooton. In proceedings before the railroad commissioners he succeeded in procuring a reduction of ten per cent. in the rates of transportation for oil, thus saving the oil-shippers about half a million a year at that time, now amounting to considerable more than double that sum. More recently Mr. Short has represented the principal water and electric power companies of the Pacific Coast, both under state and federal laws, and many of these cases are reported in the State Courts and the United States Supreme Court. In connection with questions involving use of public lands and water rights he has conducted hearings and appeared frequently before committees of Congress on issues of vital public importance. These are but few of the important cases with which

Mr. Short has been identified, and the success which attended his conduct of them has given him a position among the leaders of the bar in California.

Outside of legal circles, Mr. Short is best known as one of the most aggressive and dependable leaders in the ranks of the Republican party in California. In 1884, at the age of twenty-two and three years before he was admitted to the bar, he was elected justice of the peace. He has been prominent in county and state conventions for years. In 1896 he was chosen as a delegate to the Republican National Convention at St. Louis, when McKinley was nominated for the presidency. In 1904 he was a leading member of the California delegation to the Republican National Convention at Chicago, at which Roosevelt was nominated. He took a prominent part in that convention, was one of the sub-committee chosen to frame the platform upon which the campaign was conducted. In 1898, Governor Gage appointed him a member of the State Board of Commissioners for the preservation of Yosemite Valley. He was for one term a member of the board of trustees of the San Jose State Normal School. Mr. Short was for years a director of the Fresno Canal and Irrigation Company; was one of the original stockholders and a director of the Fresno National Bank, besides having other property interests in city and county.

In Fresno, 1897, Mr. Short was united in marriage with Nellie C. (Curtis) Rorick, who was born in Iowa, but was reared and educated in Los Angeles. She had one daughter, Mildred. By his first wife, Emma Packard, Mr. Short has one son, Frank H. Short, Jr. Fraternally, Mr. Short is a member of Fresno Lodge, No. 127, F. & A. M.; Trigo Chapter, No. 69, R. A. M., Fresno Commandery, No. 29, K. T., and of Islam Temple, A. A. O. N. M. S., of San Francisco. In his social relations he is a member of Pacific Union Club, of the Union League Club, and the Bohemian Club of San Francisco, and of the Sequoia Club of Fresno. He is also a member and ex-President of the State Bar Association, and ex-President of the Fresno County Bar Association.

There is no movement projected for the upbuilding of Fresno County that does not receive his hearty support and he is looked upon as one who has been active in laying the groundwork of present-day prosperity of the San Joaquin Valley. His work has made a marked impress upon the trend of events in California, and the record of his life is entitled to a place of distinction in the annals of the state.

**MRS. ELIZA FINK.**—If there is any corner of this highly-interesting earth and any class among its highly-favored groups which recall to one's mind the blessed words, "Their works do live after them," it is California the Golden and her worthy pioneers, so many of whom have passed hence with scarcely a memorial of their names or faces, and yet leaving behind the most precious monument a man can conceive of—the record for a life properly lived and some definite, needed work well accomplished. With little or no thought of reward other than the imperative daily wage to which it is declared in holy writ that the honest workman is always entitled, the early settler threw himself into the game, disposed of each play as best he could, and left the result to the judgment of posterity. Nor could he have entrusted his fate to better hands; for the modern burgher looking back finds a delight in tracing the institutions and comforts of today to those who were identified here with the beginning of things, and gratitude is felt and often expressed to the men and women who did so much to start California on her wonderful course.

Among the pioneers who should thus be honored in the chronicles of the State is the late Peter W. Fink, a native of New York State where he grew up and learned the carpenter trade. By principle as well as by habit, he could not be anything else than a first-class journeyman; and this proficiency stood him well in hand when, later, he found that he had to adapt himself to the conditions of a new and expanding country. When twenty years of age, Mr. Fink left home and the East and came to California; and on his arrival here, in 1849, he made haste to try his luck in the mines. The returns for labor and



risk were not of the highest, and he turned to teaming; and in that rather strenuous line he was active for a couple of years.

In 1852 he first came to what is now Fresno County, and here he branched out into something new—the stock business. He took up Government land on Kings River near to what is now Sanger, and he also engaged in trade. Resuming carpentering, he had charge of building Fort Miller in 1854, and taking up teaming again, he drove between Stockton and Centerville for a number of years. About 1863, Mr. Fink began farming on Kings River, where the Fink homestead now stands, planting his acreage to grain; and being very successful in this agricultural venture, he continued a farmer until his death, which occurred on March 7, 1912, when the community and county lost one of their most estimable citizens, and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows one of its most active members.

On May 26, 1861, Mr. Fink was very fortunate in his marriage to Eliza Deakin, at Centerville, the bride being a daughter of William Deakin, who married Elizabeth Leasley, like himself a native of England. After their union in that country, Mr. and Mrs. Deakin came to the United States and Salt Lake City, and there they lived over two years. Pushing further West, they came over the Mormon trail to San Bernardino, and in that town they spent another couple of years. In 1855, they came to Fresno County and located on Kings River; and when they had secured land favorable to such enterprise, they raised stock and farmed. Their land at first was Government acreage, and being a man of some experience, Mr. Deakin prospered through his choice. He also came to be looked up to as a man of leadership, and served his fellow-citizens two terms as Justice of the Peace.

About 1892, Mr. Deakin passed away, especially honored by the Masons of Visalia, of which lodge he was a member. In June, 1912, Mrs. Deakin died, mourned by all who knew her as a lovable woman, devoted wife, good neighbor. The only child in the family, Mrs. Fink has inherited the home ranch of 120 acres, which she now manages with rare business ability. Thus both her husband and herself have contributed to the proper and rapid development of this great commonwealth with its unequalled opportunities.

Of the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Fink there were born six children: Alice Nancy, wife of J. F. Hill of Sanger; Julia Ann, widow of Harry Jacobs, living on O Street, Fresno; Augusta, wife of Thomas Street, of Clark's Valley; Rosie, Mrs. John Deason, residing in Fresno; Mary Eliza, wife of Charles Hackett, in Fresno; and Peter Elliott, who married Miss Emma Van Fleet, and resides on the Fink homestead.

After the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Fink the young folks rode horseback to the ranch where Mr. Fink had taken up ranching, located about two miles south from the present Fink home place. Here they kept house for two years, when they removed to the place that has been the home of Mrs. Fink for almost sixty years, and is now owned by her son, at least forty acres of the property being still in the name of Fink. Mr. Fink became owner of about 1,000 acres before he died, but this has all been sold off by his widow, and a part of it is the site of the Fink Colony.

As Eliza Deakin was growing from young girlhood to womanhood, she witnessed the barren aspect of the country all the way from Millerton to Centerville, only a stage station marked the immense cattle ranges, and the cattle grazing on the plains and hills numbered into the thousands, where now are the homes of hundreds of contented and prosperous residents of Fresno County. Mrs. Fink is a member of the Reedley Study and Civic Club and is greatly interested in the preservation of local history.

**GEORGE W. TAFT.**—A successful pioneer rancher who did yeoman service in advancing the science of agriculture in both the West and the East, and yet found it possible to serve his country as an intrepid and aggressive Civil War volunteer, was George W. Taft, a native of Vermont, now deceased. He was born at Starksboro, Addison County, on Independence Day, 1847, and was reared at Middlebury, near by, later the seat of the famous college, where he attended the ordinary public schools. He also learned to care for sheep, and was finally entrusted with a large herd of valuable wool-bearers owned by Hammond Bros., the noted sheep men.

As a true Yankee Vermonter, George from boyhood had been inspired with love for his native land; and when the war broke out, and he realized that the preservation of the Union was at stake, he was quick to enlist and do his duty. In 1861, at the first tap of the drum, and when he was only fourteen, George W. Taft ran away from home with his brother and walked thirty miles to join the Fourteenth Regular Vermont Volunteer Infantry, but being too young for mustering into service, he was refused by the recruiting officer. He insisted, however, upon remaining and helping in the service, and finally was made orderly to Dr. Gale, the surgeon. After roughing it for a while, he looked older and was finally accepted and mustered into the Fourteenth Regiment; and for three years, or until 1864, he served in the ranks. Returning luckily safe and sound from the battlefields, he resumed the raising of sheep; and in time he became one of the most experienced men in the service of the Hammonds.

When only nineteen, Mr. Taft made his way to California, having readily found employment with Flint, Bixby & Co., to bring a bunch of fine-blooded, Merino sheep to California, by way of the Isthmus of Panama. Each animal was crated and carefully provided for, and he brought them successfully to San Juan, and then continued for a time with the well-known ranch proprietors. When he left them, he was employed by J. B. Hoyt, in Solano County, to care for their extensive herds, and then he had charge, for a number of years, of the Pierce property in the Suisun Valley.

Coming to Fresno, Mr. Taft became manager of the Eggers Vineyard, in August, 1880, and soon set out, for the owners, that valuable acreage. This work, complicated in many ways and involving the breaking into new paths, took him four years and was one of considerable responsibility; but he was fortunate in having clearly before him a definite idea of what was needed, and following out his plans, boldly and conscientiously, he produced one of the model properties of Central California. His reputation was extended far and wide, and he was next called to Yolo County to care for the Charles F. Reed place on Grand Island, at Knight's Landing. After that, he put in over two years on the Pierce estate, already referred to, in the Suisun Valley.

His ownership of property, requiring some personal supervision, brought him back to Fresno, and in 1888 he took charge for three years of the Forsyth place; and then for seven years he directed the improvements in the Estrella vineyard which he developed from a grain stubble-field. With each succeeding contract, new experiment and increased responsibility, his experience widened, so that he was steadily preparing for his greatest success, on his own farm.

In January, 1898, Mr. Taft came onto his own place, which he had bought in 1883, and began to improve the raw land. It then consisted of eighty acres, but he added to it, so that today it comprises over two hundred acres of very choice soil. It was Mr. Taft's way, when undertaking to do anything, to do it thoroughly, and his long years of success in enhancing the value of property for others added to his ambition to do the best he could with what he himself controlled. About 1905, however, his health began to fail; in 1908 he had a stroke of paralysis; and on St. Patrick's Day, 1916, he





*George W. Taft*



Mrs G. H. Laft.





passed away, mourned by many friends, among them his brother Odd Fellows and Elks. His death was the more regretted because it is to men of Mr. Taft's laudable ambition and restless energy that Fresno County owes so much of her present greatness. Were it not for their foresight, discerning the wonderful possibilities of soil, climate and water, their faith in the future, their indefatigable labors and unceasing energy, the county would not so soon have reached its present productivity and wealth. These facts should be treasured by all who love justice and truth, and who would really do honor to the memory of George W. Taft.

In Fairfield, Solano County, on December 25, 1876, Mr. Taft was married to Miss Emma M. Walter, a native of pastoral Devonshire, England, through whom he has had two children, both now deceased. Mrs. Taft came to the United States and to California when she was eight years old, traveling with her parents, Charles and Susan E. (Wilton) Walter, and settled at Suisun, Solano County, where they spent the remainder of their days. She was educated in the schools at Suisun, and in all of their years in Fresno County was closely associated with her husband in his viticultural and horticultural undertakings, so that at the time when he was called upon to pass from temporal to eternal scenes, she was familiar with the many details necessary for the successful conducting of their large ranch. As a life-long Republican, Mr. Taft took a live interest, like his distinguished namesake, in politics and civic affairs, and was an enthusiastic supporter of all that makes for the public good; and this enthusiasm was shared by his good wife, one of whose notable attributes has always been versatility of mental equipment. Most of her life has been passed within the boundaries of the commonwealth, and her education reflects the training offered by its schools, while her refinement of taste indicates a cultured environment from earliest years. Thus it was that, being intensely interested in her husband's work, she kept in closest touch with him and maintained herself abreast of the times, and was well fitted to take up the management of their large affairs. Mr. and Mrs. Taft were members of the Raisin Association and active workers in its campaigns, believing it the only way to make a success of the raisin industry, and as a matter of course, they belonged to the present California Associated Raisin Company.

Since Mr. Taft's death, Mrs. Taft has continued to reside on her vineyard, managing her extensive interests there, and continuing to improve the place. In this she naturally strives to carry out the ideals of her husband, who was among the best-posted viticulturists in the Valley; and the well-kept Taft vineyards demonstrate the length and breadth of her accomplishment.

**GILLUM BALEY.**—Among the men from all sections of the country who thronged to California during the excitement following the discovery of gold was a young American of Scotch ancestry, Gillum Baley, who was born in Pettis County, Mo., June 19, 1813. His youth and young man hood was spent in Sangamon County, Ill., where at the age of nineteen he was an ordained minister of the Methodist Church, although he never held an itinerant pastorate. At the age of about twenty-one, he chose Missouri as his place of residence, settling there in 1834. He was admitted to the bar in Missouri but never practiced, although he served for sixteen years as Associate Justice in the counties of Andrew, Jackson and Nodaway, in that state. In 1849 he crossed the plains to California with his two brothers, Caleb and W. Rite Baley. Leaving their home in April they arrived at their destination in September, and worked in the mines with more or less success for several years. In 1852 young Baley returned to Missouri via Panama, but the memory of California's charms lingered with him in his eastern home and he was not content until he was again en route for the Golden State. In 1858 he gathered 200 thoroughbred Durham cattle and with his wife and nine children and his

brother W. Rite in the party, again started for the Pacific Coast. Near Fort Hardy the party was attacked by Indians, and losing their cattle and supplies were obliged to return to Albuquerque, New Mexico, for a new outfit, starting again for the coast in August, 1859, with six mules and wagons. This time they were more fortunate and reached their destination, arriving at Visalia in November, 1859. January 17, 1860, Mr. Baley moved to Millerton, Fresno County, leaving his brother, W. R., in Visalia. He made a number of trips from Stockton to Millerton, driving a six-mule team with supplies, and also mined on the San Joaquin River three miles above Fort Miller, and on Fresno River, until 1866, when he moved to Fort Miller on account of the school advantages for his children.

In 1867 he was elected County Judge of Fresno County and served twelve years on the bench. When the county seat was moved to Fresno in 1874 he located in that city and was elected and served two years as treasurer of Fresno County. For a time he was engaged in the grocery business in Fresno with his son Charles C. He owned 160 acres of land at Tollhouse, Fresno County, also 1,000 acres in small tracts in different parts of the county. He was a charter member of Fresno Lodge No. 186, I. O. O. F., and with his son Charles C., contributed largely in founding and building the Methodist Church South, at the corner of Fresno and L Streets. An active member of this church, he contributed generously to its up-keep and to charity. He was among the leading public-spirited citizens of Fresno, and after retiring from active life resided at his comfortable home on M Street, where he died in December, 1885.

Mr. Baley was twice married, his first wife was, in maidenhood, Catherine B. Decker, who died after two years of wedded happiness, leaving a son, William Moses, now deceased. By his second marriage, August 16, 1836, in Jackson County, Mo., he was united with Permelia Myers, a native of Green County, Tenn., who died at Fresno in 1906. The children by his second marriage were: Rebecca M., deceased, who married J. M. Shannon; Catherine, deceased, married William Krug; A. Frances, the wife of Charles A. Yancy, of Tollhouse; Elizabeth, wife of J. Scott Ashman, is now deceased; George W., who resides near Academy; Ellen G., the widow of James McCardle of Fresno; Charles C., deputy sheriff of Fresno County; Nancy J., wife of H. P. Black, of Academy; S. Bertha, wife of Charles R. McKeon of Los Angeles; and Louis L., who died at the age of seventeen, being the only one born in California.

Charles C. Baley, deputy sheriff of Fresno County, was born in Nodaway County, Mo., March 24, 1853, and came across the plains with his parents in 1859. In his youth he attended the old Dry Creek Academy and learned the printer's trade but never followed it. He engaged in the occupation of mining and worked in lumbercamps and sawmills. He served as deputy sheriff under his brother-in-law, Sheriff J. Scott Ashman, for four years, afterward following the occupation of mining and prospecting. He spent the season of 1887 in Alaska on the Yukon, then mined in Fresno and Tuolumne Counties and prospected in Utah, Idaho, Nevada and Arizona. He has served as deputy in nearly all the county offices in Fresno County at different times. By his marriage June 28, 1916, he was united to Mrs. Della (Hough) Yale, a native of Mississippi, who has resided in California since the age of five years.

**EDMUND WESLEY FOWLER.**—Prominent among the honored pioneers of the San Joaquin Valley who sturdily cast their lot there when the great destiny of Central California lay in the minds and hearts of the trusting, is Edmund Wesley Fowler, now one of the most esteemed citizens of Riverdale. His father's family had lived several years in both Stanislaus and Solano Counties before coming to Fresno County, when they settled on a farm four miles southeast of Hanford, at that time in Tulare County. He rode across the range and traversed the site of Hanford long before there was to be seen a

single building of the town. His father was Edmund I. Fowler, who had married Kizziah James, a native, like himself, of Indiana; and in that state they were made man and wife. A Mr. Fowler, an uncle of our subject, who was six feet seven inches tall, compiled the genealogy of the Fowler family which came originally from England and was prominent in Indiana in early days. Edmund I. Fowler, who had followed farming in Indiana, brought his wife and three children, among whom Edmund W. was the youngest, a baby of three months, across the great plains in 1854. There were ninety souls in the train, and they were drawn by ox teams. His birthday was the eighth of February, and when a year had passed the family was settled in the Golden State. The parents pulled up at Oroville, and the father mined awhile on the Feather River and did very well for a new-comer. In fact, he was encouraged to stay there for five years. He then moved to Woodland, where he remained four months, and after that to Solano County, in which district he farmed for seven years. The parents next lived seven years near Los Banos; their next move was to Hanford, where they lived sixteen years.

At Hanford, therefore, Edmund Wesley grew up to vigorous manhood. He was sound of body, but most sadly afflicted through an accident which had happened far back in Indiana when one eye was destroyed in a corn-field, so that later the other was affected through sympathy, and at thirty he was almost blind. Unfortunately, also, he had only a poor schooling, because he had to work. From his fourteenth year, therefore, he was harnessed to daily toil, and each day did a man's work, sharing the burden with his brother, James Marion, who has been deceased for the past twenty-five years. Four children were born to the parents in California. The father died on the farm at Hanford at the ripe old age of eighty-four, and the mother outlived him, dying in her eighty-sixth year.

Mr. Fowler was married at Hanford, on January 21, 1883, to Miss Mattie Kirby, a native of Hydesville, Humboldt County, and one of the nine children of Samuel A. and Sarah C. (Cox) Kirby, both of whom were born in Salem, Ill. When she was two years old, her parents moved to Garberville, Cal., and there she grew up and went to school. She was a girl of fifteen when her folks came to Hanford, and she was married in her seventeenth year. Mr. and Mrs. Fowler have three children: Fred A. served in the United States Army, at Fort Baker, in the heavy artillery, and was honorably discharged and came home December 24, 1919; he is now a plumber and electrician and makes his home at Riverdale. He is single, and up to the outbreak of the war, he had served a year as justice of the peace, and he was the first peace officer in Fresno County to enlist in defense of his country. For seven years he had done business as a plumber at Laton and Riverdale, and his reputation for square dealing was well established. Lloyd F. married Ethel May Splawn of Riverdale. He is a tractor engineer and a tinner by trade, and resides with his family, which includes a child, Glenn A., six months old, at Riverdale. Floretta May is the wife of W. P. Bourne, the electrician, formerly with the Santa Fe at Bakersfield, but now a resident of Oakland; they have one child, Jack Wallace Bourne, now two years old.

After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Fowler farmed for six years at Hanford, and then removed to Bakersfield, where they took up a homestead in the Weed Patch southeast of that town, later proving up. In 1891 they moved back to Hanford and farmed for eight years, then they farmed at Laton, and afterward, in 1911, came to Riverdale, where Mr. Fowler engaged in plumbing. The son Fred A., commencing at the age of eighteen, had learned that business in Laton, and now he is a practical, competent plumber. In fact, the father and his two sons, Fred and Lloyd, were in the plumbing and tinning business, Lloyd being equally clever as a tinner. When Fred enlisted, the business was broken up, and the firm retired, with excellent credit and reputation; and they rented the large building, owned by them and which they had used, for a garage.

In 1915, Mr. Fowler built a beautiful bungalow at Riverdale; and there he and his wife, kindly disposed toward others and highly respected by everybody, live a simple Christian life, committed to the faith known as "The Jesus' Way." Mr. Fowler is well preserved, and his wife is bright and well as ever. At sixty-four years of age, in 1919, Mr. Fowler put in sixty-two days of hard work in the harvest fields on the West Side, on a combined harvester and thresher, and came out strong and vigorous as a man of forty.

**HENRY CLAY TUPPER.**—Easily distinguished among the men learned in the law who early chose Fresno for their forum and gladiatorial combats, to say nothing of their oratorical triumphs, is Henry Clay Tupper, the son of Tullius C. Tupper, also a lawyer of prominence who resided in Canton, Miss., from about 1835 until his death on August 14, 1866. Henry's mother was, before her marriage, Miss Mary Harding Drane.

Born in Canton on December 29, 1842, Mr. Tupper entered Princeton College, in New Jersey, and was graduated with the Class of '61, receiving the Bachelor of Arts degree. Four years later, the same institution honored him with the degree of A. M. In May, 1861, shortly after war was declared between the North and the South, young Tupper enlisted in the Confederate Army, and was made a lieutenant of a company in the Twenty-fourth Mississippi Regiment. Before he was mustered out, he saw a great deal of hard service, first at Pensacola and Fernandina, during the first year of the war, and afterwards in the Battle of Corinth. In 1862 he was with Bragg in Kentucky, was wounded at Perryville, in that state, and was in most of the battles in Tennessee. He was an aide-de-camp on the staff of Lieutenant-General John Clifford Pemberton in battles preceding and during the siege of Vicksburg, was exchanged as a prisoner of war, and afterwards served in Gen. Joseph E. Johnston's command from Dalton to Atlanta, Ga., and in all the battles around Atlanta. He was severely wounded at Jonesboro, Ga., but recovering was with Lieut.-Gen. John Bell Hood in the famous Tennessee campaign. Again he was severely wounded at Franklin, while serving as inspector-general on the staff of General Brantley, commanding the Mississippi Brigade, was afterwards commissioned major, and finally, in the spring of 1865, he surrendered with General Johnston.

Taking up the life and duties of a civilian again, Mr. Tupper was admitted to practice law in Mississippi about 1872, and in July, 1877, he was admitted to practice law in California, and ever since that time, he has been in active practice.

On December 25, 1878, Mr. Tupper was married in Trinity Church, San Francisco, to Elizabeth Johnson, daughter of James and Jane Johnson, who came to Fresno County in 1853. Her father was a stockman, and she was born in Merced County, Cal. Several children resulted from this fortunate union. Hampton and Henry Walter are both deceased; James Tullius married Annabel, daughter of G. P. Cummings, and is in the real estate and insurance business in Fresno. Then there are Roland Beatty, William Charles, Anna Elizabeth, Mary Helen, Donald Lewis and Sidney Johnston. Roland Beatty served in the World War in Europe, as surgeon in Navy Base Hospital Unit No. 2. He is married to Gertrude Lindgren and lives in San Francisco; William Charles served as ensign in U. S. N., and is still in the service; Mary Helen was married March 4, 1919, to Dr. Niel Jorgensen, an active practitioner in Fresno; Donald Lewis qualified for a commission as ensign but, with Sidney Johnston who enlisted in the army, returned to the University of California.

For years Mr. Tupper has been one of the attorneys for the Fresno Canal and Irrigation Company, which for a long time engaged in extensive litigation; and he has also served as bank attorney, and attorney for leading corporations. Under the Democratic banner, and with an eye for the enduring interests of the public welfare, Mr. Tupper has been a safe and inspiring guide in civic affairs.





*Frank A. Ball,*



**FRANK HAMILTON BALL.**—Eulogy is often as grossly misdirected as censure, but if ever there was a man concerning whom it might well be said that the good he did was not "interred with his bones," but would assuredly live after him, that man was the late Frank Hamilton Ball, capitalist, rancher, fruit-raiser and substantial upbuilder of both the city and county of Fresno, where he was esteemed for his astonishing versatility as an aggressive and progressive pioneer, and his ever accumulating successes in each field into which he ventured, heart and soul. He was one of the oldest and best-known citizens of Fresno, a city which from the beginning attracted pioneers, and which has come to number in its citizenry some of the most distinguished and influential of Californians. He was born at Grand Rapids, Mich., on September 13, 1855, the son of Sydney Silas Ball, who died in October, 1893, and who married Amanda Nancy Wood, also now deceased. In his native city Frank received the foundation of his education, and then he continued his studies at a military school and in well-known institutions of higher learning in eastern New York. As a boy and also as a young man, his character and mental alertness impressed those with whom he came into personal contact, and by many such acquaintances, among whom were often the most representative men and women, a distinguished career was predicted for him.

Setting out from his birthplace with the good-will of his neighbors and friends, Mr. Ball came to California in 1876, and for six years settled in San Francisco. On August 7, 1882, he first came to Fresno with a view to opening here a drug store and establishing himself in business. He located in the Clark & McKenzie Building on Mariposa Street, and there, in one of the first drug stores in town, he soon built up a thriving trade. It was only a short time, in fact, before his success warranted his purchasing a part of the corner where the Griffith-McKenzie Block now stands. This first investment comprised a lot 50 by 125 feet on J Street, to which he afterwards added another lot, measuring 25 by 150 feet. These two plots of ground together make up the lot covered by the Griffith-McKenzie Building, and on this property Mr. Ball built a two-story structure, to which he moved his drug store in 1883, and where he continued in business until 1885. Then he sold the ground and building to H. Thompson, and purchased the site of his late business block at the corner of Kern and J Streets. On that site, in 1905, Mr. Ball erected a theater which, for its time, did credit to the city and also served the pleasure-seekers in a way that was educational and uplifting. This theater he later removed to make way for the modern business block that was so agreeably identified with his name, and which was totally destroyed by fire on July 19, 1918. With his customary energy and enterprise Mr. Ball immediately rebuilt, putting up a modern concrete fire-proof structure, and this was practically completed when he was so suddenly called to leave the scene of his earthly labors and benefactions.

After disposing of his former property, Mr. Ball acquired some land southeast of the city and, giving up the drug business, became interested in vineyard ranching and was soon devoting much of his time to the raisin industry. Such was his customary way of doing things on a generous and go-ahead scale, when once he had committed himself to an enterprise, that the Ball Vineyard, at California and East Streets, with its beautiful palm drive, became the largest, as it was one of the first, in all the valley. Several years ago, however, he gave up the vineyard and turned the property into an orchard. The land, as well as the Ball Block at J and Kern Streets and other valuable city property, was in his name at the time of his death.

From 1905 to 1915 Mr. Ball was also engaged in the wall-paper and paint business, although he was carrying responsible investments in the fruit business since 1886. The growth and success of all his enterprises are evidences of his aggressive attitude toward the great question of the solid

and permanent development of Central California. He was public-spirited to a marked degree, and was always deserving of the confidence and esteem which his fellow-citizens accorded him. In political matters of national or other than strictly local import, Mr. Ball was a staunch Republican. Fraternally, he was an Odd Fellow and a Woodman of the World; and he was a member of the Sunnyside Country Club.

Mr. Ball was married at Fresno on December 29, 1915, to Mrs. Bessie May (Webb) Hill, a native of Marshall, Ind., who came to California in 1893. Having traveled extensively in the state, Mrs. Ball has watched the growth of California during its era of progress. A cultured and refined woman, possessing much natural ability and business acumen, she became actively interested in Mr. Ball's enterprises for the development of his property and the upbuilding of Fresno, and so is today well qualified to take up the management of the large interests left by him, and to continue, in his optimistic and large-hearted way, the carrying out of his ideal plans.

Previously to the time of his death, Mr. Ball had been slightly ill for several days, but he had not taken to his bed until the evening before he died. Heart-failure, at 4:30 o'clock the next afternoon, deprived Fresno of her great friend. Reviewing the exemplary career and good works of this estimable and influential Californian and citizen-leader of Fresno City and County, one feels how appropriately these words of benediction from the inspired Bard of Avon might be applied to his life:

"You have the grace of God, sir, and He hath enough."

In this connection, it may be most appropriate to reprint here an editorial published by the Fresno Herald on March 19, 1919, soon after Mr. Ball's demise. It reads as follows, and undoubtedly reflects the sentiments of many of Mr. Ball's fellow-citizens:

"It seems to the Herald that there should be some adequate recognition by the community for the generous and gracious bequests of Frank H. Ball. As Fresno read of the benevolences—\$10,000 to the Y. W. C. A., \$10,000 to the playgrounds, \$10,000 to the Y. M. C. A., \$5,000 to the Firemen's Relief, \$5,000 to the Fresno Relief Society, and \$5,000 to the Citizens' Relief Committee—there was a certain thrill that comes from such substantial recognition of the worth of these organizations to the public. It is fine to know that our institutions are appreciated, and that their services are placed at a distinct value, that they receive merited reward. The Ball will provided the largest bequests ever publicly distributed in Fresno. Certainly we are grateful for the measure of Mr. Ball's appreciation of those organizations which attracted his generosity, for his public spirit, and finally for acting on that spirit. May his memory be graced with the community's gratefulness. Perhaps, after all, we could bestow nothing more acceptable than our sincere appreciation. But let us do that."

**JOHN M. PUGH.**—Among the prominent and worthy pioneers of California who are sure to be lastingly remembered as among the broad-minded, far-seeing builders of Fresno County, and one equally certain long to be honored by those who knew him personally as the high-principled founder and thrifty head of a family now well-established here, was John M. Pugh, born on May 9, 1839 in Carroll County, Ohio. He removed to Missouri where, at a very early age, he worked hard at farming. When a young man of about eighteen, in 1856, he crossed the plains with ox teams and came to Marysville, near which place he drifted into the stock business. In the spring of 1867 he returned to Missouri and was there married to Miss Ruth Sallee, a native daughter of that state; and a year later, after their first child was born, they came out to California.

At first Mr. Pugh located on a farm at North Butte, Sutter County, near Pennington, and there engaged in grain and stock raising; but in 1874, having sold his ranch at North Butte, he removed to Stonyford, Colusa County and

settled on a claim of 160 acres, where he continued farming and stockraising. His efforts having proved successful, he in time bought out the land of other settlers, and became owner of 4,500 acres on Stony Creek, which he improved with a good residence and buildings, and brought to a high state of cultivation. He was the first man on Stony Creek to sow alfalfa; and as the experiment proved that the soil and climate was adapted to its culture, it was taken up by other settlers and alfalfa growing has become popular in that section, the land being irrigated from the waters of Stony Creek.

In June, 1888, Mr. Pugh sold his ranch and removed with his family to Fresno County where he bought 160 acres of land in the Central Colony, on East and North Avenues, and engaged in viticulture, farming and stock-raising. Later he sold this property and moved to a ranch near Fowler. His wife died in 1904, and in 1905 he removed to Kutner Colony and bought 140 acres of the old Limbo ranch. Forty acres of this was already in vineyard; and with the aid of his sons he set out the rest of the ranch in the same manner; and there he resided until in 1913, when he died widely mourned by those who had come to know him and to appreciate his exceptional personality. In Masonic circles the demise of Mr. Pugh was deeply regretted; he was made a Mason in Marysville and was one of the founders of Snow Mountain Lodge, F. & A. M., at Stonyford, in which he was also Master.

The seven children thus honored by this good man's name are: Hannah Pugh, who became Mrs. J. A. Bailey, and now resides in Willows, where her husband is Sheriff of Glenn County; Edward M. Pugh, of Pugh Bros.; James V., who is associated with Edward in the same firm; John S. Pugh, in the Granville district; A. U. Pugh, of Fresno; Perley Pugh, of Sanger; and Ina, now Mrs. James Rose, who lives in the Granville district. All were born in Stonyford except the three oldest; Hannah was born in Missouri; E. M. and John S. were born in Sutter County.

**SIMON WILLIAM HENRY.**—The fundamental characteristics shown in the life of Simon William Henry illustrate the energy and usefulness to humanity for which so many of our pioneers were noted. A broad-minded and public-spirited man, his adaptability and resourcefulness of mind, shown in the various enterprises in which he engaged, brought him a due meed of success in life and a memory which lives in the esteem and respect of all who knew him.

Born in County Conant, Ireland, December 8, 1834, Simon William Henry crossed the seas to Ontario, Canada, at the age of thirteen, in 1847. He learned the blacksmith trade in Ontario and Michigan, and followed that business until he came to California, via the Isthmus of Panama, in 1859. After his arrival in this state he first settled in Suisun, Solano County, but soon migrated south to Fresno County, arriving here in the fall of that same year, and found employment with Judge Hoxie. Later he bought out his employer and ran a hotel, livery stable and blacksmith shop at Millerton, until 1874, also engaging in ranching at that place. In 1874 he came to Fresno and built Henry's Hotel, corner of Tulare and K Streets, on the spot where the post-office building now stands. This hotel was later moved to the rear of the courthouse, and was torn down in 1915.

In 1889, Mr. Henry built a blacksmith shop and livery stable on the corner of Tulare and J Streets, on the spot where the Patterson Block now stands, and ran this business until 1899. A part of his home on that corner was moved from his former location at Millerton, and part is still incorporated in the home at 422 South Van Ness, he later engaged in farming and teaming, and his death occurred on March 24, 1918. In early days in the county, Mr. Henry was an active member of the Episcopal Church in Fresno, and he donated all the iron used in the building of the church and installed the same himself, also donating freely to the support of the church. A public-spirited man, he was actively interested in the anti-Chinese question, and was

one of the leading spirits in that movement. In politics he was a strong Republican, though he never sought public office.

On April 3, 1862, in San Francisco, Mr. Henry was united in marriage with Annie Mitchell, a native of Devonshire, England, who survives him, as do six of the seven children born to them, as follows: William E., of Fresno; Fred, of Fresno; Albert E., of Stockton; John, of Hanford; Simon William, Jr., and Frank R., of Fresno. One daughter, Annie, formerly a clerk in the county recorder's office, is now deceased.

**LEVI C. GOODELL.**—A Fresno County pioneer who has done much to develop important interests in his part of California, and was largely instrumental at one time in affording better irrigation facilities for a large and fast-growing area, is Levi C. Goodell, who was born in Hancock County, Ill., on January 4, 1849. His father was Joseph Goodell, a native of Maine, who emigrated to Illinois in early days, and later crossed the plains to California, using oxen to draw his wagons, and taking six months for the trip. He had married Nancy Bloyd, a native of Kentucky; and she accompanied him on the perilous trip. He located in Tehama County, and with true Yankee enterprise, farmed to grain; and in 1865 he died. Later, the devoted widow passed away.

As a boy Levi Goodell worked on ranches and when he was able to do so, he located with his brother, Robert W. Goodell, near Honcut, Butte County, where they farmed 500 acres to grain. At times conditions were spurring, and there was generally need of courage and "backbone;" but Mr. Goodell had inherited qualities such as frequently had their best "try out" in undeveloped California, and he was the last man to think of doing anything else than going forward. In the fall of 1878 he sold out and located southwest of Selma, where he bought 160 acres of railroad land. This he farmed to grain and alfalfa, and made such a success of the venture that three years later his brother joined him. They farmed together the land already under control, planting to grain, and then rented other land besides.

Having again sold out, in 1886, Mr. Goodell settled in the Wheatville country, where he owned 400 acres of grain and alfalfa land. He operated on a generous scale, showing his entire faith in the country, and continued to live and farm there for twenty-four years. Wheat averaged ten sacks to the acre; and he raised, besides, high grade horses and mules. When he took possession, the country was wild and the land had no water; and seeing the great need of better irrigation facilities, he helped to start the Crescent Canal Company of which he was at once a director, and he was its president for ten years. He planted a family orchard, and he also laid out a good vineyard, both of which undertakings added to his valuable experience.

In 1910, Mr. Goodell sold his ranch and bought 187 acres northwest of Kerman. The land was raw, but he graded and checked it, and planted alfalfa. He sank two wells, installed a pumping-plant, and brought the place up to a high state of cultivation.

On the death of Mrs. Goodell, on May 16, 1917—an event that cast a deep shadow over the community in which she had been both an honored resident and a beloved neighbor—Mr. Goodell rented out his land and moved into Fresno. He still retained his valuable undeveloped ranch-lands in the Clovis district, and his oil-land interests in the vicinity of Coalinga, but he has wisely preferred the quiet, restful life, in which he may look back, and with much satisfaction, we are sure, to the stirring past and his active share in it.

When Mr. Goodell married in 1876, he took for his bride Florence L. Loshbough, a native of Michigan who came to California in 1875, settling near Honcut, Butte County, and with her he enjoyed years of the happiest married life. The union was blessed with two children; and these sources of comfort are still left to him. The elder is Calvin C., living in Stockton; and the younger, Effie, the wife of Harrison Forsyth and the mother of one son living, Harrison. She lives in Los Angeles.





E. L. Winchell



Laura G. Winchell



**HON. ELISHA COTTON WINCHELL.**—A resident of Fresno County, from the very early pioneer days to the end of his life, none will be more kindly remembered than Judge Winchell. A man of high ideals and of fixed principles, his example and precepts were ever factors in the substantial improvement of all conditions, social, moral and political. A lawyer by profession, he was temperamentally of distinct judicial mind and of pronounced literary inclination and ability. Withal companionable, kindly, entertaining and youthful to his last days, these qualities especially endeared him to the young, with whom he was in sympathetic touch; many of whom, still living, will hold his memory in affectionate regard.

Elisha C. Winchell was born in West Springfield, Mass., July 25, 1826, a lineal descendant of Robert Winchell, who came over from England and settled at Windsor, on the Connecticut River, in 1634. Elisha C.'s father, Elias, was a merchant and manufacturer; his mother was Fanny Ely, a descendant of another early Colonial family of New England, and a woman of great talent. Suffering business reverses after the panic of 1835, the father and family moved westward; reaching the hamlet of Quincy, Ill., August 9, 1837, they remained there till January, 1838, when the Mississippi, frozen over, allowed passage on the ice to the Missouri shore.

Traveling thirty miles still westward, they settled on a lonely prairie, built a double log cabin, made rails and fenced land, broke sod with oxen, planted crops, and established a home in the wilderness. Once a week the mails from Palmyra were brought on horseback to the lonely cabin, which became, in September, 1838, the "West Springfield" postoffice.

After a term in the Marion College, Elisha C. entered, as student, the law office of Thomas L. Anderson and John W. Dryden, his brothers-in-law, at Palmyra, Mo., and in June, 1848, was admitted to the bar. In November, following, he opened a law office in Paris, Monroe County, Mo., forty miles west. Fascinated, however, by the tales from the far western Eldorado, he started, with three companions, on April 11, 1850, for California. They outfitted at Saint Joseph with wagon and six horses, and, bidding goodbye to civilization, advanced on the road to the Pacific. On June 25th they crossed the South Pass ("the roof of the continent") at an elevation of 7,490 feet, whence they plunged into the silent expanse of waterless, yellow deserts that lie between the Rockies and the Sierra Nevadas. July 27th, at the Humboldt River, 600 miles from Sutter's Fort, their provisions nearly exhausted and their animals unable, from starvation, to haul the wagon further, they made pack-saddles from the wheel spokes and wagon box. Abandoning everything except their arms, a little food and their blankets, they took their way down the Humboldt Valley, a hideous desert, which for 300 miles was strewn with animals and wreckage. For many weeks they had been accustomed to see abandoned property and dead and dying animals, but these scenes were now doubled and trebled; as they advanced the scenes became more dreadful, the heat of the day increased, and the road heavy with sand; the stench arising was continuous and terrible. Horses, mules and oxen, suffering from heat, thirst and starvation, staggered along until they fell and died, on every rod of the way. Both sides of the road for miles on miles were lined with the carcasses and abandoned wagons; around were strewn yokes, chains, harness, guns, tools, bedding and clothing, in utter confusion. The owners had left everything except what scant provisions they could carry, and hurried on to save themselves.

During the night of August 11th and the forenoon of the 12th, our adventurer led his staggering horses through these scenes of death and desolation, to the ice-fed waters of the Carson River. Resting there till somewhat recuperated, he followed this stream eight miles to the Carson Canyon, and on August 26th crossed the territorial line of California. Abandoning here, on a grassy meadow, his faithful but almost helpless animals, and shouldering a thirty-pound pack of law-books, bacon and biscuit, he crossed the moun-

tains. At dark of August 31st, he camped for the night under a live-oak tree, sleeping soundly, without blankets, till the frost of the dawn awakened him. He was soon on the way; Sutter's Fort was forty miles distant; at sunset, half starved but in robust health and high spirits, in tatters and penniless, he entered Sacramento, a mushroom city of cloth and clapboards; half hidden in the willow thickets by the river. The first of the Winchell family in America, so far as known, to set foot on California soil. He never left its confines.

In January, 1851, the young pioneer opened a law office in Sacramento, and in 1852 was elected justice of the peace, with an annual salary of \$5,000. In 1855 he was elected city assessor of Sacramento.

On July 7, 1853, Elisha C. Winchell was united in marriage with Laura C. Alsip, who had come to California by steamer in 1852, with her widowed mother, and was living in Sacramento. The wedding ceremony was performed by Rev. O. C. Wheeler, D.D., the first Baptist minister in Sacramento, at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Ledyard Frink, the latter being a sister of the bride. Four children were born to this pioneer couple: Lilbourne Alsip, born October 9, 1855; Iva Mary, born 1857, died 1858; Ledyard Frink, born November 30, 1859; and Anna Cora, June 24, 1870.

Remaining in Sacramento until the spring of 1859, Judge Winchell became interested in the reports of an old friend regarding the general territory of the "southern mines" and of the growing pastoral industries of the San Joaquin Valley. His friend urged that there was a promising field for a lawyer at Millerton, the county seat of the young county of Fresno, as most of the lawyers at that time resided at Mariposa and Visalia. This resulted in his moving from Sacramento to Millerton, with his wife and young son, in May, 1859. The family made their first, temporary home in the large adobe house at Fort Miller, which stands at the southeast corner of the plaza (and is still, in 1919, in an almost perfectly preserved condition). Living there until October of 1859, they moved to another adobe building, apart from those that surrounded the fort quadrangle, known as the "Hospital," having been constructed by the government for use as such. This was a commodious structure, having two large rooms with a smaller apartment between them (apothecary shop, for the use of the post surgeon), and entered from an open vestibule in front. In this home, November 30, 1859, was born Ledyard Frink, the second son.

Judge Winchell soon established his office in the Colonel Burrough Hotel in Millerton, and resumed his practice. This was the building afterwards used as the courthouse. Governor Downey appointed him notary public about this time. In 1860 he was appointed superintendent of public instruction, the first in the county, and he proceeded to establish three districts; Millerton, Scottsburg, and Kingston. At Scottsburg he selected three trustees, assembled them in the saloon, which was also the postoffice, wrote out their appointments on top of a battered card-table on which was a deck of very dirty cards; he swore the trustees in and, after he had been invited to "take something" by the barkeeper, which offer he declined, climbed into his buggy and departed.

In September, 1860, as a candidate for the state legislature, against three opponents he canvassed on horseback the counties of Fresno, Tulare and Buena Vista, but was defeated by a small vote. In 1861 he was elected district attorney, and in 1863, county judge. In the spring of 1864, an Indian killed a white man during a drunken brawl, was arrested, tried, found guilty and sentenced to be hung; after which the prisoner was remanded to the custody of the sheriff, and court adjourned for dinner. During the noon hour lynchers took possession of the Indian (the sheriff being complaisant) and started with him out the trail which led past Judge Winchell's home. Apparently having forgotten in their haste to get a rope in town, they supplied the need by entering the judge's field, taking the rope with which a calf was

staked out, and with it hung the Indian to an oak tree in a canyon a half mile south of the judge's house—the judge at dinner in McCray's hotel, wholly unaware of the proceedings.

The old adobe "Hospital" remained their home until the fall of 1861, the family moving then to a little valley half a mile south of the fort; the creek running through this valley is named for the family, and the canyon gorge is known as Winchell Gulch. A good house was built, of lumber cut in Crane Valley and hauled by ox teams. The doors, windows and redwood shingles came by freight wagons from Stockton. This became a true home; many improvements were made; fences were built, roads graded; fields cultivated, and crops raised. Judge Winchell had planted here an orchard of various fruits in the winter of 1859-1860, before moving his family from the fort. He had obtained from Sacramento, from the nursery of W. R. Strong, 600 assorted fruit trees and a variety of the best grapes. The great grasshopper plague of 1861 destroyed many of the settings, but by employing over 100 Indians from the nearby rancherias, who fought the pests with fire and smoke, they succeeded in saving trees that afterwards flourished and for many years produced the only fresh fruit in that locality, and which was much in demand by the neighbors and passersby. Many flowering and ornamental plants were also set out.

In July, 1869, Mr. Winchell and Capt. J. N. Appleton, with "Billy" Haines as guide, visited the Kings River Canyon and the Big Trees in what is now Grant Park. Mr. Winchell wrote a descriptive article that was published in the San Francisco Call; this was the first descriptive article ever written of that section.

When the county seat was removed to the site now Fresno, Judge Winchell opened the first law office there, locating on the south side of Tulare Street near H Street, or, as it was then called, "Front Street." This was advantageously situated, being near the courtroom, which was on the upper floor of the building on the corner, the lower floor being utilized as a saloon. This propinquity of court and bar was a familiar and welcome arrangement for some of the old Millertonites, as in those cherished days frequent stimulation was needed. He afterward moved his office to the north side of Mariposa Street (this spot is now covered by the Union National Bank Building).

Acquiring a number of lots in the block bounded by I, J, Fresno and Mariposa Streets, he erected a large two-story brick building on the corner of J and Fresno Streets; in this he made his headquarters. The lower floor he fitted up for use as a postoffice, and contributed it to the government and people of Fresno, free of rent for five years. He also erected a business building on Mariposa Street near J. This later was destroyed by fire, which also ruined many other buildings, on the night of July 13, 1889, but was replaced by a finer structure, which still stands. Other buildings were erected on J Street for business purposes. In 1876 he established a home for his family on the corner of K and Merced Streets (now the site of the Masonic Temple), where they resided until his departure from Fresno, in 1897.

Always public-spirited, this sturdy pioneer inaugurated many enterprises, among others the street-car line running from the Southern Pacific depot up Mariposa, J, and Tuolumne Streets, and Blackstone Avenue to Belmont Avenue. He was the principal stockholder and president of this road, which he named the Fresno, Belmont and Yosemite Railroad. The construction of this road led to the rapid development of the territory to which it contributed. In 1880 he organized a corporation which constructed the second large irrigating canal in Fresno County. The taking of irrigation water from the Kings River aroused autocratic opposition by the cattle-barons, who, as riparian owners, bitterly contested the settlers' efforts. Many years of litigation followed; and Judge Winchell, defending the claims and interests of the settlers in many hard-fought legal battles, succeeded eventually

in obtaining final decrees of the courts which left the farmers in the enjoyment of the free use of the water.

In this instance, as in many others, Judge Winchell ever defended the cause of the righteous and oppressed. Notable among these cases was one in which, during over five years as sole attorney for defendants against a series of malicious prosecutions, he not only obtained signal victory and final judgment and execution in the courts, but he carried the burden of the costs of the suits (which he was ill able to do), because of his faith in the justice of his cause and the inability of his clients to provide the fees necessary to keep the case in court. For his well-recognized attitude toward injustice and oppression, as for his high principles and consistent life, Judge Winchell held the esteem and confidence of those who knew him.

During the period between 1888 and 1892, he erected several business buildings on Mariposa Street and on J Street, but during the state-wide and nation-wide financial depression of following years he, with many others, suffered severe reverses. His increasing age and the serious condition of his wife's health required a change. Retiring from the active labors of his profession and disposing of his Fresno interests, he moved with his wife to San Francisco, hoping to benefit her health. They continued to live in that city until Mrs. Winchell's death, in 1908. He then moved to Berkeley, near the University grounds.

On the 24th day of July, 1913, rounding out exactly eighty-seven years Judge Winchell crossed the last frontier to that undiscovered realm of the Great Adventure. His ashes repose in the family plot in Mountain View Cemetery, Oakland.

**LAURA C. WINCHELL.**—The wife of Judge E. C. Winchell, and a pioneer with him in the early days, a history of Fresno County would not be complete without a mention of this notable woman. She was born at Shepherdstown, Va. (now West Virginia), March 28, 1833. Her father, Joseph Alsip, a planter and mill-owner, also holding slaves, and her mother, Mary D. McKim, were natives of Maryland, and descendants of early colonial ancestors who came from England and Scotland in 1635. The land upon which Shepherdstown stands was ceded by her paternal grandfather, who owned much circumjacent territory; and the house in which she was born was used as a temporary hospital for the wounded soldiers of both armies, during the severe battles around Frederick and Shepherdstown, in the Civil War. The stone dwelling still stands and its walls bear the marks of cannon-balls and bullets. Her grandfathers fought through the Revolution, and the maternal grandparent through the War of 1812. Her father dying while she was a child, her mother continued to administer the work of the plantation until her daughter finished her education in Cincinnati Seminary, 1852.

Gold having been discovered in California, and an older sister and brother having already crossed the plains in 1850, her mother sold the farm, freed her faithful servants and sailed from New York to Nicaragua, crossed the Isthmus on mule-back, thence by steamer to San Francisco, and by river boat to Sacramento, where they made their home with those of the family who had preceded them. July 7, 1853, Miss Alsip married E. C. Winchell, a young lawyer of Sacramento, who had come across the plains in 1850. The house in which she lived and was married, was brought around the Horn in sections, by raft and ship, from Indiana in 1850, and was erected in Sacramento by Ledyard Frink, her brother-in-law. Four children were born of the union (see sketch of Judge Winchell on another page of this work).

By instinct and temperament a teacher, and fitted by education for this work she taught in Sacramento (where teachers were few), both before and after her marriage, and until domestic and maternal demands required her resignation. In May, 1859, she came to Fresno County with her husband and young son. They made their first residence at Fort Miller—where, at

the time of her arrival, there was but one other family living—James McKenzie, his wife and two children. In November of the same year, Mrs. Winchell became the mother of her second son, Ledyard Frink Winchell.

E. C. Winchell having been appointed, by the supervisors, as superintendent of public instruction (the first in the county) and a district having been organized, it was with difficulty that a teacher could be found. But Miss Rebecca Baley, recently arrived with her parents from Missouri, and living at the Fort, was accepted by Mr. Winchell, after some questioning by him, and employed for a month at a salary of fifty dollars. No schoolroom being available either at the Fort or at Millerton, Mrs. Winchell gave up her dining-room, and provided tables and benches for the use of teacher and pupils. On Monday morning, March 19, 1860, in the western room of this building, which was built by the government for a hospital, school was opened with eleven attendants, and Miss Baley, with the advice and supervision of Mrs. Winchell, who lived in the house, taught here three months. This was the first public school in Fresno County. The pupils were John C. Hoxie, Sewall F. Hoxie, Ellen Baley, Charles Baley, John Parker, Mary Parker, Jane Richards, Allen Stroud, Arza Stroud, Nevada Clark and brother, and the small son of Mrs. Winchell.

In the fall of 1861 the Winchell family moved to a new home half a mile south of Fort Miller, situated in a picturesque valley, through which ran a stream, since then known as Winchell Creek. During the residence at this place Mrs. Winchell in 1864-1865, conducted a private school, for advanced as well as primary pupils. The public school having been discontinued from the summer of 1861, for lack of competent or available teachers, Mrs. Winchell, at the earnest solicitation of parents from the Chowchilla on the north to Dry Creek on the south, consented to give herself to what she considered as her duty to the young people of the region. A school building was erected and furnished near Mrs. Winchell's home; and, devoting her entire time to the advancement of education, she was instrumental in giving to her pupils much that, owing to the absence of opportunity and the peculiar environment of those times, they otherwise would have failed to receive. Not only was she teacher, but friend, counsellor and companion as well.

As a matter of historical interest, a list of the names of the pupils of Mrs. Winchell's classes is here given. Including her two sons, Lilbourne and Ledyard, there was a class of twenty-one: Mary J. McKenzie, Fort Miller (now Mrs. John C. Hoxie), Ellen G. Baley, Fort Miller (now Mrs. James McCardle), and Elizabeth Johnson, Stonehouse, Merced County (now Mrs. H. C. Tupper)—all now living in Fresno County; Mary Daulton, deceased, and Minnie Rea (now Mrs. Brock of Kings County), both from Buchanan Hollow; Tillie Gilmour (Mrs. Dr. Brown, of Madera), and John W. Gilmour, on Saginaw Creek, Madera County, both children of the late Mrs. R. P. Mace of Madera, then of Fort Miller; William H. McKenzie, late of Fresno, and Edwin P. McKenzie, deceased, both of Fort Miller; Allen Stroud and Arza Stroud (now of Phoenix, Ariz.); Sewall F. Hoxie, Fort Miller (now of Pasadena); George W. Baley and Charles C. Baley, both in Fresno County; Maggie Carroll (the late Mrs. B. S. Boutwell, of Dry Creek); George and Belle Winkleman, from Crane Valley; and two of the children of Henry Glass.

The home of Mrs. Winchell was the center of attraction to the young people of the neighborhood, as many innovations in the way of social gatherings, parties, picnics games and other entertainments were introduced. In these efforts she had the hearty cooperation of her husband. After coming to the new county seat at Fresno she continued to contribute to the pleasure and social elevation of the community. Here, again, her home was the rendezvous for the young people, and ever hospitably open for their entertain-

ment. To the sick, needy or afflicted she gave her sympathy and attention, bringing hope and light into darkened homes. Her love and self-sacrifice endeared her to many.

In after-years, her health being seriously impaired, she moved, with her husband and only daughter, to San Francisco. The terrors of the earthquake and fire of 1906 hastened the breaking-down of her vitality, and on November 18, 1908, surrounded by her husband and children, she peacefully passed to that Great Beyond, where her reward awaits her. A noble, self-sacrificing and sympathetic woman, her ashes repose with those of her family, in the beautiful Mountain View Cemetery in Oakland, Cal.

**GIDEON BOWDISH.**—Among the prominent early settlers of Central Colony, Fresno County, was the late Gideon Bowdish, who came to this county in 1882, although he had previously lived in Siskiyou County, as early as 1862. He was a native of the Empire State, born July 13, 1833, a son of William Bowdish, a native of Saratoga, the same state. The Bowdish family originally came from England and were members of the Society of Friends who settled at New Bedford, Mass., where some of the family were merchants.

Gideon Bowdish followed farming at Waterloo, N. Y., and in 1862, accompanied by his wife, came to California, locating at Scott Bar, Siskiyou County, where he followed placer mining for four years. In 1866 Mr. Bowdish returned to Waterloo, N. Y., going east via the Isthmus of Panama. After reaching his native state he engaged in farming for fifteen years when he yielded to the allurements of the Golden State, this time coming to Fresno County, where he located in the Central Colony and purchased a ranch. Afterwards he sold his ranch and bought eighty acres of raw land, which he improved.

In 1888, Gideon Bowdish located in the city of Fresno and operated a blacksmith shop on the corner of K and Fresno Streets two years. His next move took him to Ashland, Ore., where for three years he engaged in horticulture. Again he longed for the old home state and from Oregon he returned to Rochester, N. Y., in 1895. The call of the Great West seemed to ring in his ears, for he did not remain long in the East, but in 1898 came again to the Pacific Slope, this time to Seattle, Wash., from where he went to Cook's Inlet, Alaska, where he engaged in mining. In the fall of the same year he returned to California, locating in Fresno, where he lived at 363 Glenn Avenue. During his trip to Alaska, Mr. Bowdish's health became impaired and on January 12, 1908, he passed away.

In Rochester, N. Y., on October 17, 1860, Gideon Bowdish was united in marriage with Miss Jenette Smiles, a native of that city and a daughter of Dr. John Smiles, a native of Edinburgh, Scotland. Dr. Smiles was graduated from the University of Edinburgh and a medical college at Glasgow, after which he became a very eminent physician and surgeon, and for several years was surgeon in the British barracks in Demerara, Guiana, British West Indies. Afterwards he settled at Rochester, N. Y., where he practiced medicine until he retired, and passed away in March, 1882. His wife, in maidenhood, was Isabella Wilson, a native of Scotland, born in Dalkeith, in September, 1811. She emigrated to the United States in 1833, and was married to Dr. Smiles at Rochester, N. Y., although the young couple were engaged before leaving their native land. She passed away in Rochester, N. Y. Both Doctor and Mrs. Smiles were members of the Presbyterian Church.

Mrs. Gideon Bowdish continues to reside at the old homestead in Fresno, 363 Glenn Avenue, and, although advanced in years, still retains a clear memory and talks very entertainingly about the early days in the Golden State. Mr. and Mrs. Gideon Bowdish were the parents of two children: Percival, a successful rancher at Kerman, whose sketch will be found upon another page of this history; and John Smiles Bowdish, who is also a rancher at Kerman.



**ALBERT ABBOTT ROWELL.**—It would be difficult to find a man more emphatically in accord with the true western spirit of progress, or more keenly alive to the opportunities awaiting the industrious and intelligent man of affairs in Fresno County, than is Albert Abbott Rowell of Selma, who has built up a far-reaching reputation and identified himself with the best interests of his district until he retired from active life. The Rowell family is of English ancestry, coming originally from London. The grandfather was an officer in the Revolutionary War. Jonathan Rowell, the father of Albert Abbott, was born in New England in 1800. He farmed in that part of the country until the middle of the forties, then with his family he migrated to Illinois, going to Chicago via the Erie Canal and the Great Lakes and settling in McLean County where he resumed his occupation and continued until his death. He married Cynthia Abbott, also born in New England, and upon his death she was left with a family of small children and no means of support; she had inherited \$800 from her father. Grandfather Rowell lived to be ninety-seven, while Grandmother Rowell almost reached the century mark. In the family of Jonathan Rowell and wife there were eleven children. Two girls died aged sixteen and eighteen respectively; one child died in infancy; and eight sons grew to maturity, namely: Ira, who was a farmer in Illinois and died at Eureka, that state, and one of whose boys, Homer Rowell, is connected with the Fresno Republican; Hon. Jonathan Harvey, who served for twelve years as a member of congress from the sixteenth district of Illinois, and who was Captain of Company G, Seventeenth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, for three years, and who was the father of Chester Rowell of Fresno, and who died after a long and useful life; Charles Carroll, who was a grocer at Danvers, Ill., where he died; William Franklin, who served as a private in Company D, Eighth Missouri Regiment of Infantry, and who after the war came to Fresno County and later moved to San Jose, where he died; Milo, who is now living in Seattle, Wash., a retired merchant, and who also served in Company D, Eighth Missouri Regiment; George B., who crossed the plains to Montana with his brother, Chester, in 1866, and who later returned to Illinois (Chester coming on to California) and lived there a short time, then went to Montana again and taught school two terms at Egan Canyon, then came to Fresno County and was engaged in the sheep business with his brothers, Chester and our subject, and who died in Fresno County, in 1913; Dr. Chester, who was one of the best loved men of Fresno County, who studied medicine under his uncle, Dr. Isaac Rowell, a 49'er in California and a prominent politician and physician in San Francisco, and whose monument adorns the Courthouse Park in Fresno, who also served three years in Company G, Seventeenth Illinois Infantry, and who grew up with Fresno County, served as mayor of Fresno, and died about five years ago; and Albert Abbott, of this review.

Albert A. Rowell was born in Essex County, Vt., May 30, 1846, and at the age of four years was taken by his parents to McLean County, Ill., where he lived for several years. The year following their removal to Illinois the father died, leaving his widow with a large family of children and no means to provide for them. The education of Albert A. was very limited as his services were needed on the farm to help with the work and provide for the other children. At the age of fourteen he began working as a farm hand, continuing until the breaking out of the Civil War, some eighteen months later. He enlisted as a private in Company G, Seventeenth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, was mustered in at Cape Girardeau and served in the Army of the Tennessee. He was taken ill with pneumonia and chronic diarrhoea and was discharged on account of physical disability, after a service of fourteen months. He returned to Illinois and remained until 1871.

In that year Mr. Rowell went to York County, Nebr., where he took up a homestead, proved up on it, and during the intervening time he worked at carpentering. In 1874 he arrived in Fresno County, Cal., where he en-

tered the employ of his two brothers in sheep-raising. He took up a pre-emption claim of 160 acres, located two miles west of what is now the town of Selma, improved it and sold off all but eighty-seven acres, of which eighty acres is in vines and trees, in full bearing. In February, 1879, he became one of the first workers on the old Centerville and Kingsburg ditch, contracting for the woodwork. Soon afterwards he went to Washington Colony, assisted in laying it out, dug ditches and otherwise labored for the comfort and convenience of the early settlers and for the profit of those who have followed later. Mr. Rowell cut the first stick of timber for the warehouses at Fresno, for the First Methodist Episcopal Church, Fresno, and for the water-works building in Fresno. He erected the residence for his brother, Dr. Chester Rowell, at Fresno, that stood where the Chandler-Rowell building now is. He built the Rowell Building in Selma, which bears the inscription "Prohibition Row;" also his own residence on Sylvia Street, and his handiwork is seen in many of the other residences in the little town of Selma. In 1901 he retired to live in Selma.

On December 22, 1878, Mr. Rowell was united in marriage with Miss Nancy Ann Booth, born at Stillwater, Minn., the daughter of the late Stephen Booth, who moved from Minnesota to Illinois, thence to Colorado, and back again to Illinois, and back again to Colorado, and from there he came to California. Her mother died when Nancy was a baby and she was brought up by her step-mother. She came across the plains with the family with cow teams. Her father was a carpenter and millwright by trade and became owner of a ranch in Central Colony, Fresno County. Mrs. Rowell has proved an able helpmate to her husband, encouraging him in his successes and helping him in every way to win a competence.

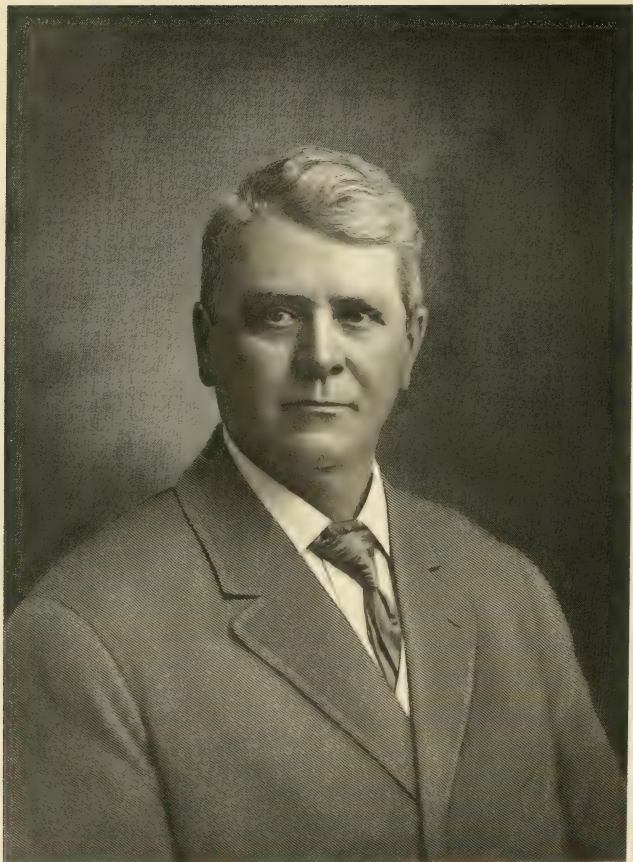
Mr. Rowell is a Prohibitionist and has ever been in the vanguard in fighting the liquor element and kindred vices. He is a member of the Grand Army, Post No. 193, of Selma, of which he is Past Commander and now Chaplain. Mrs. Rowell belongs to the Ladies' Circle of the G. A. R. He attended the National Encampment of the Grand Army at Los Angeles. Both Mr. and Mrs. Rowell are members of the Christian Church, Mr. Rowell having served on the board of trustees and as superintendent of the Sunday School. In every way he has assisted to build up the town and county and is counted upon to do his share in all projects for the betterment of local conditions. When he landed in the county he considered it one of the "most God-forsaken" sections of desert he had ever seen and would have moved on to other fields if he had been able, but he was broke and had to remain, a circumstance that he has never regretted. He is a clean, moral man of generous impulses and practical common sense. He enjoys life and lends a helping hand to those less fortunate than himself.

**MRS. MARY J. HATCH.**—The distinction of being the oldest living pioneer of the Elkhorn school district, of Fresno County, belongs to Mrs. Mary J. Hatch, widow of the late Dennis Hatch. Mr. and Mrs. Hatch homesteaded 160 acres, where Mrs. Hatch now resides, and which has been the home place since September, 1881, when they secured it from the Government.

Dennis Hatch passed away May 18, 1900, his death being mourned by many who through years of association had learned to honor and highly respect him. He was born on April 4, 1849, at Eaton, N. H., and was reared and educated in that state. His father, Ephraim Hatch, was a New England farmer; his mother, in maidenhood, was Jane Bean, both families tracing their ancestors back to Revolutionary Days, who came originally from England.

Mrs. Mary J. Hatch, the subject of this review, is a native of Brownfield, Oxford County, Maine, her maiden name being Mary J. Hartford, daughter of George and Belinda (Wormwood) Hartford, both families being Maine farmer folks. Mr. and Mrs. George Hartford had seven children who reached maturity, Mrs. Hatch being the only one of the family now residing in California. She has one brother residing in Standish, Maine, H. B. Hartford, who





*C. S. Pierce*

is in the telephone business; a sister, Mrs. Belinda Newcomb, resides at Bridgton, Maine; another sister, Mrs. Cora B. Lewis, lives at Brownfield, Maine.

When Dennis Hatch was a young man he lived just across the state line of Maine, in the state of New Hampshire, and the young couple were married at Brownfield, Maine, on December 13, 1873. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Hatch farmed for two years in New Hampshire, and in 1876 migrated to the Golden State, arriving at Merced, in May of the Centennial Year. At first Mr. Hatch farmed at Snelling, Merced County, and in September, 1881, moved to Fresno County, locating in what is now known as the Elkhorn school district. Mr. Hatch gave a plot of two acres of land as a site for a school, as long as it should be used for that special purpose. When he came to Fresno County, Mr. Hatch homesteaded a quarter section of land which he improved with a house and barn. He engaged in stock-raising and lived to see this section of the county developed into a prosperous farming district, and was proud of the fact that he had greatly aided in its development.

Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Hatch were the parents of two children: Mabel E., born in New Hampshire, died in infancy; Alice M., married S. E. Williamson, whose sketch appears on another page of this history, and she is the mother of six children, and the family lives with Mrs. Hatch on the old home place. Mrs. Mary J. Hatch is an estimable woman, loved and highly respected by the community, where she has lived for thirty-seven years, and in her home she still continues to dispense the good old California hospitality.

**CHARLES S. PIERCE.**—A truly great man, especially in the development of both the city and county of Fresno along broad and enduring lines, and one whose confidence in the locality and the future grew and kept pace with his own ever-increasing success, was the late Charles S. Pierce, president of the C. S. Pierce Lumber Company, who died at his home at 1509 Van Ness Avenue, Fresno, on April 18, 1919, after having built up and thoroughly established the largest lumber business in the county. He had lived in Fresno for over thirty-five years, or one-half of his life-time, and had he survived until November, 1919, he would have celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of his fortunate marriage. Death came as a great surprise to his many friends, for he had been active in business until almost the last, and was sick with pneumonia only five days.

He was born at Syracuse, N. Y., on November 15, 1848, the son of Lyman Pierce, a New Yorker, who married Miss Phoebe Dean, also of the same state, and then removed to Michigan and after that to Iowa. At the breaking out of the Civil War he showed his patriotism by enlisting in an Iowa regiment, with which he served through the worst of that awful conflict, and after the war he removed to Story County, Iowa, where he took up farming. When he and his good wife retired, they came west to Fresno; and here they lived until their death.

Charles S. Pierce was sent to the public schools of the districts in which he lived, and being quick to grasp what was taught him, he made unusual progress despite the obstacles of the ante-bellum and war days. He seemed to have a special penchant and talent for business; in course of time he indulged in business ventures to his heart's content, and little by little he succeeded beyond his boldest anticipation.

When he was fifteen, he moved with his parents to Waterloo, Iowa, and six years later, at Ames in the same state, he was married to Miss Mary Ellen Fitchpatrick, a native of Washington County, Ind., and a member of an old Virginia family. Her parents were William and Sarah V. (Heggy) Fitchpatrick, who came from Virginia to Indiana, and then settled at Ames. There they were early pioneers and owned and operated a farm that now adjoins the State Agricultural College, and at which homestead they in time died. Besides Mary Ellen, they had four children, all of whom grew to

maturity: Joseph went into the Civil War as a member of the Twenty-third Iowa Volunteer Infantry, and now resides in Nevada, Iowa; William was also in the same regiment, but died in Mexico; John was in the Eighth Iowa Cavalry, and at present has his home at Hebron, Nebr.; and Sarah is Mrs. McElyea, of Ames. Joseph and John were both taken prisoners and sent to Andersonville, where they finally met—not altogether, on account of their environment, a joyous union.

Shortly after his marriage, Mr. Pierce moved to Cherokee, Iowa, where he engaged in farming and also in the general merchandise business. Leaving there, he came direct to Fresno, in 1883, destined to remain here ever since, and in September he engaged in the lumber business with his brother-in-law, F. K. Prescott, forming a firm styled Prescott & Pierce, which continued for about ten years. In 1895 he severed his connection with Mr. Prescott and organized the C. S. Pierce Lumber Company, which is now one of the leading retail lumber concerns of the San Joaquin Valley. Some eight years ago, he organized the Tulare County Lumber Company, with yards at Visalia and Lindsay. He was also interested in many other business concerns, being a director in the Farmers' National Bank of Fresno, and for over twenty years served as director of the Peoples Savings Bank, which was sold to the Bank of Italy two years ago.

Five children blessed the union of Mr. and Mrs. Pierce: Maude Phoebe is now Mrs. S. S. Parsons of Pacific Grove; Mae is the wife of H. E. Norton who is now president of the C. S. Pierce Lumber Company; Blanche Bee married Dr. T. N. Sample, a prominent physician of Fresno; Ethel Jane is Mrs. Leland Cutler, of San Francisco; and Bernice Lucile is the wife of Ernest Miller of Visalia.

Mr. Pierce was a member of the Commercial Club and was a prominent Mason, a Knight Templar and Scottish Rite Mason, as well as a Shriner. Since the death of her husband, Mrs. Pierce has continued to reside at the old home on Van Ness Avenue, surrounded by her children and friends. The daughters are all devoted to their mother, and through their assistance she is able to manage her extensive affairs. She is a member of Raisina Chapter, No. 89, of the O. E. S., as well as the Order of Amaranth, and is an earnest Presbyterian.

**HON. CHARLES A. HART.**—Foremost among the pioneer settlers of Fresno County was Judge Charles A. Hart, who in young manhood dauntlessly pushed his way across desert, plain and mountain to a new and uncultivated country and after his arrival he threw himself into its development and advancement with all the energy he possessed. He descended from a fine old New York family, was well-bred and educated and rapidly became an acknowledged leader in the establishment of beneficent enterprises in Millerton, the first county seat of Fresno County, and for over half a century occupied a post of honor and influence in legal, financial, political, agricultural and social circles.

Judge Hart was born in Geneva, N. Y., November 7, 1820, a son of Hon. Truman Hart, a well-known banker of western New York and for several terms a representative from his district in the New York State Senate. Judge Hart's mother was Susan Carpenter, a native of the Empire State and a representative of a prominent family there. When Judge Hart was a small boy his parents moved to Palmyra, N. Y., where he attended the grammar and high schools, and later graduated from the Genesee Wesleyan Seminary at Lima, that state. The year following his graduation he was employed as a civil engineer and surveyor on the New York and Lake Erie Railroad, having charge of the construction of the portion of road between Elmira and Binghamton. At the expiration of his contract he went back to his home, entered the office of Theron R. Strong in Palmyra, studied law and was admitted to practice in the state of New York. He practiced one year in Palmyra, then went to New York City and entered upon an entirely new avocation, that of



a commission merchant, dealing in wool, hides and leather, in which he was successful.

Enterprising and far-seeing, and doubtless actuated by a spirit of adventure, he decided to put his fortune to the hazard on the Pacific Coast, where he hoped to find a realization of his dreams of future prosperity. Joining a party of New England men in 1848, he proceeded by steamer to Matamoros, Mexico, where the company purchased a good outfit and with provisions a-plenty started on their journey across the country for Southern California. The journey was leisurely made through Mexico, across the great American desert to the Gila River, thence through the Indian country in Arizona to the Colorado River, landing near the present site of Yuma. While crossing the great desert the party found many immigrants who had illy provided themselves with food and water and were in great distress and to these they gave of their own precious stock of food and water, even to the last, when their last two days were made with nothing to eat, but with the satisfaction that they had aided their fellowmen to the best of their ability. In their stock of supplies they had added quantities of leather and of this they made boats with which to cross the streams. The Colorado River was only about a half mile wide but the current was swift and in crossing their boats were carried down stream about a quarter of a mile. The region they traversed was one of the least known and most dangerous routes overland, though the shortest. They crossed the Mojave desert and there they suffered untold hardships from lack of water for man and beast. Judge Hart learned to speak Spanish while they were leisurely crossing the Mexican country and this came in good play for, after he reached Millerton he soon had as clients many of the Spanish-speaking residents of the county. Their journey took them through Los Angeles, up the coast to Santa Barbara and on to San Jose and San Francisco, from which place they journeyed inland and finally, after seven months on the road, arrived at Hill's Ferry in Merced County, on August 7, 1849.

Although entirely ignorant of mining, the party started for the diggings and on their way were fortunate in meeting with Captain Cutler, who had served in the Mexican War under General Taylor, and from him received some excellent advice and information as to the placers. For two years Judge Hart and his companions worked successfully, finding gold in large quantities, not infrequently averaging sixteen ounces per day each. About 1853 or 1854 Judge Hart located at Millerton, then Mariposa County, opened a law office and entered upon the practice of his profession. When Fresno County was created in 1856, from a portion of Mariposa County, and Millerton was made the county seat, Judge Hart was appointed the first county judge and filled that office with great satisfaction for one term, when he retired to resume his law practice. He continued in the law until 1874, when on account of ill health and upon the advice of his physician he retired to his ranch of over 2,000 acres of very valuable land. When the government abandoned Fort Miller as a military post in 1863, Judge Hart bought the post buildings, one of which he remodeled and ever after occupied as a residence. Upon his ranch he gave especial attention to stock-raising and the culture of fruit; in the latter industry he was recognized as a pioneer in the San Joaquin Valley. Judge Hart made the Fort his home until his death, which occurred on May 13, 1903, at the home of his son, Truman G. Hart, 251 Blackstone Avenue, Fresno.

Judge Hart was united in marriage with Mrs. Ann (Brennan) McKenzie, a native of Ireland, February 18, 1865. She was the widow of Sergeant James McKenzie, by whom she had three children: William H. McKenzie, now deceased, formerly a capitalist in Fresno; Mary Jane, widow of John C. Hoxie, of Fresno; and E. P. McKenzie. The only child born of the union of Judge and Mrs. Hart is a son, Truman G. Hart, capitalist of Fresno.

Judge Hart belonged to that rare type of men who pursue to a consummation their plans in life in spite of all obstacles which may arise in their

paths. Throughout his life he was actuated by the highest motives, and though the early days of California were fraught with opportunities to gain wealth and eminence by the adoption of questionable means, he was never known to pursue a policy in any way subject to adverse criticism. His life was pure and blameless, both in public and private affairs. He frequently manifested his public spirit and liberality of heart and mind in a way that endeared him closely to a multitude of friends. The beneficent effect of his life and work upon the welfare of Fresno County cannot be overestimated, for during the days of the county's development he was one of the most potential factors in placing it upon a sound and substantial basis. His participation in public affairs was governed by high-minded and unselfish motives. His name will be handed down in history as that of one of the most striking characters and finest citizens in the San Joaquin Valley.

**DENVER S. CHURCH.**—Well known as a successful and skilled lawyer, Denver S. Church, of Fresno, represents a prominent family connected with the development of the state of California, and has served as Congressman from California, and is a native son, born at Folsom, December 11, 1864. His father was E. J. Church, a native of Pennsylvania, who crossed the plains in 1852, with ox teams, in company with his two brothers, one of whom, M. J. Church, was the founder of irrigation in Fresno County. After mining at Diamond Springs unsuccessfully for a time, E. J. Church moved to Woodbridge, San Joaquin County, and worked at the blacksmith's trade, and very soon afterwards he moved to Folsom, where he continued at the trade and also engaged in raising stock. He went to Napa County and was engaged in the stock business and in general farming near St. Helena, for many years, or until advancing years made it unwise for him to continue further manual labor; he retired, in 1898, and lived in Fresno in the enjoyment of a well-earned rest. His wife was Catherine Rutan, a native of Illinois, who crossed the plains in the early fifties, with her father, Samuel Rutan, settling on a farm near Woodbridge. She died in 1868, when her son Denver S. was but four years of age.

The youngest child in the family, Denver S. Church attended the public schools at St. Helena and later Healdsburg College, where he completed the regular course. In 1877 he came to Fresno and joined an uncle, M. J. Church, and helped carry the chain during the survey of Temperance Colony. In 1887, having settled permanently in Fresno, Mr. Church took up the study of law and in 1893 was admitted to the bar and thereafter carried on an independent general practice, meeting with good success, both in the results obtained, from the cases handled, and from a financial standpoint. From January, 1899, to January, 1903, he served as deputy district attorney under O. L. Everts. He has always been a prominent factor in Democratic politics and on that ticket was elected a member of Congress. Mr. Church is a member of the Fresno County Bar Association; Fresno Parlor No. 25, N. S. G. W.; Fresno Lodge of Elks, and the Woodmen of the World. Sharing with Mr. Church in the esteem of the community is his wife, whom he married in Reno, Nev., and who was Miss Louise Derrick, born in Reno, her parents having been pioneers of Carson Valley.

**TRUMAN G. HART.**—Prominently identified with the best interests of Fresno County, the San Joaquin Valley and the State of California, is Truman G. Hart, a man of large affairs, a native son and distinguished as an excellent representative of a distinguished pioneer family of the county, being a son of the late Judge Charles A. Hart, the first judge of Fresno County. Truman G. was born at Millerton, the original county-seat of Fresno County, April 9, 1866, and he attended the public school of his birthplace in pursuit of the rudiments of an education, which was supplemented by an attendance of the schools of Fresno City, and in 1882, he entered St. Augustine College at Benicia, from which he was graduated in 1886.





*W. G. Sample.*



*Mrs. Sallie Sample*

Mr. Hart returned to Fresno and soon became identified with the Fresno County Abstract Company, working his way to the position of manager, which he held a number of years. He was always active in local politics and in 1894 was elected on the Republican ticket for the office of county clerk, receiving over 700 votes majority, which at that time, the county always being considered a Democratic stronghold, was unusually large. He served from January, 1895, till January, 1899, and declined a renomination.

Mr. Hart is a pioneer in the oil industry in the San Joaquin Valley, as one of the organizers of the Producers and Consumers Oil Company, in which he served as a director. This company put down three wells on Section 20, Township 19, Range 15, and got oil in commercial quantities; this was the beginning of the greatest industry in the entire valley. Mr. Hart disposed of his interest in this company and organized the Oil City Petroleum Company and became its president, he also helped organize the Twenty-eight Oil Company and was president of that concern. He has been interested for many years in many companies organized to exploit the oil-fields of the San Joaquin Valley and has met with more than the usual degree of success in his operations.

In Fresno, September 29, 1892, Truman G. Hart was united in marriage with Augusta A. Trowbridge, a native of Illinois, and she presides over their well-appointed home at 251 Blackstone Avenue, Fresno. Mr. Hart has always been a leading spirit in the advancement of all interests for the development and upbuilding of the county. He is recognized as an authority in financial circles and his business ability and judgment are unquestioned.

**DAVID COWAN SAMPLE.**—When David Cowan Sample arrived in California it was with empty hands and pockets. The success that he has achieved has been the result of his own efforts, for he has applied the three P's of success—Prudence, Perseverance, and Push—in all his career. In the evening of his days he can look back upon a life well-spent, and with the knowledge that he has done his duty as a citizen to his county and his fellow man. A native of Mississippi, he was born at Lexington on February 12, 1849, a son of Isaac and Mary H. (Dulany) Sample, both born in the Carolinas, the former in South Carolina and the latter in North Carolina. They were farmers and followed that occupation near Lexington until the death of the father, when his son David C. was a small child. Mrs. Mary H. Sample was a daughter of Daniel Dulany, who served as a colonel in the War of 1812. He was a large landowner in Mississippi, where his death occurred. Mrs. Sample died in that state, leaving three sons and one daughter of whom David Cowan was the youngest.

David Cowan Sample was reared on his mother's plantation, the "Cypress," located about nine miles from Lexington, where he attended a private school until he was fifteen years of age. He then left school to join the Confederate forces and acted as a scout under General Forrest. He furnished his own mount and was assigned to the Sixth Texas Cavalry under Captain Scott, and served until the close of the war. During this memorable struggle the home plantation was devastated, the slaves and stock disappeared, and the farming implements were destroyed. Upon his return to civil life, Mr. Sample found employment as a clerk for one year, when he once more entered a private school in Lexington and remained for a like period. He then came to California via Panama, in company with Major Thomas P. Nelson and his wife, arriving on June 18, 1868, a stranger in a strange land. He went to Solano County, where he found work in the harvest fields for a short time, and then to Dry Creek, where he worked as a farm hand two years. After this he went into the sheep business for himself in Fresno County. As he succeeded with his sheep business he invested in land, first taking up a pre-emption claim, which formed the nucleus of his large holdings in later years, when he had some eighteen sections of land on the plains and in the foothills, farming land along Dry Creek, and stock ranches on Sayles and Hol-

land Creeks. In the latter section he has a fine lemon and orange orchard. The land is in the thermal belt and is well adapted to the growth of citrus fruits. He raised sheep profitably until he sold out in 1904, when the ranges were included in the forest reserves, in the latter years keeping about 10,000 head. After he sold his sheep he started in the cattle business, making a specialty of shorthorn Durhams, full-blooded and high-grade stock, and it was through his leadership that the grade of stock was perceptibly raised to a higher standard in the county. His range land is all under fence and modern improvements have been added from time to time. The property is one of the show places on Dry Creek, and is located some nineteen miles from Fresno. His land of later years has been farmed to grain. As he prospered he became interested in property in Fresno and maintained his interest in several enterprises in that city, one being the manufacture of buggies and wagons, before the advent of the automobile, under the firm name of Carl & Sample. The firm sold out to Cobb & Evans, now in the automobile business. He was one of the organizers of the Fresno Meat Company, in January, 1904, and acted as president and manager. Under his directions the packing house was built along modern lines and completely equipped with up-to-date machinery. He was likewise one of the originators of the Fresno Flume and Irrigation Company, but the panic of 1880 necessitated a change of the original plans; however, the project was completed, much to the credit of the projectors, and is of much benefit to the county. He is a director in the San Joaquin Abstract Company of Fresno, and is also interested in the W. M. & M. Oil Company of Fresno County and served as its secretary.

At Millerton, in 1872, Mr. Sample was united in marriage with Miss Sallie Cole, born in Solano County on December 23, 1854, the daughter of William T. Cole, who came to California in 1849. He was engaged in the stock business, becoming one of the pioneer stockmen of Fresno County, where he was a large sheep raiser on Kings River at Cole's Slough. Mr. and Mrs. Sample became the parents of eleven children: William C.; Maud, Mrs. John Shipp; Thomas N., a physician of Fresno; Mary, Mrs. J. A. Blasingame; Annie S., Mrs. Dr. B. B. Lampkin; Estelle, Mrs. Frank Wyatt; David Cowan, Jr., who enlisted for service in the World War and was assigned to duty as farrier in the Remount Division, with rank of sergeant; Sallie; Fillmore C., a student in the medical department of Stanford University, who enlisted for service in the medical unit in the American Expeditionary Forces and is still in service; Ruth; and Harry. Mrs. Sample died on December 27, 1917. She was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church and had devoted her life to the rearing of her children and the care of her home. Mr. Sample is a Mason, holding membership in Fresno Lodge, No. 247, F. & A. M. Politically he is a staunch Democrat and has served as a member of the county central committee. He belongs to the chamber of commerce in Fresno and supports all worthy enterprises that have for their object the betterment of business, social and moral conditions. Since 1910 the family home has been in Fresno, where Mr. Sample moved to take a well-earned rest after many years of hard labor to obtain a competence. He is highly respected by all who know him, and their home is a place where a charming hospitality is dispensed to friend and stranger.

**ENOS FROST ST. JOHN.**—When a man is able to look back upon a long line of honorable ancestry and to realize that he, himself, has added to its luster, it affords him no little satisfaction. Such in the evening of his days is the experience of Enos Frost St. John. He was born in Troy, Oakland County, Mich., April 10, 1835. His father, Daniel St. John, was a pioneer of Southern Michigan. The grandfather, Enos St. John, was born at Canaan, Conn., and emigrated to Rensselaer County, N. Y., and later to Genesee County, N. Y. The St. John family is of English origin, and rose to great prominence in the fifteenth century. They settled in Connecticut in colonial times. The late John P. St. John, Governor of Kansas and Prohibition candi-



date for President of the United States, was from this family. The mother was Olivia Marsh, from the early Marsh family, of Hartford, Conn. She was married in New York State near Rochester, and became a pioneer of Oakland County, Mich. She died in Milford in 1873. There were six children: Martha E., William G., Enos Frost, Charlotte A., Oliver H., and Frances Eugenia, wife of Floyd Burnham, of Fresno, Cal. The father was a miller by trade, and for five years worked in Solomon Frost's mill at Genesee, N. Y. The Frost family was a very prominent one. Going to Michigan, the father bought a farm in Oakland County, and raised his six children. He came to California and died at Fresno, at the age of eighty-eight years and nine months.

E. F. St. John helped to clear up his father's farm in Michigan, remaining at home and attending the public schools of his township and at Milford. He came to California in 1857, by railway to St. Louis, and by river boats to Kansas City, then a very small place. He left there in the early spring of 1857, crossing the plains with an ox team. The Kansas-Nebraska troubles were at their height, and he saw some of the border ruffian warfare. The Lawrence Republican had just been burned, owing to the fierce strife regarding slavery that existed then. He had strong anti-slavery sympathies. After working a week on the Republican, on May 24, 1857, he started for the West. When about five hundred miles out, he had trouble with his employer, McGowan, and joined a party headed by a man by the name of McWhinney. They reached the Yuba River above Downieville in the latter part of September, 1857. He hired out to work on the reservoir that supplied water at Camptonville, a gold-mining town. Later he went to Marysville and went to work for G. G. Briggs, and this was the beginning of an acquaintanceship that lasted for a good many years and resulted in establishing the future of Mr. St. John in California. Mr. Briggs was a well-known California pioneer, a horticulturist and extensive landowner. With him Mr. St. John remained for eight years, helping to set out orchards and vineyards at Marysville; and later, as Mr. Briggs had large landed holdings in Santa Barbara County, Mr. St. John was sent to what is now Ventura County and worked in his orchards and on his farms for one year. He then went back to Marysville and remained there two or three years.

In the spring of 1865 Mr. St. John left for his old home in Michigan, going by water via Aspinwall, Panama, and New York, sailing in Vanderbilt's boat Ocean Queen, one of the largest and best boats of that day. After visiting relatives at New Canaan, Conn., and in New York State, he went to his old home in Oakland County, Mich. He was married at Ann Arbor, in the fall of 1869, to Mrs. Sylvia A. St. John, widow of Solomon St. John, a cousin, by whom she had one child, Anna A., who now lives at home in Fresno. Mrs. St. John's maiden name was Lowry: She was a daughter of James Lowry, of Washtenaw County, Mich., where she was born on a farm on the Lodi plains. Of the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. E. F. St. John were born five children: Bessie, who died in Michigan in 1883 at the age of twelve years, seven months and three days; Irma, now the wife of Dr. Barr, of Fresno; Fred E. and Fannie O., twins, at home, the latter graduating from the University of California, and is a teacher in Fresno County; and Daisy, wife of F. R. Cabot, a rancher, who lives across the road from the old home.

After his marriage Mr. St. John remained in the East, engaged in farming and horticultural pursuits. He had conceived the idea of engaging in market gardening at some point convenient to the great cities of Philadelphia and New York, and in 1867 he had invested in twenty acres of land between Camden and Philadelphia, about thirty miles from the latter city. He improved this tract, and now the Government has the largest shipyards in the world there where fifty vessels can be built at one time. After three years in New Jersey, Mr. St. John returned to Michigan, where he became the owner of a 159-acre farm near Plymouth, Wayne County. This farm, which is

well improved, he sold in the spring of 1888, to come to California. Arriving in this state he settled with his family within a half mile of Malaga and bought land from the Briggs estate, and also some town property in Malaga. He improved sixty acres, planting it to vines, principally muscats, and kept it until it came into bearing and for two or three years later, selling in 1892 at a good profit. While living at Malaga he became agent for the Briggs estate, and sold the most of the townsite at Malaga for this estate.

In the spring of 1902 Mr. St. John purchased his present ranch of forty acres, one mile south of Fresno, where he resides. This ranch, which is highly improved, is located on Cherry Avenue, in what is known as the Fresno Colony. He also owns forty acres of unimproved land in Tulare County.

Mr. St. John cast his first vote in Santa Barbara County, for Abraham Lincoln, in 1864. He is a Republican in politics, and takes a great interest in all that is going on in the world. He has been active in the Raisin Growers' Association and is much interested in the growth and development of Fresno and Fresno County. His home abounds with refinement and good cheer, with music, current periodicals, books, and literature of the day, all of which satisfy the cultured tastes of his accomplished daughters and family. He and his family belong to the First Baptist Church of Fresno. Mr. St. John was a friend of the late Dr. Rowell of Fresno.

**LEWIS LEACH, M.D.**—It has been truly said of a great man that "nothing in his life becomes him like the ending of it." Dr. Lewis Leach, county pioneer physician, died at his residence on K Street, Fresno, March 18, 1897, and at his passing the county lost one of its few remaining links between Fresno, the desert hamlet, and Fresno, the modern city. Dr. Leach died in harness. He might have retired many years ago with a competence, but his office in the Farmer's Bank building was open to patients up to the middle of the week prior to his death. He felt that his time had come and he quietly met the "grim reaper" and reverently bowed his head and awaited the change to a brighter and happier world.

Dr. Lewis Leach was born in Susquehanna County, N. Y., in 1823, and at the age of thirteen he removed to Binghamton, where he attended the public schools until in 1840, when he went to St. Louis, Mo., to study medicine and fit himself for the profession he was destined to follow to the end of his days. He graduated with the degree of M. D. in 1848, thoroughly equipped to hold his own among professional men of his time. He came at once to California, crossing the great plains and en route picked up thirteen families that had got lost, and by common consent he was made leader of the little party. After successfully battling the dangers and difficulties of the long and tiresome journey to California, the party arrived at the Mojave River, where they divided, some going on to Los Angeles and the rest crossing the Tejon Pass to the Kern River. Just a few days before the Doctor and his party arrived there, they successfully passed a band of Indians by carrying dummy guns, and as the brave little party arrived at the present site of Woodville they found the Indians had massacred a party there and left the bodies unburied, which sad duty was performed by the newcomers to California. The Doctor and his party were on their way to Millerton, Fresno County, but before they reached there they ran out of provisions and were in dire distress, having subsisted on acorns and such limited amount of meat as they could secure on their way. The party went on to the mines above Millerton, on the San Joaquin River, where they mined for gold for a time. The Doctor was about to return to the East when he learned of an interesting surgical case that demanded immediate attention. It was a young man who was threatened with death from blood poisoning from a badly treated wound. His professional instinct was at once aroused and he saved the patient's life by amputating the limb with a wood saw and a jack



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knife. After another night's skirmish with Indians, Dr. Leach was made surgeon of the local volunteer companies and established his hospital on the Fresno River, about fifty-four miles from the present site of Fresno City. After peace was restored with the Indians, Dr. Leach and Major Savage, of the volunteers, established a store on the Fresno River, with a branch at Millerton. Between the store and the practice of his profession the Doctor made money, and in 1860 he devoted his entire time to his practice and took charge of the county hospital at Millerton. On the transfer of the county seat to Fresno he came here and assumed charge of the county hospital in the new town and held the position for a number of years.

Dr. Lewis Leach married Miss Matilda Converse in 1855. In politics the Doctor was a Democrat of the strictest and best kind and was chairman of the county central committee for a number of years, resigning in 1886. In politics as in everything else the Doctor was an honest, upright and honorable man. He was a good business man and established the first bank in Fresno, and later organized the Farmers Bank, of which he was the first president; he also organized the gas company; was interested in the street-car lines and in the fair grounds association. Among his many intellectual gifts was that of an artist, and the special paintings that hung in the Odd Fellows hall were executed by him. He was also a musician of more than ordinary ability.

To few communities comes the fate, to few the fortune, to honor and revere the memory of such men as Dr. Lewis Leach—as man, citizen, physician, philanthropist and neighbor. God has given few men who have, with so much modesty, radiated blessing, happiness and sunshine all about them with less ostentation. To those of his friends who survive him is left his memory, and the impress upon his times which will serve for an inspiration long after monuments to his memory shall have crumbled. He passed into the presence of the Great Master, leaving those behind to say that "the elements were so in him mixed that all the world might stand up and say, 'This was a Man.'"

**CHARLES FRANKLIN HART.**—A man of forceful character and an energetic pioneer, who has done much to improve conditions in Fresno County, is C. F. Hart, a resident of California since 1886. He was born in Newark, N. J., in 1853, the son of Charles and Susan (Bigler) Hart, both natives of Germany. The father left his native land to get away from military oppression and came to New Jersey when a young man and followed the trades of cabinetmaking and carriage-making there. To better his condition he went to Missouri, lived for a time in Ashley, then in St. Louis, and while there he made the first carriage built in that city. In 1856 he removed to Louisiana, that state, continuing to work at his trade and owning his own shop, as he had done in the various places where he had lived. His next move took him to Curryville, Mo., and there he set up as a carriage-maker, finally taking up the blacksmith business as a requirement of the times. At the breaking out of the Civil War he entered the struggle as a member of a Missouri regiment, and at the end of hostilities he returned to civil life, settled at Vandalia, Mo., as a farmer, and erected and conducted the first blacksmith shop there, continuing the business for nine years, or until his death. His wife, to whom were born three children, two of whom are still living, also died in Missouri.

The oldest of the children, Charles F. Hart was reared in Missouri and there attended the public schools and the Curryville Seminary. While the father was serving in the army the family moved to Peoria, Ill., but when the war was over they returned to Curryville, only to find that everything they had owned was gone, and so they moved to Vandalia. At the age of eighteen young Hart went into the employ of the Chicago & Alton Railroad Company, where as foreman, he ran a tread-power wood-saw to turn out

fuel for locomotives, with headquarters at Fulton. After that he worked as a brakeman four years, then as a conductor, first on freight trains and later on the passenger trains. In all he was with the road sixteen years.

Mr. Hart was united in marriage at Vandalia, Mo., March 29, 1878, with Miss Davidella Daniel, born in Yolo County, Cal., the daughter of James Daniel, who had come to California in an early day but had taken his family back to Missouri to make their home. Mrs. Hart was reared in California and educated in the public schools and Hesperian College at Woodland. She told Mr. Hart so much about California that he made up his mind he would come and see for himself, and on August 13, 1886, he arrived in Fresno. As soon as he could find a satisfactory location he was joined by his wife and daughter, five weeks later. He engaged in ranching on what is now known as the Grand Central farm and tilled the soil where the Columbia school now stands. He later entered into a partnership with his brother-in-law, J. N. Daniel, in leasing land west of what is now Rolinda, some three sections which they farmed together until the dry season "broke" Mr. Hart, and he had to make a new start. He went to work for J. G. James as superintendent of a large cattle-ranch in San Luis Obispo County; later he was superintendent of a large raisin vineyard for Mrs. Briggs, the Raisin Queen, near Watsonville. Once more having gotten on his feet, Mr. Hart leased some land and a vineyard from M. Theo. Kearney, and made a success of the venture. In 1900 Mr. Hart purchased his present place of ten acres at the corner of Braly and Church Avenues, west of Fresno, and set out some of the choicest vines obtainable; he erected the buildings and made all the other improvements on the place. He also bought forty acres on Blackstone Avenue, north of Fresno, and here he has fifteen acres in peaches, and raises berries and vegetables.

One child, a daughter, Pearl, blessed the union of Mr. and Mrs. Hart. She was born in Missouri, and is a graduate from the Vacaville (Cal.) High School, and is now a deputy in the office of the county assessor. The Harts belong to the Christian Church. Mr. Hart has been prominent in the circles of the Democratic party and has served as a member of the county central committee for years. He has been an advocate of good roads and for twelve years ran the road grader in his district. He is a member of Fresno Lodge, No. 186, I. O. O. F., and formerly was a member of the B. of L. F. and of the O. R. C., and has a host of friends in the county.

**WILLIAM P. THOMPSON.**—The transformation wrought in California during the past thirty or forty years is due to the energy and perseverance of those men, who, leaving comfortable homes in the East, identified themselves with the newer West and out of its crudity evolved the present-day prosperity. The life of William P. Thompson began in the town of Sunbury, Pa., where he was born into the family of Newton and Susan (Drake) Thompson. He attended the grammar and high schools at Mt. Pleasant, Iowa, whither his parents had moved when he was a small child, until he was fifteen. He then began to travel over the eastern states and worked in various places for three years, when he returned to Mt. Pleasant. He attended the Wesleyan University until 1871, then matriculated in Cornell University, from which he was graduated in 1874. For the next three years Mr. Thompson taught school in Pennsylvania, Illinois and Iowa, and in the meantime he read law and was admitted to the bar in the spring of 1877. He went to Lake City, Colo., and practiced his profession two years, then went to Leadville, where he built up a large and lucrative clientele. In 1884 he came to California and for six months practiced in San Francisco, then went to Santa Rosa and spent six years as a lawyer.

We next find Mr. Thompson in Fresno, where he soon formed a partnership with Judge King, and, under the firm name of Thompson & King carried on a lucrative practice until 1892. He then became a member of the firm of Thompson & Prince, and for seventeen years this was one of the



leading law firms of the San Joaquin Valley and handled many important cases. In 1909 Mr. Thompson withdrew from the firm and since then has been doing an independent business in the general practice of the law.

On August 18, 1879, Mr. Thompson married Miss Mary E. Harris, in Virginia City, Nev., and they have two children: Marguerite, who received a fine musical education and is now the wife of William Zorach, of New York City; and Edith, who is at home. Mr. Thompson is a member of the University Club and is prominent in Democratic circles, but not an office seeker. He is liberal, public-spirited and enterprising and, at all times, is willing to do his part towards making Fresno a better place in which to live. He belongs to the local bar associations.

**HARVEY W. SWIFT.**—When Harvey W. Swift closed his eyes to the scenes of this world the State of California, and especially Fresno County, lost one of her most public-spirited citizens. He was manly, fearless, honorable and liberal, always willing to back his judgment with his money, and to aid those who were less fortunate than himself to get a start in the world. A native of New York State, he was born at Penfield, May 21, 1853, and removed with his parents to Hillsdale, Mich., when he was sixteen and there assisted his father with his farm work until he was twenty years of age. He then became interested in the lumber industry, working in all branches of the business and, becoming familiar with all the details, soon erected a shingle mill at Edmore, that state. He was also engaged in the lumber business at Cheboygan with his brother, the late Lewis P. Swift, and when the latter sold his interest to a Mr. Clark, he continued the partnership under the name of Swift and Clark.

He came out to California many years ago and was one of the original owners and organizers of the Fresno Flume and Irrigation Company, but eventually sold out to his brother, Lewis P., who wanted to settle in California, whereupon Harvey W. returned east and entered into business. In 1901, upon the death of Lewis P., he returned to California and bought back his brother's interest in the above company and carried it on very successfully, with his partner and brother-in-law, C. B. Shaver, then president of the company. When the latter died in 1907, Mr. Swift became president and general manager, serving until the business was sold, and he then turned his attention to other lines of business, particularly the oil industry. With others he sunk some wells, and he also became a stockholder in the Hicks-Hoffman Navigation Company. Mr. Swift became interested in the development of land, bought a half section of the Bullard tract, planted it to alfalfa, also bought sixty acres near Centerville and set that to oranges.

H. W. Swift was one of the best boosters Fresno County ever had. He was the means of bringing the Orpheum Circuit shows to this city; was one of the promoters of the Fresno County Fair Association, and was one of the organizers of the good roads movement in the county. He gave freely to worthy charities, especially the Y. M. C. A. and the Y. W. C. A., the Salvation Army and kindred charities that had for their objective the betterment of conditions for mankind.

Harvey W. Swift was united in marriage at Blanchard, Mich., in 1884, with Miss Minnie K. Roberts, a native of Pennsylvania, who survives him, and who shared in the esteem and respect in which he was held by all who knew him throughout the state. Mr. Swift was an active member of the Sunnyside Country Club, was a Thirty-second degree Mason and a Shriner, and also a member of Fresno Lodge No. 439, B. P. O. Elks. He was beloved by all his fraternal brethren, with whom he mingled on all occasions when it was possible. In politics he was a staunch Republican. He died after an illness of but a few hours, April 11, 1915.

**AMOS AND ANTOINETTE HARRIS.**—Admired, confided in, beloved and honored in his day, and now eminent in the history of the San Joaquin Valley as a successful farmer and an exemplary citizen, Amos Harris, the father of Howard A. Harris, is still remembered for traits and virtues of especial value in a society such as this used to be, largely in the forming. Born in Cayuga County, N. Y., on May 29, 1831, he was the son of Howard Harris, a native of Connecticut who migrated to New York about the beginning of the nineteenth century, there grew to manhood, and vigorously participated, like the true patriot that he was, in the War of 1812. Thereafter, he took up farming as a livelihood, and continued at it until he could work no longer. He died in Locke, Cayuga County. His wife, who had been Melinda Hurlburt, was also born in Connecticut, and died in New York state. Ten children blessed their union, six sons and four daughters; and Amos was the sixth in the order of birth.

Amos Harris attended the public schools, and in 1851, stirred by the gold excitement, he hurried off to California by way of the Isthmus of Panama. For six years, he tried his luck at mining in Placer and Nevada Counties, and having met with moderate success, he carried back to his eastern home a snug little fortune. In December of the same year he located at Jackson, Mich., and engaged in the mercantile business for three years. He had a keen eye to the wants of the public, a pleasing personality prompted by a kindly heart, and he never wanted for patrons of the most dependable sort.

It was in Jackson that Mr. Harris met, wooed and won the lady who was thereafter to share his eventful life. She was Antoinette Pelham, a native of Clinton, Mich., where she was born on October 22, 1837, the fourth child in a family of six. Her father had died when the children were small, and much responsibility fell to the mother, who desired that Antoinette should receive the education she so craved. Before she was fifteen years old she was teaching her first spring term, and the next year she taught her first winter term of school. As soon as possible, she attended the Olivet College, and from there she went to the normal department of the State University at Ann Arbor. In 1857 she joined the Methodist Church, and two years later, on September 14, she was married to Mr. Harris at Jackson, the wedding being one of the social events of that year.

In 1860, Mr. and Mrs. Harris removed to Iowa where they stayed for a short time, but returning to New York State, Mr. Harris took up his residence for a couple of years at the old Harris homestead. Fond as they were of New York, however, Michigan still had greater attractions, and in 1862 they shifted to Coldwater, and there Mr. Harris started farming. In 1864, he became a pioneer in Montana and mined at Virginia City. A few months satisfied him there, and then he moved on to Lawrence, Kans.

In 1874, Mr. Harris said good-bye to the "Garden of the West," and once again came to California, and spent three years in Marin, Sonoma and Mendocino Counties, and three years later Mrs. Harris and the children joined him, coming to Turlock. At first he engaged in farming in Stanislaus County on rented property; and in that half-settled state he remained until 1881, when, on October 2, he came with his family to Fowler Switch. Mrs. Harris never forgot the first impressions of the district to which she had come, expecting to find there a home and to find there something to cheer the homemaker. Instead of vineyards and orchards and pretty bungalows or cottages to greet her, she saw a sandy waste with not one spear of grass in sight, and only a turkey ranch and a sheep-shearing camp to break the line of the horizon.

Mr. Harris then purchased 320 acres of land, much of which he gradually sold off in small tracts, and retained eighty acres as a home farm, one mile southeast of Fowler; and Mrs. Harris realizing only too well the significance of theirs being the only house near the railroad between Selma and Fresno,





*Amos Harris*



*Antoinette P. Harris*

bravely set out to make the desert bloom as the rose. The result was that when the weary travelers stopped at her door and complained of this "God-forsaken country," she told of her vision of this desert as it was yet to be, and she lived to see her dream come true. Her home very naturally became a kind of community center in this new country, and here were held picnics for the schools, and parties and all kinds of old-fashioned social affairs.

As the years went by, Mr. Harris devoted twenty acres of his fine ranch to the cultivation of the raisin grape, ten acres to a fruitful orchard, and ten acres to alfalfa; and little by little he improved the rest. He made a specialty of cultivating fruit, but he was also successfully interested in stock. In addition to his Fowler property he came to own 160 acres in Kern County, and 320 acres in Kings County.

Mrs. Harris vied with her husband in a lively interest in civic matters—he having served as school director for many years, and acted as clerk of the board for two decades, or more, and taken an active part, as a Republican, in national politics—and she, as a charter member of the Fowler Improvement Association, was one of a group of women who set to work to make Fowler so good a place in which to live. As a friend, writing in tribute to her memory, has pointed out, in the records of this association we find that, twenty-six years ago, Mrs. Harris, with her associates, was planning to purchase Block Nine in the town of Fowler for a city park, and also to build a reading-room. To such an extent, in fact, did she even then enter into the spirit of sociological work for others, that she volunteered to spend each Thursday afternoon at the reading-room to entertain the children. And so her life went on, opening her home to the strangers who came from the East, working for the public good, planning entertainments, and in every way possible trying to do good. She was one of the board of directors of the Fowler Improvement Association for many years, and was twice president of the club, in 1894-95 and in 1897-98.

She helped organize the first Sunday School held in Fowler in 1886, in the old school house, which was since burned down. She also organized a chapter of the King's Daughters and the Band of Hope. Her views and sympathies were very broad; she worked for many years in the Episcopal Guild, and in her last earthly year was one of the mission study class meeting once a week in the First Presbyterian Church. She was faithful in the work of the Women's Christian Temperance Union, and a life-long worker in the cause of temperance. At the age of fifty she took up the Chautauqua course of study and secured her diploma. Dearly beloved by all who really knew her, Mrs. Harris passed away on October 25, 1916, the day after she had presided at her club and recited Longfellow's "Psalm of Life."

Of this blessed union were born four children: Frank B., of Waverly ranch, and his twin-sister, Ella Belle, who became the wife of Edwin Bruce of Lawrence, Kans., and who died just one year after her marriage; Howard A., long the able editor and proprietor of the *Fowler Ensign*; and Robert, who died in infancy.

**REUBEN G. HARRELL.**—The old pioneers of Fresno County can best appreciate its gradual transition from a sterile spot on the landscape to its present floral wealth and luxuriance of plants, trees, and vines, which today greet the eye on every hand.

Reuben G. Harrell is one of the old pioneers and recalls shooting doves on the present site of the city of Fresno when the country was in its infancy. He is a native of Gallatin, Tenn., born December 20, 1845. Reared on a Southern plantation in ante-bellum days, he received a common school education, and as a lad of fifteen, at the outbreak of our great civil strife in 1861, enlisted, serving for one year as a scout on the Confederate side. In 1862 he entered the regular service in the Forest Command of Cavalry, Army of the Tennessee, under Gen. T. H. Bell. For two years he was assistant adjutant, and took part with the Army of the Tennessee in all the big bat-

tles, surrendering at Gainsville, Alabama, May 10, 1865, to Gen. R. N. Canby. After his return home he was employed in a store until 1875, then, hearing much about the resources of California and the attendant results for ambitious and energetic young men, he sought his fortune in the Golden State, arriving in Fresno the fall of 1875. From 1875 to 1882 he was engaged in the occupation of farming and stock-raising, and from 1882 to 1885 was in a general merchandise store in Fresno. For eight years he served as deputy county assessor for Fresno county, and since 1885 has practiced law in the United States Land Courts, connected with the United States Department of the Interior. He has been of great assistance to homesteaders locating in the Valley.

December 20, 1866, he was united in marriage with Miss Susie B. Bell, a native of Tennessee and daughter of Gen. T. H. Bell, the commander of Mr. Harrell's old regiment. Their union was blessed by the birth of seven children, four of whom are living: Margaret, the wife of Dr. D. C. Farnham of San Francisco; Maud, the wife of the attorney, D. E. Perkins of Visalia, is the mother of two daughters; Catherine, married Dr. E. M. Doyle of Sacramento; and Myrtle E., who is at home, is an artist of note, and is now chief deputy county school superintendent.

Mr. and Mrs. Harrell have enjoyed more than fifty years of domestic happiness, and on December 20, 1916, surrounded by their children, friends and neighbors, celebrated their golden wedding anniversary. Mr. Harrell is a notary public and is trustee of the Southern Methodist Church. He is held in high esteem by his fellow citizens.

**JABEZ H. LA RUE.**—The ancestors of the La Rue family, for years prominently engaged in viticulture and agriculture in Fresno County, were from France, where they were Huguenots in religious faith. Three brothers, William, Isaac, and Jacob, came to America at an early date. Jacob La Rue was the progenitor of the family now located in Fresno County. He became an early resident of Kentucky. William H. La Rue, the grandfather of Jabez, is said to have owned a mill where Abraham Lincoln was born.

The father of the subject of this sketch was Jacob H. La Rue, a native of Hodgenville, La Rue County, Ky., where he was born in 1799. He moved his family to Missouri in 1838, settling in Lewis County, where he engaged in farming until 1884, when he migrated to California, where he passed away at Sacramento, having attained the advanced age of eighty-five years. His son, Jabez H. La Rue, was born in Elizabethtown, Ky., on February 16, 1833. He was but a small boy when his father moved to Missouri and it was there under primitive conditions that the young lad received his education. His early life was spent on his father's farm until he reached his majority, when he began farming for himself.

Jabez H. La Rue was united in marriage first with Margaret Haycraft, a native of Kentucky. This union was blessed with three sons and one daughter: Hugh William, whose sketch appears upon another page of this history; Sarah C., now deceased; Edwin H.; and Samuel Robert, a review of whose career will be found upon another page of this book. The second marriage of Jabez H. La Rue occurred in 1891, when he was united with Helen H. Christie, a native of Winchester, Va., the ceremony being solemnized in Missouri.

Jabez H. LaRue made his first trip to the Golden State in 1863, when he drove a team of mules across the plains, and after remaining two years in California he returned to his farm in Missouri. In 1886, he made another trip to California, and in the fall of the following year he was bereft of his wife's companionship through her passing to the Great Beyond. Upon his arrival in California, Mr. La Rue settled in the Malaga District, Fresno County, and purchased forty acres which he planted to grapes. As he prospered he added to his original acreage until he possessed 120 acres; thirty-three acres devoted to grapes and the balance of the land was used for general farming. He passed



away in September, 1917, at the advanced age of nearly eighty-five years. He was a man of high character and greatly esteemed in his community where he had resided for so many years. Fraternally he was a prominent Mason and was a member of the Baptist Church.

**SAMUEL ROBERT La RUE.**—The youngest son of Jabez H. La Rue, an honored pioneer of Fresno County, is the subject of this sketch. Samuel Robert La Rue, better known as "Bob." He first saw the light of day in Lewis County, Mo., on July 25, 1857, and his younger days were spent on his father's farm and his education was received in the county schools of his native state. When Bob La Rue had attained his majority he began farming operations for himself and by untiring efforts and good management he achieved success in his undertaking.

On January 5, 1885, he left Missouri for California, and after his arrival in the Golden State he and his brother, H. W. La Rue, purchased a tract of raw land at Malaga, Fresno County, consisting of 160 acres. They set about to improve the ranch and planted a portion to grapes and also raised alfalfa. The brothers being very companionable, conducted their enterprise together and to their praise it can be said that they continued to operate their ranches in the same way until Bob sold out and moved to Fresno. Their farms adjoined and were located on Central Avenue, in the Malaga District. Bob La Rue has been very successful in the cultivation of raisin grapes and is considered an authority on viticulture. He is a member of the California Associated Raisin Company of Fresno. He bought forty acres of grain land in the Newhall Tract, on Chestnut Avenue, which he has set to vines.

S. R. La Rue was united in marriage on January 13, 1880, in Lewis County, Mo., with Belle Bradshaw, a native of Missouri, and this union was blessed with four children, two sons and two daughters: Mrs. Thomas M. Sims, who resides in Sanger, and who is the mother of five children; Mrs. Lola Porter, who lives in Oakland, and she is the mother of one child; Rainey H., engaged in ranching for himself on the Newhall Tract near Fresno, and who is married and has one daughter; and Robert J., living at home. Fraternally, S. R. La Rue is a member of the Woodmen of the World.

**EDWARD DARNALL EDWARDS.**—A fine representative of the old school of lawyers which flourished best when integrity and unimpeachable honor were prime requisites for success, and a member of one of the noted American pioneer families which long figured prominently in the industrial and political affairs of the South, is Edward Darnall Edwards, prominent among the sons contributed by Missouri to the upbuilding of the West. He was born at Liberty, Clay County, Mo., on January 23, 1846, and now enjoys the unique distinction of being the Nestor of the Fresno County bar, with a record for longer continuous service in the practice of law here than that of any other member.

His father and mother were Pressley N. and Naomi D. Edwards, and he was educated in his home town at William Jewell College. In Union City, Tenn., he began to practice law, and as early as the great Centennial Year he came to California. Two years later he came to Fresno, and forming a partnership with W. H. Creed, he began to take his place among the California jurists.

He was elected to the office of District Attorney of Fresno County, and served from 1882 to 1884; and the Democratic Convention having nominated him for Superior Judge in 1900, he was defeated only by a very close margin.

In 1861 Mr. Edwards entered the Confederate Army and for four years served with distinction as one of Henderson's Scouts, operating under Gen. Joseph E. Johnston.

At Paducah, Ky., he was married to Anna, the daughter of Paulena Finch, by whom he has had three children, Ernest H., Jefferson J., and Clarence W. Edwards.

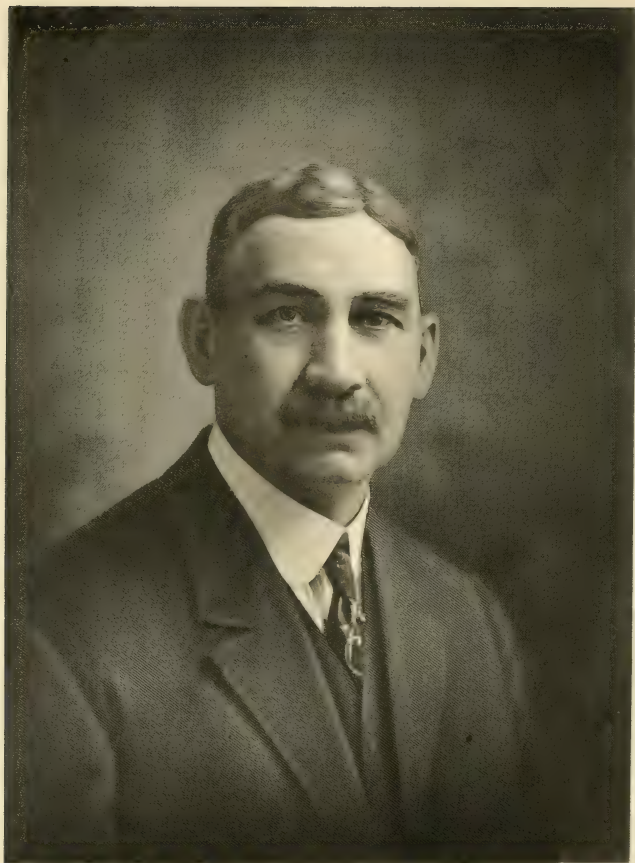
He is a staunch Democrat, and has served on the State Central Committee from 1890 to 1894. He has also done good civic duty, and has made his influence felt for good in the community. He is a man of keen intellect, retentive mind and wonderful vigor at the age of seventy-three; and in many ways is a gentleman of fine attainments. He belongs to St. Paul's M. E. Church, and is a member of Fresno Lodge No. 247, F. & A. M., where he held the office of Worshipful Master. Fresno County is indeed to be congratulated on the rounded out life of this distinguished citizen, who can look both backwards and forwards in the history of Central California with so much satisfaction and faith, and who may rest assured that the record of his own accomplishments here will not perish.

**HANS GRAFF.**—A pillar of strength in the highly important grocery trade of Central California, and an inspiring leader in the development of the raisin, fig and creamery interests of this part of the Golden West, was the late Hans Graff, who, at the time of his death, September 24, 1918, was the president and manager of H. Graff & Company, of Fresno. All Fresno joined in sympathy with the mourners at his bier. He died from the effects of an automobile accident which occurred August 29, 1918. Accompanied by his wife and members of his family, Mr. Graff was returning from Los Angeles, when, in the Tehachapi Mountains, the driver attempted to pass a stage; the embankment gave way and the car rolled down more than three hundred feet, seriously injuring Mr. Graff, who was later taken to the Fairmont Hospital, at San Francisco, where, following an operation, he passed away almost a month later.

Hans Graff was born near Kolding, Denmark, May 26, 1863, and came to the United States when he was a young man, locating first at San Francisco. After years of hard work, in which he gained valuable experience, but very little capital, he came to Fresno, this being about thirty-three years ago, where he entered the employ of Louis Einstein & Company, in the grocery department, remaining with this company about four years, when he established a store at the corner of Inyo and H Streets, having as partners, H. A. Hansen and Nis Johnson. Fresno was then an unimportant city, but with its remarkable growth came the expansion of the grocery trade, and in course of time the modest business, through the efficient management and business sagacity of Hans Graff, became large and prosperous, under the firm name of H. Graff & Company, and they built the present large concrete store building on the corner of Kern and Van Ness Streets. At an early date Mr. Graff introduced the cooperative feature which has made the management of this firm famous, and whereby opportunity is offered to the hundred clerks or more now employed there to acquire an interest in the company, after stated periods of service; and soon the firm was rated as the largest dealers in groceries in this part of the state, the company maintaining complete hardware and crockery departments also. During his leisure hours, until the new interests also became one of his important financial investments, Mr. Graff gave much attention to the raisin and fig industries, becoming at one time the treasurer and was a director of the California Associated Raisin Company. He was the prime mover in the organization of the Danish Creamery Association, and served as its secretary, treasurer, and as a director for over twenty years, resigning during the summer of 1918 on account of the pressure of his other affairs. This association had the largest creamery in Fresno County. At the time of his death, Hans Graff was vice-president of the Fresno Building and Loan Association, Trustee of the Fresno State Normal School, Treasurer of the Traffic Association, member of the Chamber of Commerce, Merchants Association, Commercial Club, and affiliated with the Riverside Country Club.

In Fresno, June 29, 1889, Hans Graff was united in marriage with Miss Margaret Petersen, after an engagement of three years. Mrs. Graff was born at Varde, Denmark, and was the daughter of Soren Petersen, an architect and builder of much ability. Mrs. Graff was fortunate in being reared in an en-





*D. H. Graf.*



Margretha Graff.





vironment of culture and refinement. She came to New York City, accompanying her aunt and uncle who had been home on a visit, and later she continued her journey westward, until she reached Fresno in May, 1885, where she decided to make her home. The union of Mr. and Mrs. Graff proved an unusually happy one, and was blessed with two sons and one daughter: Arthur, and Lieut. Chester Graff, both of whom are actively associated with the management of H. Graff & Company; and Agnes, who assists her mother in presiding over the home. The children are kind and affectionate to their mother, and aid her in looking after the large interests left by Mr. Graff, thus shielding her from business care and worry. Mr. Graff gave no small degree of credit for his success to his estimable wife, often saying that her encouragement and loving care were an inspiration to him.

Fraternally, Mr. Graff was a prominent member of the Odd Fellows and stood high in local Masonic circles. He was a Knight Templar and Scottish Rite Mason, having the honorary degree of K. C. C. H., and was also a Shriner. In his religious life he was a Lutheran, the family being members of the Danish Lutheran Church of Fresno. Mr. Graff made a place for himself in the citizenship of Fresno, such as few men attain. To his business successes were added: public spirit, public service, and leadership. In his passing away, a fine, strong, gentle spirit has departed and a place is vacant, which, in quite the same way, will never be filled.

**LEWIS LINCOLN CORY.**—A man of literary and scholastic attainments, possessing a vigorous mentality and well-trained mind, Lewis Lincoln Cory holds an assured position among the leading attorneys of Fresno. A son of the late Dr. Benjamin Cory, he was born in San Jose, May 4, 1861, and therefore proud of his claim as a native son. Dr. Cory was born and reared in Oxford, Ohio, and with an aptitude for learning he was given the best of educational advantages. After receiving his degree of A.B. at the Miami University he was graduated from the Cincinnati Medical College with the degree of M.D. He became a pioneer of California in 1848, settled in San Jose, then the capital of the state, becoming the first American physician to locate in the Santa Clara Valley. He took a prominent part in local affairs, being active in the capital fight, was influential in advancing the industrial, social and business growth and prosperity of city and county. He was the first person to set out a vineyard for commercial purposes. For a number of years he served as county physician, and until his death, in 1899, at the age of seventy-three years, was the leading physician of Santa Clara County.

Dr. Cory married Sarah Braly, who was born near St. Louis, Mo., a daughter of Rev. John Braly, who brought his family westward to Oregon, being at Whitman Station just prior to the massacre. From there he came on to California, located at Santa Clara, where he improved a farm. He also continued his ministerial labors in the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, being the first Presbyterian minister in this part of the state, until his death, at the age of seventy-three years. He married a Miss Hyde, of English descent. Of the union of Doctor and Mrs. Cory eight children were born: Lewis L. of this review being the fourth child.

After Lewis L. Cory had completed the studies in the grammar and high schools in San Jose, he entered the University of the Pacific, after which, for two years, he attended Rutgers College at New Brunswick, N. J. In 1879 he entered the junior class of Princeton University from which he was graduated with the degree of A.B. in 1881. He then became a student in the Columbia Law School and two years later was graduated from this famous school with the degree of LL.B. Mr. Cory was admitted to the bar in New York in 1883 and began the practice of his profession and for two years was in the office of Judge William Fullerton. In 1885 he returned to California and for one year practiced in San Jose, after which he came to Fresno and opened an office where he has since carried on a growing

practice. As a general practitioner he has built up an extensive and lucrative clientage. Mr. Cory has been associated with some very important land cases, was attorney for the Southern Pacific Railroad Company, the First National Bank, the Street Railway Company, the Water Company, the Electric Light Company, and other equally important concerns. Mr. Cory inspires his clients with the greatest confidence in his judgment and uprightness, is well versed in legal lore, wise and firm in his decisions, and is highly respected by his brother members of the bar, and by all with whom he is brought in contact, either in business or a social way.

Mr. Cory was united in marriage in New York City with Caroline A. Martin, a native of Rahway, N. J., and they are parents of five children: Edith M., a graduate of Stanford University; Catherine J.; Margaret E.; Martin, and Benjamin. Mr. Cory owns the Cory Building, one of the finest store and office buildings in Fresno and is also the owner of the Hippodrome Theater Building which is located on the same corner, the lot being 150x150 feet, one of the most valuable corners in the city of Fresno. Politically Mr. Cory is a stanch Republican, and socially he belongs to the Delta Upsilon Fraternity of Rutgers College and is a member of the Fresno County Bar Association.

**THOMAS J. DUNCAN.**—Among the old pioneers of California and of Fresno County, Thomas J. Duncan is a well-known figure. He is a man of sterling worth, with the strength and indomitable spirit of the pioneer. A native of Illinois, he was born near Springfield, Sangamon County, November 30, 1835, but when he was six years old his parents moved to Lawrence County, Mo., where the lad received his education. His father and mother, Hiram and Nancy (McKinley) Duncan, were natives of Tennessee and Kentucky respectively.

In May, 1853, Thomas J., a sturdy and energetic young man in his eighteenth year, in company with his parents and five brothers, started with eight wagons drawn by oxen, and with 500 head of cattle, to cross the plains for California in quest of the greater possibilities and advantages to be had in that land by the sunset sea than were available in their eastern home. They arrived safely at Stockton, in September, 1853, and settled fifteen miles east from that city near what is now Linden. In this locality the parents lived until their deaths.

Thomas J. Duncan established domestic ties on September 18, 1870, at Stockton, when he married Miss Martha Miller. She was born in Missouri, September 27, 1851, a daughter of James and Rosanna (Gann) Miller, both born in Tennessee. The Miller family crossed the plains in 1860 and located in San Joaquin County on Farmington plains. Later Mr. Miller and his wife removed to Mendocino County and there they both passed away. Of the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Duncan four children were born: Andrew F., of Fresno, who married Lizzie Calhoun, and they have a daughter Dorothy; Ella May, married J. A. Ward and they reside in this city; Roy E., is married and is engaged in the music business in Los Angeles—he was in the service of the United States during the war, enlisting in the Submarine Base Band, and was stationed at San Pedro; F. Ray is married and makes his home in Fresno, where he is employed.

In the pioneer days in California the sheep industry was carried on extensively in various sections of the state, and Mr. Duncan was among the successful men who engaged in that industry. At one time he owned a cattle ranch near Lathrop. In 1871 he came to Fresno County. At that time the country was one vast, treeless plain, and about the only living things to be found were jack rabbits and horned toads. There was no hotel in the little town and Mr. and Mrs. Duncan and their little son had to seek such accommodations as the place afforded until they could get out to the ranch he had bought. He had brought a band of sheep to this county and in time his band numbered over 10,000 head and he ranged them on his

land ten miles southwest from Fresno. In order to better educate his children and to give them the advantages of the Fresno schools, Mr. Duncan sold off his land in the country and bought ten acres of land on what is now Diana Street, paying fifty dollars per acre for it. He put up a house suitable for his needs and in time sold off the tract in lots or larger parcels of property, and this section now is included in the residential part of the city. At different times he has bought and sold land and has met with considerable success financially, so that in the evening of his days he can enjoy the fruits of his early labors.

Some years ago he retired from active life and now resides at 304 Abby Street. He has been a liberal contributor to church and charitable work, although not a member of any church. He has been a Democrat in his political affiliations, but never an aspirant for office. At one time he was a director and vice-president of the Fresno Loan and Savings Bank, and he helped to organize and became a director of the Fowler Switch Canal Company.

**MRS. JOHANNA OSTENDORF.**—The oldest settler in the section in which she resides in Fresno County, and a splendid woman highly esteemed for her own sake and as the widow of an industrious and upright citizen active in good works in his time, is Mrs. Johanna Ostendorf, who came to Fresno County in 1883. She was born in Oldenburg, Germany, on September 28, 1856, the daughter of John Henry Steenken, a native of that region and who was a farmer there. He had married Margareta Bergman, who had also been born there; and in that locality both died. They had three children, two girls and a boy, all of whom grew up; and our subject is the second eldest of these, and the only one in the United States.

She was brought up on a farm and educated at the public schools until she was fourteen, when she was confirmed in the Lutheran Church and began to take up the more serious problems of life. On April 30, 1880, she was married to B. D. Ostendorf, who was born there on March 16, 1847. He was educated at the public schools, and as a boy also worked on the farm. He continued farming until 1883, when he came to California. He located in Fresno County, and the next year settled on their present place. He bought twenty acres from Mr. Wylie, in whose service he entered, and for whom he became foreman; and he continued with him until 1896, when he left to look after his own ranch. He drove the wagon for the Danish Creamery; and he died on January 11, 1900, aged fifty-two years.

After Mr. Ostendorf's death, his widow continued to farm. She made improvements, put in alfalfa, and engaged in dairying; and now the sons manage the place. Six children had blessed the union, so that there was assistance enough, and of the best kind: Henry B., who is the right hand of his mother, looks after her interests and makes for them both a host of friends; Marguerite, who is at Berkeley; Bernhard, who served in the United States Army at Camp Lewis for five months, when he was honorably discharged and is now at home; Marie, who is Mrs. A. P. McLean, of Enterprise Colony, and who has two children, Andrew and Eleanor; Minnie is at home; and Gustav, who entered the army October 5, 1918, trained at Camp Lewis, was assigned to Company B, Three Hundred Sixty-fourth Infantry, Ninety-first Division and served with honor in France; and was discharged in March, 1919, and is now at home. The family attends the Lutheran Church at Fresno, and Mrs. Ostendorf and children are loyal Republicans in national political affairs, and generously support any good movement for local advancement.

**LILBOURNE A. WINCHELL.**—A prominent Central Californian who, in the opinion of those most competent to judge, is the best-posted man on early days in this locality, is Lilbourne A. Winchell, the secretary of the Fresno County Pioneer Society and vice-president of the Fresno County Historical Society, and a native son always proud of his identification with the great Pacific commonwealth. The Winchell family, which includes such distinguished and even famous members as Alexander and Newton Horace Winchell, brothers and noted geologists, may be traced back to Robert Winchell, who came from England in 1634, and settled in Connecticut; and our interesting subject belongs to the ninth generation bearing that name in America.

L. A. Winchell was born at Sacramento, Cal., October 9, 1855, in a cottage built of yellow poplar and white ash lumber, cut in Indiana in 1849, rafted down the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers to New Orleans, thence by ship around the Horn to Sacramento, and erected in the spring of 1850, on the west side of M between Seventh and Eighth Streets. His father, the late E. C. Winchell, of whom mention is made on another page of this history, crossed the great plains in 1850; and his mother, in maidenhood Laura C. Alsip, came to California via Nicaragua, in 1852, both settling in Sacramento, where they were married in 1853. The family moved to Fort Miller, Fresno County, in May, 1859, and continued to reside in that locality until 1874, when they moved to Fresno, the newly established county seat.

Among interesting reminiscences, Mr. Winchell recounts one of being present, in Sacramento, January, 1863, at the ceremony of the inauguration of the Central Pacific Railroad, when he saw Governor Stanford climb onto a wagon loaded with dirt which was drawn by four white horses bedecked with ribbons and flags, and throw off the first shovelful of dirt.

Receiving his early education from his parents, young Winchell was then sent to San Francisco and entered City College, a private institution, situated on the northeast corner of Stockton and Geary Streets, whose president was Dr. Veeder. Later he graduated from the public schools, and Heald's College. As a young man he was engaged in various businesses and enterprises—clerk in his father's law office, clerk in the Recorder's, Tax Collector's and Sheriff's offices, and was chief deputy in the Assessor's office, from 1880 to 1895. He also engaged in buying and selling land, in sawmill and timber enterprises, in farming and stock-raising; and in experimental work of hybridizing and plant-breeding.

With an inherited love of books, and under the influence of a home atmosphere congenial to the pursuit of knowledge, L. A. Winchell has been, since childhood, a delver into the treasures stored through the ages; being especially interested in ethnologic, archaeologic and geologic subjects. Of an adventurous disposition, with a love of the wild, and an ardent worshipper of nature, he was led to gratify his spirit by early explorations into the mountains. From boyhood till the present time he has devoted many months to this fascinating appeal. After the perfection of the photographic "dry plate" there was presented opportunity, heretofore denied, to picture the unknown beauties and wonders of the great alpine regions of the Sierras. Among other achievements, he photographed, in detail, all the great walls, domes, recesses and crests of the Tehipite Valley—a yosemite of entrancing beauty and grandeur, in the canyon of the middle fork of Kings River. These were the first photographs ever made of that region, excepting three made by Frank Dusy, in which Mr. Winchell assisted.

Mr. Winchell sketched a plat of the Valley and named all of the prominent points. The names bestowed by him are of record and have been used many times by writers and are perpetuated in the United States Geological Surveys. In this connection it may be mentioned that Mr. Winchell was one of a party of five who, in July, 1879, took the first mules and horses into the Tehipite Canyon. This was accomplished after desperate struggles over



*L. H. Mitchell.*



*Ernestine M. Mitchell.*





terrible ledges of granite and porphyry, through dense thickets that were all but impenetrable and through which they cut their way with axes and sheath-knives, following, at favored times, a dimly-marked deer trail, and all down a declivity of 45 degrees and less, for a distance of 4,000 feet. Further explorations of the high alpine region of the Sierra Nevadas, embracing the serrated summit known as the Palisades, and the circumjacent territory which contributes to the sources of the San Joaquin and Kings Rivers, were made during the summer of 1879 and succeeding years.

He furnished to the public the first map of this terra incognita, with notes, sketches and names bestowed by himself upon prominent features of this wonderland; including a description of the great residual glacier which lies in the deep gorge at the foot of the "Mother Palisade," and whose existence was hitherto unknown to the world. To the highest of these palisade spires were given the names of "Winchell's Peak," in honor of Alexander Winchell, the eminent American geologist and author; "Agassiz Needle," and the "Mother Palisade," all rising about 14,000 feet. Mount Goddard, a comparatively isolated peak, at the head of the south fork of the San Joaquin River, was scaled by him on September 23, 1879. This was the first successful effort to reach the pinnacle. A monument was built on the summit and a record left. At a later ascent he took photographs from and at the summit.

In his forty-five years' explorations Mr. Winchell has familiarized himself with all that vast mountain-world from the head of the Tuolumne to the Kern and Kaweah. His familiarity with the mountains and forests led the United States Government to appoint him to a position in the Forestry Service, which he held for five years, resigning to devote himself exclusively to his farming and fruit-raising interests. While in the government service he made an official report on the surveys, plans, dam sites, wagon-, rail- and power-line routes of the electric company that afterwards constructed the Big Creek reservoir, now known as Huntington Lake; and reported, adversely, on a proposition by a power company to convert into a lake the Blaney Meadows, on the south fork of the San Joaquin, and saved this beautiful playground for the enjoyment and benefit of posterity. Segregation of the meadow lands, examining doubtful surveys, establishing new lines and monuments, and making plats and reports, were the principal duties occupying most of his time during his five years' of service.

On September 7, 1883, at the residence of his uncle and aunt in Oakland, Cal., L. A. Winchell was united in marriage to Miss Ernestine Miller, descendant of Revolutionary ancestors on the maternal side, and eldest daughter of John Alan and Phydella Mary Ann (Roberts) Miller. The ceremony was performed by Rev. O. C. Wheeler, D.D., who had officiated at the marriage of Mr. Winchell's parents in Sacramento, in 1853. Mrs. Winchell, of literary inclinations, has written widely for magazines, short stories of the mountains, presenting striking portraiture of aboriginal character, and sketches of life among the Indians of California. To the Mothers' Magazine she has contributed many most excellent articles devoted to the study of child life. She is a woman of generous impulses; loyal and self-sacrificing in the interests of her friends, ever ready to give assistance in time of trouble and need; thinking little of her own comfort, but devoted to her sense of duty; and she is loved and admired by those who know her.

Three children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Winchell: Geraldine, July 28, 1884, married Charles F. Ramsey in 1913, and lives in Fresno; Donald R., September 4, 1886, died March 1, 1889; and Lilbourne E., May 10, 1890, married Clara Mary Heidenreich in 1918, and resides in San Francisco. Lilbourne E. entered the service of the United States Navy in 1907, went round the world on the battleship Nebraska, with the fleet from San Francisco, in 1908, and has since been in all foreign waters; he holds rank of chief petty officer in the engineer's branch and is now at San Francisco engaged in destroyer trial service. As a matter of record it may be mentioned that the

Winchell name has been prominent in every war of the United States from the French and Indian to the great World War.

Mr. Winchell belongs to the California Peach Growers, Inc., and the California Associated Raisin Company. He is an Independent Democrat in national politics, and was one of the early members of California Parlor No. 1, of San Francisco, Native Sons of the Golden West

**LEDYARD F. WINCHELL.**—Born in one of the now historic buildings at Fort Miller, Fresno County, November 30, 1859, the second son of Judge E. C. Winchell and his wife, Ledyard Frink Winchell lived during his youthful days in that romantic region, and until the family moved to the new county seat in 1874. He received his early education from his parents, later he attended the schools of San Francisco, finally graduating from a commercial college in San Jose. From 1877 to 1880 he was a clerk in his father's law office in Fresno, and later was a deputy in the county recorder's office.

On December 7, 1878, he was made secretary of the first hook and ladder company of Fresno, whose equipment was stored in the old Metropolitan Hall building on Eye Street, and was burned in the big fire of July, 1882, which destroyed the whole block. This outfit was replaced by a hand engine and hosecart (venerable relics of 1850, procured in San Francisco), which as assistant foreman, he operated with his company until 1885, when the first steam fire engine was brought into use, with Mr. Winchell as assistant chief of the department. He continued an active member of the volunteer department up to the time of his leaving Fresno, in 1900. In recognition of his conspicuous services he was, in 1889, elected, in San Francisco, "honorary member of The Veteran Volunteer Fireman's Association of California."

After a second term in the tax collector's and recorder's offices, he was, in 1884, elected constable of the third township (included Fresno) and he afterwards served as a deputy sheriff during 1886-87 and 1892-93. One time Sheriff O. J. Meade and Mr. Winchell left Fresno after dark, in a buggy, and after driving hard all night, camped at daylight in the mouth of Silver Canyon and remained in seclusion till darkness came again, then proceeded on their way to the New Idria quicksilver mines. At the proper moment they gained entrance, quickly and unexpectedly, through a small door, into a cabin in which there were several Mexicans, drinking and gambling. Covering the astonished inmates with their six-shooters and ordering "hands up," they allowed all to leave except the man they were after. While one kept him covered, the other disarmed him of his "gun," which was a powder-and-ball Colt's 45 dragoon, loaded to the ends of the cylinder. While his hands were still extended above his head they handcuffed him and took him outside—all the while he was cursing and raving fiendishly. This was the notorious bandit and murderer, Juan Galindo, wanted for years in several of the coast counties for desperate crimes, and who, it was well known, had many times said no officer could take him alive. They tied him in a buckboard and brought him to Fresno, where he was tried, found guilty and sentenced to prison for life. This was but one of his experiences in man-hunting while an officer; but space will not allow their narration, though the experiences were thrilling.

In June, 1885, Mr. Winchell aided in the organization of, and enlisted as a private in Company C, Sixth Regiment of Infantry, N. G. C.; became Corporal in 1887; Second Lieutenant in 1889; elected Captain, December 16, 1891. In December, 1893, by Governor Markham, he was appointed Brigade Inspector, with rank of Major, on the staff of Brig.-Gen. M. W. Muller. During the railroad strike in 1894, he was detailed Commissary and Quartermaster of the military camp at Bakersfield, whence the first strike-bound trains in the state were moved, opening the traffic on the Southern Pacific through to Los Angeles. His services were commended in the military reports.

On June 17, 1885, Mr. Winchell was married to Miss Marie Louise Packard, at her home in Fresno. Four children were born to them: Adele C., born April 10, 1886, now the wife of Laurence B. Morton, living in San Francisco; Marie Louise, May 9, 1888, now Mrs. Ralph Stout, who lives near Raymond; Laurel E., December 11, 1891, who married George Wenzel and lives in San Francisco; and Ledyard F., Jr., February 4, 1890, in Fresno. The latter moved to San Francisco with his parents and while still in school, aged fourteen, enlisted in the Starr King Cadet Corps, which organization was active during the panic following the fire in 1906. They were busily engaged in patrolling, food distribution and giving aid to the refugees. In May, 1906, he enlisted in Company H, Fifth Regiment Infantry, N. G. C., known as the Nationals, and the oldest in the state; in 1915 he was elected Second Lieutenant. In the spring of 1917 he entered the army in the Marines, was sent to Quantico, Va., then to France, where as a member of Seventy-ninth Company, Sixth Regiment, Machine Gun Battalion, he saw heavy fighting in the bitter contests of that body of Americans. After the armistice he went with Pershing's army to Coblenz, where he served till his discharge. He married, in San Francisco, July 10, 1919, Miss Edith Tuck, and they make their home in that city.

In 1900, Ledyard F. Winchell moved with his family to San Francisco and engaged in the real estate business and mining enterprises. All his records and papers were destroyed at the time of the fire in 1906. He continued in business, however, until September, 1918, when he was suddenly stricken by a paralytic stroke from which he never recovered. He died on September 23rd. His ashes are interred with those of his parents in Mountain View Cemetery, Oakland, Cal. Led, as he was familiarly known, was a man of great activity of mind and body, was a "mixer," widely known and universally liked by his friends for his genial disposition and upright character.

**ANNA CORA WINCHELL.**—The youngest child of Judge E. C. Winchell and his wife, Laura C. Winchell, she was born June 24, 1870, while her mother was visiting with her sister, Mrs. Ledyard Frink, in Solano County, Cal., near the town of Rio Vista, on the Sacramento River. Coming back to the old home near Fort Miller, with her mother, she remained there till her parents moved to Fresno in 1874. She attended school in Fresno, and later was sent to Oakland, Cal., to finish her education. In 1889 she was graduated from Field Seminary, California's oldest private school for girls, and returned to Fresno to live.

Displaying, at a very tender age, a passion for music, she early, at the age of four years, began acquiring the rudiments of harmony. As time passed she was given special instruction on the piano, for several years, by the foremost teachers of Oakland and San Francisco, also completing a course in pipe organ.

She was recommended for Eastern Conservatories, although not availing herself of the opportunity. She became a most delightful and finished pianist; and is now a thoroughly recognized and competent critic of the several branches of music.

With a pronounced literary taste, as well, and a natural talent for writing, she early engaged in newspaper work. In 1902 she became music and drama critic for the San Francisco Dramatic Review, and at the same time held the position of pipe-organist at Howard Methodist Church. In 1904 she joined the staff of the San Francisco Call, then a morning daily, as associate society editor.

During the 1906 earthquake and fire disaster she escaped from the falling walls of her hotel, the Argyle, with nothing but her nightrobe and a bed quilt wrapped around her, barely escaping the heavy brick cornice of the roof, as it fell in crushing masses behind her. Waiting in this plight, with a

group of other women at the corner of Larkin Street and Golden Gate Avenue, she watched the dome of the city hall come tumbling down. After many exciting experiences she finally reached her family.

Shortly after the fire, she accepted a position on the San Francisco Chronicle, and was assigned to the Army and Navy, and the Relief and Red Cross Funds Corporation, in addition to handling special Sunday features. She is the art and music editor of the Chronicle at this time, besides contributing to other departments.

**FRANCIS SHERIDAN BLAIR.**—Varied as the numerous chapters in the marvelous history of California's development, are the different stories of the sturdy pioneers who, by their lives of hard work, sacrifice and accomplishment, made that history possible. A certain similarity, to be sure, runs like a thread, and often a thread of pure gold, through most of them but each differs in characteristic details, as the settlers themselves differed in personality, and what one pioneer lacked in initiative, experience or foresight, the other frequently supplied. Thus, working in generous rivalry, each contributed his share toward the founding of the present great commonwealth; and oftentimes the humbler a man was in his calling, the more valuable was the contribution he made in the direction of genuine progress.

Francis Sheridan Blair belongs to a family and a group of pioneers who may well be proud of their association with the Golden State. His father was Thomas Franklin Blair, a native of Missouri who farmed awhile in that State and first came to California in 1852. For a couple of years, he went into a mine where he was fairly successful; and settling for a time in Sacramento County, he busied himself with fruit-farming and a truck garden. He had crossed the great continent by means of ox team, and it was a small matter, therefore, in 1866, to move into Contra Costa County, where he took up general farming.

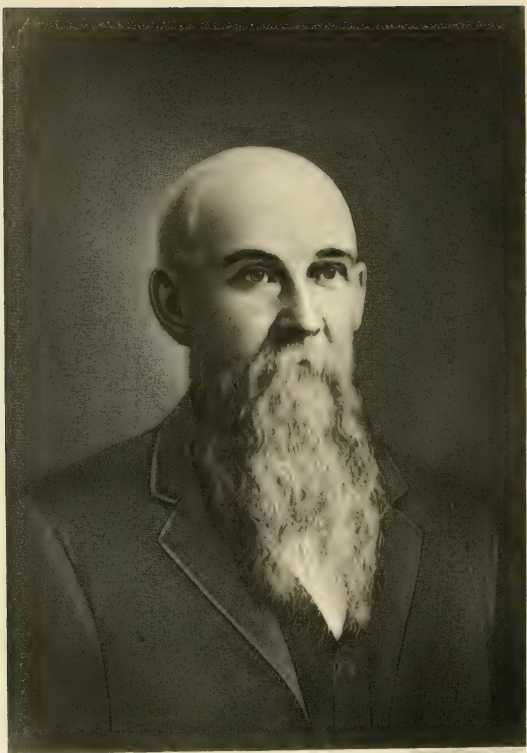
In 1875, however, convinced that Fresno County offered, after all, the best of inducements, he came here and went into grain-farming near Centerville. After a year, he moved to New Auberry Valley, continued his farming, but added stock-raising to his ventures. He was a thorough, progressive man, and results of a satisfactory kind usually rewarded his conscientious efforts. In 1889, he moved out on the plain, six miles north of Clovis; and there he died, in 1913. He was survived by his wife, who had been Lucy E. LeMoin before her marriage. She was a native of Ohio, came west at an early age, met Mr. Blair in Sacramento County, and there was married. She rejoiced as the mother of seven affectionate children, in the devotion of her husband, and the esteem of all who knew her.

Francis was born, the fourth child in the family, on Grand Island, Sacramento County, on October 18, 1864, and spent part of his youth in Contra Costa County and New Auberry Valley. When he was eighteen, however, he started to farm for himself, taking a ranch north of Clovis. He settled still nearer Clovis in 1889, and for sixteen years farmed grain-land, changing only when, in 1905, he sold his property and moved to Madera County. There he farmed for three years.

Returning to Fresno, he resumed farming, but disposing again of his agricultural interests, he came to Friant and bought out the general merchandise business of Collins Bros. He increased the extent and variety of the stock, improved the furnishing and arrangement of the store, and took pride in not only conducting the one general merchandise establishment in this section, but in making it quite equal to any in the state located amid such a limited population.

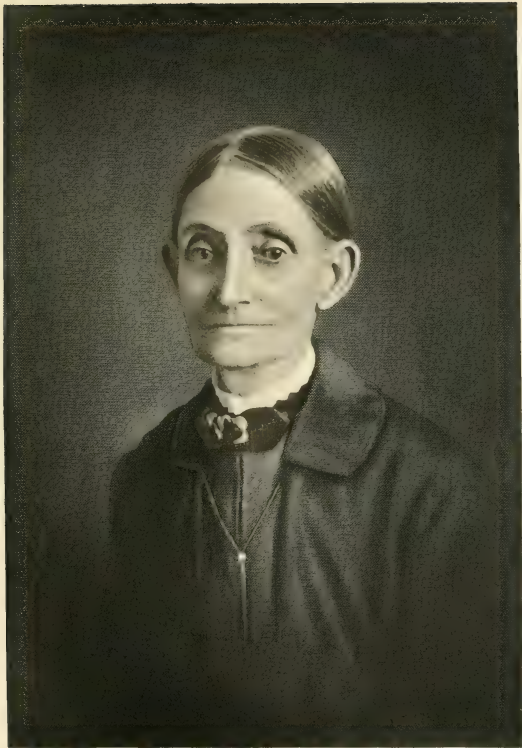
While at Auberry Valley in 1897, Mr. Blair was happily married to Susan B. Ruth, a native of Linden, Stanislaus County, and they have had three children: Francis, Geneva, and Truman. The Blair home is a center of California hospitality, and few persons, if any, are more highly esteemed than this representative merchant and the companion of his joys and sorrows.





*J. J. Reyburn*





Mary A. Reyburn



**JAMES JOHN REYBURN.**—A sturdy pioneer of the early seventies, and one who had an active part in the making of California in his period, James J. Reyburn will be long remembered and honored for what he so unostentatiously accomplished. He was the father of C. J. Reyburn, the vineyard rancher, whose sketch is given elsewhere, and whose success indicates that he is a "chip off the old block."

James J. Reyburn was born in Miami County, Ohio, on August 14, 1836, the son of John Stewart Reyburn, a native of Kentucky. His father had been a soldier in the War of 1812 and no one ever questioned the patriotism of a Reyburn. Arriving at manhood, J. S. Reyburn removed to Ohio; and there, in Miami County, he worked as a cabinetmaker until 1839. Then he moved on to Burlington, Iowa, and bought a farm near that city, on which he was living when he died, on May 31, 1840. His wife had been Nancy Davidson before her marriage, and she was born in old Virginia; she died on September 30, 1860, in Iowa. Four children were born of this union, two of whom have become known as Pacific pioneers. Joseph trailed across the plains to Oregon as early as 1862, and later came south to California and Stanislaus County. Then he lived in Fresno County, and still later in the Jefferson district.

The third child, James J. Reyburn, a mere boy when his father died, obtained only a limited education and had to make his own way when most lads are having an easy time. He first hired out as a farm laborer five miles west of Burlington, and later he entered a flour mill, succeeding there so well that he bought an interest in the Franklin Mill at Des Moines. When he sold out, in 1866, he moved to Missouri; and in Scotland County he engaged in general farming and stock-raising. Missouri was all right, but by 1873 Mr. Reyburn had discovered a country with still greater attractions; and disposing of all his interests in the East, he made haste to come to California.

He first settled in Stanislaus County and started in raising wheat near Salida; but still having an eye on the highest and best goal, in 1875 he moved to the Big Dry Creek district in Fresno County. Here he preempted and homesteaded a tract of land, later purchasing more in the same body, until he owned 640 acres at Red Bank on the creek, fourteen miles northeast of Fresno. Here he lived until the spring of 1890, raising wheat and operating so extensively that at times he had also many acres of rented land under cultivation.

At the beginning of that decade he bought eighty acres of land ten miles northeast of Fresno, which he set out as an orchard and vineyard. The soil was good, and when all was in bearing, he sold forty acres. While here, Mr. Reyburn also raised fancy chickens, and at exhibitions of poultry, carried off many leading prizes. In 1903 he disposed of his ranch on Big Dry Creek and located in Fresno, where he lived in comfortable retirement a couple of years and then on his ranch, giving only general supervision to business interests. He and his wife were both active members of the First Presbyterian Church in Clovis.

While at Mount Pleasant, Iowa, in 1859, Mr. Reyburn had married Mary McDonald, and their home came to be merry with the voices of five children: John S. died at twelve years; Chester H. is a minister in the Presbyterian Church, now located at Mountain View; William D., with Title Insurance and Trust Company, Los Angeles; Clarence J., a viticulturist near Clovis; and Nancy, who married M. M. Sharer. On October 27, 1909, Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Reyburn celebrated their fiftieth wedding anniversary at their home, when they welcomed their children, grandchildren and their other relatives and old-time friends. Two of those present attended their wedding at Mount Pleasant, Iowa, in 1859, namely, Joseph Reyburn and Minnie P. McDonald.

After a life of unusual activity, in which he had done his civic duty as a Republican in national affairs and as a school trustee knowing no party lines, Mr. Reyburn died on March 25, 1914. Mrs. Reyburn resides with her son, Clarence.

**JOHN W. SHORT.**—To old settlers of forty years ago John W. Short is best known as editor of the Fresno Republican, the duties of which position were confided to him at the age of twenty-four, within a year after coming to Fresno in 1881. The first year in Fresno he worked as a printer on the paper, of which he was later the editor for more than a decade, and one of the owners and publishers for many more years. The period of Mr. Short's editorship was a time of rapid growth in Fresno, and the change from pioneer conditions filled the columns of the paper with the record of tragic friction between discordant elements, now but a matter of memories to be happily forgotten. Under Mr. Short's direction the paper persisted stanchly and successfully for the forces of law, order and moral advancement, and its influence laid a foundation upon which has since been built a structure of community cooperation and public service that has few if any counterparts in American communities.

To those of more recent arrival Mr. Short is better known as Fresno's Postmaster, in which place he served for fifteen years, and as a director and officer of the Chamber of Commerce, and a worker and builder in Fresno's development. In politics Mr. Short has always been a Republican, and his first appointment as Postmaster was by President McKinley, his second by President Roosevelt, and his final appointment by President Taft.

John W. Short was born in Shelby County, Mo., October 8, 1858. He is a brother of Hon. Frank H. Short, in whose sketch the family history will be found. In 1869 he preceded the family to Hastings, Nebr., which was then beyond the confines of civilization. As a boy he endured all the hardships incident to life upon the frontier. However, he was not entirely deprived of advantages, for he went to school a few years and laid the foundation of the broad education subsequently gained through reading and observation. His education in the printing business began at the age of fourteen, when he entered the office of the Sarpy County Sentinel. A year later he went with the Papillion Times, where he worked his way up from the lowly position of "devil." Returning to Hastings, he was employed on the Hastings Journal, first as typesetter and later as a reporter and assistant editor.

Leaving Nebraska and joining his uncle, the Hon. J. F. Wharton, in Fresno, in 1881, Mr. Short secured employment as a compositor on the Fresno Republican. A year later he became the editor of the paper, in which capacity he continued for years, meanwhile becoming a half owner in the plant, his partner being J. W. Shanklin. Together they established the Daily Republican, the first morning paper published in the city. After twelve years the paper was sold and then Mr. Short traveled through California in search of an attractive location, but, failing to find a place that suited him as well as Fresno, he returned to this city. Soon afterwards he assisted in organizing the Republican Publishing Company, of which he was vice-president and a director, and which he promoted through his successful editorial work on the paper. He identified himself with the California Press Association and gained many friends among the leading journalists of the state. With his brother, Frank H., he erected the Short Building on J Street, and other buildings in the city. He served as a member of the Fresno Board of Education, in which position he contributed effectively to the welfare of the city schools and elevation of the standard of scholarship. Another position in which he has rendered service is that of a member of the board of library trustees. As a director of the Chamber of Commerce for many years his work was notably practical and effective.

The marriage of Mr. Short united him with Miss Jessie Francis of Calistoga, Napa County. Mrs. Short was born at Silver Mountain, Sierra County, whither her father, James Francis, had come from Wisconsin during the memorable year of 1849. Of this marriage there are two sons who have grown to manhood; James V., who graduated from the agricultural department of the State University, who is now married and is the principal

owner in the Modesto Milk Company; and John Douglas, also a graduate of the University, and Hastings Law School, also married, and engaged in the practice of law in San Francisco.

During his long residence in Fresno there has been no movement for community upbuilding which has not had Mr. Short's hearty cooperation, and from the pioneer days to the present time there are few if any more familiar with the history of the city and county.

**J. E. CARTWRIGHT.**—The name of Cartwright suggests characters of history: "circuit riders" of the early days filling many appointments; men shaping the trend of civilization not only in this country, but in the old world. It is an honorable name and has always stood for progress both of the individual and of the nation.

Born in Coles County, Ill., October 16, 1855, J. E. Cartwright is a son of John Cartwright, also born in Coles County, where he had a small farm and operated a wagon and blacksmith shop. He was a soldier in the Civil War, and J. E. Cartwright remembers the time his father bade the family good-bye when he went to the front. The mother was Martha Ashby, also a native of Coles County. Six children were born in the family, of whom four are living.

J. E. Cartwright was raised on the farm in Illinois, and at the same time worked in the blacksmith shop with his father. At an early age he went with the family to Cumberland County, Ill., where they lived for five years before coming to California. In March, 1869, the Cartwright families and their outfits left Coles County, Ill., for California. There was a train of thirty-two wagons when they left Platte City to cross the plains, and on August 17, 1869, they landed at Dayton, Butte County, Cal., where they remained for one year. Then they moved to the Sacramento River and settled in Butte City, and here the father put up the first blacksmith shop. He took up 160 acres of government land near Princeton, on the east side of the Sacramento River, and later went to Willows, where he rented 900 acres. He built the two first dwelling houses at Willows, and put up the "Star" public hall.

Mr. Cartwright continued in the Sacramento Valley from 1869 to 1885, engaged in farming, having from 1,200 to 1,500 acres in wheat every year. In 1885 the Cartwright families moved to Malaga, Fresno County, where they purchased land from the Briggs estate. Here the father died, and the farm he owned was purchased by J. E. Cartwright and now is his home.

In 1883 J. E. Cartwright was married to Miss Elizabeth R. Bressler, a native of Iowa, but who grew up at Woodbridge, Cal., and at Medford, Ore. On a visit to Willows they met, and the marriage took place at Colusa, the county seat. They are the parents of four children, all boys: William Walter is employed in the shipyards at Wilmington, Cal.; he married Gladys Scott, and they have one child. John Stanley was in the St. Helen's shipyards but is now back at Malaga in his shop, he married Ruth Rice, and they have one child. Eddie is at home on the farm; he married Helen Johansen. Joseph Leslie was in the radio service, United States Navy, but is now at home. These sons have graduated from the Easton High School with high standings in scholarship. They were leaders in athletics. Baseball especially appealed to them, and they are semi-professionals in the game.

For eight years, from 1899 to 1907, Mr. Cartwright served as first deputy in the county clerk's office, and during that time lived in Fresno, but in the latter year he moved back with his family to the home farm, which is operated by Mr. Cartwright and his son Eddie. They also rent and farm other lands and also operate a small dairy in connection with their other interests. Mr. Cartwright is a man who does not say much, but he is a clear thinker on all subjects and what he does say is always to the point. He is a man of high ideals, noble impulses and advanced thought.

**SAMUEL L. HOGUE.**—Perhaps there is no resident of Fresno County who has the best interests of the community more at heart, or who has a much wider acquaintance throughout the San Joaquin Valley than Samuel L. Hogue. He was born near Monmouth, Ill., July 21, 1857, a son of Thomas G. and Mary J. (Reed) Hogue, natives of Virginia and Kentucky respectively and who were early settlers in Warren County, Ill., where they were farmers. Thomas G. came across the plains to California in 1863, settled in Nevada County where he was engaged in lumbering and mining, which he continued after he came to Fresno County, also taking an active part in Republican politics. He finally located at Fresno where he died, in 1893.

S. L. Hogue attended the public schools in his native county and at the age of fifteen joined his father in California, in 1872. His mother died when he was about seven years old, after which he lived with an uncle. After his arrival here he worked with his father a short time, then began making shakes and had a record of splitting 10,000 shakes in ten hours, at Pine Ridge. He had a desire to complete his education and therefore attended the San Jose Normal, taking a teacher's course, qualified, and was given a certificate to teach, and for five years was one of the popular educators of Fresno County, the last term acting as principal of the Selma school. Mr. Hogue saw opportunities offered a wide-awake hustler in the real estate business and engaged in that line of work in Fresno and Selma and met with well-deserved success during the time he was thus engaged. He also broadened his acquaintance with the people and got a good knowledge of conditions as they existed at that time in the county. He was elected justice of the peace and served four years in the office in Selma and two years in Fresno, after which he was appointed chief deputy under County Auditor Barnum and for the following fourteen years gave his attention to the increasing duties of that office. In the meantime he had bought some land at North Fork, Madera County, and began to develop an apple orchard on his forty-six acres. The elevation is 4,200 feet, and the soil is especially adapted for growing apples of fine quality. From time to time he has been interested in raising hogs as well. After serving for fourteen years in the auditor's office Mr. Hogue resigned to give his whole attention to his orchard, which he did for eighteen months, then returned to resume his old position in the county office, where he now is employed. He has always been prominent in the ranks of the Republican party and has served as a delegate to nearly all the county and state conventions of his party, since he has been of age. He was appointed and served from 1900 to 1904 as internal revenue collector for a district embracing eight counties in the valley. He was a member of the State League of Republican Clubs; served as a member of the Fresno Board of Education and did much to promote the cause of education while in that position. He belongs to Fresno Lodge No. 247, F. & A. M., of which he has been secretary; to Fresno Lodge No. 439, B. P. O. Elks; and to the Independent Order of Foresters.

On December 3, 1881, at Ventura, Cal., S. L. Hogue was united in marriage with Miss Effie H. Brown, a native of Yolo County and a daughter of an old pioneer, J. W. Brown, who crossed the plains at an early day in the history of the state. Of this union two sons and two daughters have been born. Lassen E., an employe in the county assessor's office in Fresno; James T., a volunteer in the late war who was graduated from the officers' training school at Camp Pike and received his first lieutenant's commission, and is now in the U. S. Reserves. He is married and has one daughter, Rosalie Jean. Mrs. Hazel E. Powell, a daughter, resides at Long Beach, Cal., where her husband is in the banking business. She has a son, Guy Raymond, and a daughter, Eleanor. Lucille became the wife of C. C. Williams, a dentist in Fresno, and is the mother of two children, Helen May and Charles C., Jr. All the children have graduated from the Fresno High School. The family are members of the Presbyterian Church. Mr. Hogue is recognized as a high-







*M. K. Harris.*

mindful and useful citizen and has been a loyal supporter of all movements for the upbuilding of Fresno County and the advancement of the interests of the citizens.

**MILUS KING HARRIS.**—Prominent among the distinguished members of California's bar must be mentioned Milus King Harris, a native of the State of Tennessee who, taking up his residence in the Golden West, has risen to the position of a Judge of the Superior Court, with forty years or more of background experience as an attorney and a reputation for unimpeachable integrity. He was born in Sumner County on March 31, 1853, the son of Isaac W. Harris of Tennessee, a farmer who married Miss Martha K. Hassell, also of that state; and through them he descended from sturdy ancestors who hailed from Kentucky and Virginia. The lad's boyhood, therefore, was spent in the pleasurable and profitable environment of country life.

Having graduated from the University of Kentucky at Lexington in June, 1873, young Harris engaged from 1873 to 1877 in teaching at St. Elmo, Ky. Then he matriculated at Vanderbilt University, at Nashville, from the law department of which he was graduated in 1878, receiving his parchment in June. In August of the same year he came West to California and hung out his shingle as an attorney at Fresno. At that time the city had a population of less than a thousand; and while not one of the first pioneers of the county, he was early enough to know all those who had already cast in their lots here as foundation-builders.

On December 3, 1884, Mr. Harris was married to Miss Julia Tyree, daughter of Edward and Elizabeth Tyree and also a native of Sumner County, and a niece of William B. Bate, who was a major-general in the Confederate Army, was Governor of Tennessee from 1883 to 1886, and for the terms beginning 1887, 1893, 1899 and 1905 was United States Senator—dying in office in 1905. In 1912 Judge Harris and his wife traveled abroad extensively. Always popular in social circles, they have been lifelong members of the Christian Church. Judge Harris is a member of the University Club.

On March 11, 1887, Mr. Harris, already a well-known Democrat, was appointed by Gov. Washington Bartlett, shortly before the latter's death, Judge of the Superior Court; and the following year he was nominated by both the Democrats and the Republicans, and there being no opposition, he was elected, receiving within one hundred of the total number of votes cast by the electors of Fresno County for both Harrison and Cleveland. While he was serving as Judge, many notable cases were tried before him, including some relating to water rights, and that of the state against the notorious train robber and bandit, Chris Evans, who terrorized this section of California for a year or more and killed three or four men in his various battles with officers. In 1894 Judge Harris was renominated by the Democrats; but this time he was opposed by the combined votes of the Republicans and the Populists, and was defeated. In 1908, he was chosen a delegate to the National Democratic Convention at Denver. In 1912 he was unanimously chosen president of the State Bar Association, and served the usual term of one year.

Since the middle nineties Judge Harris has devoted himself to private practice, enjoying a large and highly creditable clientage, especially among corporations, including the Raisin Growers' Association, the Bank of Central California, and the Consolidated Canal Company. He was president of the Board of Freeholders that framed the charter for the City of Fresno in 1899, and he was also president for many years of the Traffic Association of Fresno. In fraternal matters, he is a Mason.

**MRS. FRANCES T. BARKER.**—A native daughter of the Golden State who has wielded an influence in the educational affairs of Fresno County, both in the capacity of an instructor and as assistant county superintendent of schools, is Mrs. Frances T. Barker, of Fresno. She was born in Eldorado County and is a daughter of Heth P. Kinch, one of the early pioneers of this state who came around the Horn, from New York State, when the gold excitement was at its height. That was the time when the lucky gold seekers would wander into the different camps with their tales of discovery of ledges, nuggets and wonderful strikes or near-strikes of pay dirt. Mr. Kinch was closely identified with the life of Eldorado County and it was in that county that his wife passed to her reward, when her daughter Frances was a girl of seven.

As a girl Miss Kinch attended the public schools of her native state and after her mother's death she became a resident of Merced County, and it was there that her first school was taught. In 1884 she came to Fresno County and four years later she began teaching in the elementary schools of this city. Her ability won for her the appointment, in January, 1907, of deputy county superintendent of schools under the very efficient superintendent, E. W. Lindsay, with whom she remained until January, 1919, when Mr. Lindsay's term expired and he did not again seek the position. During the intervening years Mrs. Barker was his chief deputy and gave her entire time to the discharge of the duties of the position. When she retired it was with the satisfaction of a work well done and with the good will of a host of close friends.

Mrs. Barker is the mother of a daughter, Mrs. Elsa Signer, now of San Francisco.

**INGVART TEILMAN.**—A man of forceful character and fine professional attainments, Ingvar Teilmann, chief engineer of the Fresno Canal and Land Company, is another of Denmark's sons who have sought a home and made a name for themselves in the state of California.

He was born at Ribe, Denmark, February 15, 1860, and is the son of Hans Nielsen Teilmann and Dortha Katrine Teilmann. His parents were farmers and owned a small farm in the old country. Ingvar Teilmann grew up in his native country and was educated in the common schools. After coming to America he supplemented his education by a course at Van Der-Nailen's engineering school at San Francisco, and graduated July, 1883, as a civil engineer. He was engaged in surveying and engineering for a number of years, and in 1887 became city engineer of the city of Fresno. Shortly afterward he became associated with J. C. Shepard, a civil engineer graduate of Ann Arbor, Mich. They constructed the first sewer system for Fresno City, and became engineers for the leading land and water corporations, employing a number of engineers to lay out additions and colonies during the boom days of 1888 to 1890. During the stringency of the money market of 1892 to 1895, the partnership was dissolved, Mr. Shepard going to South America. In 1896 Mr. Teilmann became engineer for the Fresno Canal and Irrigation Company, and engineer also for Mr. L. A. Nares, the English representative of the owners of the canal systems and the large grant, comprising 60,000 acres of land, known as the Laguna De Tache. From the date that Mr. Nares got control of the canals and the grant, the development of the country began. The canals were put in shape to serve the public with an abundance of water and the grant reclaimed and the land sold to settlers on easy terms at low prices.

It was under Mr. Teilmann's directions that the Laguna De Tache was surveyed and irrigated, and also the holdings of the Summit Lake Land Company, the Laguna Lands, and the San Joaquin Valley Farm Lands Company (formerly the Jefferson James ranch) comprising 73,000 acres.

The most important engineering project planned by Mr. Teilmann is the Pine Flat project, which contemplates the building of a dam across the Kings River, forming a reservoir out of Pine Flat impounding 600,000 acre

feet of water, which will produce 40,000 horse power from the fall of water going over the dam. This water project will put under irrigation and provide drainage for over 1,000,000 acres of land tributary to Kings River in the central San Joaquin Valley.

Mr. Teilman is a director of the Fresno Canal and Land Company and the Consolidated Canal Company, and also manager and chief engineer of the two companies.

He was married at Fresno, September 27, 1887, to Miss Annie Katrine Holm, and they are the parents of four children, namely: Ingyart Holm Teilman, who married Elmina Gardner, February 24, 1917; Maren; Dora; and Henry Nelsen Teilman.

Since 1882 Mr. Teilman has been a member of Fresno Lodge No. 186, I. O. O. F., of which he is a Past Noble Grand. In his church associations he is a member of the Danish Lutheran Church. Politically he affiliates with the Republican party, and he is a member of the Commercial Club of Fresno.

Mr. Teilman is a man of broad caliber, possessed of a quiet dignity, kind and courteous to all, generous and public spirited, moving in the best financial, professional and social circles of Fresno. It is as an irrigation engineer that he is most widely known, having made a place for himself among the foremost engineers of the Pacific Coast. He resides with his family in their beautiful residence on Kearney Boulevard, Fresno.

**WILLIAM CARUTHERS.**—Californians will never cease to honor the pioneers, through whose self-denial and real hardships the foundations of the great commonwealth were laid; and among the builders of the Golden State, the name of William Caruthers, popularly known as Billy Caruthers, will not soon be forgotten. He was born in Vermont about 1840, and in that sterling old Yankee corner was reared on a farm. He came to California a young man and engaged in the sheep business in Fresno County, taking his sheep into the mountains in the summer time and bringing them back to the valleys in the winter. He became the owner of the southeast quarter, Section 7, Township 16, Range 20 (which is now the home-place of John G. C. Sinclair), and three whole sections in the neighborhood of Caruthers, including Section 18, where the present town of Caruthers is located. He gave the Southern Pacific Railway Company a half section of land for a town site, with the understanding that as the lots were sold, half of the proceeds should go to him. Mr. Caruthers also owned 1,200 acres on the Kings River, southwest of the bridge, known as the Kingsburg Picnic Grounds. He owned in all seven sections of land, all excellent soil, and some of it is now the most valuable in the county. He bought the land at Caruthers from the State, and as it was regarded as desert land, he paid only \$1.25 an acre, a price astonishingly small compared with its present valuation.

Mr. Caruthers married Miss Ellen Wilson, the eldest daughter of old "Tobacco" Wilson, the pioneer cattleman of this section. He raised sheep until about 1888, and then he changed to grain-farming and the raising of cattle. The Southern Pacific Railway had graded a line from Collis, which is now Kerman, in 1886, and the iron was laid in 1891; so that when the railway began operations Mr. Caruthers had his three sections here in wheat, and had been raising wheat here for three or four years. This looked good to those who came to see the town site, and it attracted prospective settlers.

Billy Caruthers was a man of positive convictions and a strong Republican, whose influence was felt in the councils of the party at that time. He continued to prosper and was highly respected. An unfortunate litigation, however, occurred about 1888, when a slander case in which he was the defendant was tried, and ended disastrously to him. Owing to his loss of this suit, together with the court costs and costs of litigation, he was practically ruined, and he was forced to place a mortgage upon all his lands in favor of the San Francisco Savings Union (Bank), to the amount of twelve dollars per acre, the hard and panicky times of the early nineties forcing him

eventually to sign it over to the bank. After that he rented lands from the old Jeff James Ranch, but he never regained his prosperity and prestige.

He later went to Hanford where he farmed his wife's land until he died, about 1911, about seventy-one years of age. He was certainly a progressive spirit in the improvement and advancement of Caruthers and Fresno County. He was associated with the late Timothy Page, capitalist of San Francisco, in the building and extension of the Fowler Switch Ditch, and encouraged the building of the railroad and starting the town of Caruthers. He was the person who first successfully grew Australian white wheat and introduced it into the San Joaquin Valley in 1888, and exhibited some of the wheat at the Chicago Exposition in 1893, when he took the gold medal.

**PERRY C. and ELIZABETH PHILLIPS.**—Among the highly honored pioneers of Fresno and Tulare Counties are Perry Commodore Phillips and his most estimable wife, Elizabeth (Hildebrand) Phillips, prosperous ranchers and wealthy landholders, who for nearly sixty years have resided on their home place, known as the Woodlawn Ranch, situated one mile south of Laton and lying south of the Kings River. Their ranch was formerly in Fresno County but since the recent change in the boundary line the ranch is now located in Kings County.

Great honor is due the courageous pioneers of the Golden State, and in view of the great hardships they experienced, the perils they braved and their untiring efforts in the development of the country's resources, their names should be perpetuated in the history of both state and county, and prominent on such a list will be the names of Perry Commodore and Elizabeth Phillips. The exact date of their arrival in Fresno County was October 23, 1860, and their first purchase of land consisted of eighty acres located near Kingston. In those early days their muniments of title were recorded at Millerton, which was then the county seat of Fresno County.

Perry Commodore Phillips was born April 7, 1838, near Princeton, Gibson County, Ind., a son of Robert and Celia (Melbourne) Phillips. The father was a native of South Carolina, who migrated to Indiana. Mr. and Mrs. Robert Phillips were the parents of four sons and four daughters, Perry C. being the sixth child. His early education was received in the public and subscription schools of that day, and was somewhat limited for at the age of fourteen his father died and afterwards he was obliged to work on farms. Perry was possessed of a great desire to see more of the big world so he decided to leave his native state and made his way to Missouri, and in 1854, accompanied by his brother William, joined an ox-team train composed of Illinoisians bound for California. After safely crossing the plains and arriving in the Golden State, Mr. Phillips located at Grizzly Hill, Nevada County, on the Yuba River north of Nevada City, where he was engaged in mining for five years, and where sometimes he, with his helper, took out as high as \$125 worth of gold in a day. Later he was engaged in gold-mining on Beaver Creek, Siskiyou County where he remained until 1859, when he removed to Solano County where he was employed on farms and for a short time attended school. Perry C. Phillips possessed those indispensable traits of character so necessary to success—industry and economy—and by the time he had decided to discontinue his search for gold he had laid up \$3,000.

In Vaca Valley, Solano County, April 29, 1860, Perry C. Phillips was united in marriage with Elizabeth Hildebrand, a native of Flat Rock, Shelby County, Ind., where she was born October 22, 1840. Her father, Joseph Hildebrand, a native of Lancaster County, Pa., and a farmer of that state, was married in Montgomery County, Ohio, to Anna Harkarader, a native of the Buckeye State, whose father was a miller at Miamisburg, on the Miami River near Dayton. Mrs. Phillips' grand-parents were natives of Pennsylvania but moved to Ohio and later to Shelby County, Ind., where Grandfather Hildebrand died, when she was four years of age. Grandfather Hilde-







*T. R. Phillips*



*Elizabeth Phillips*



brand was in the War of 1812, when Mrs. Phillips' father was born. During the Mexican War, Joseph Hildebrand, Mrs. Phillips' father, was a drill-master and she well remembers seeing him in uniform, drilling soldiers for the war. When she was eight years of age her parents removed to Iowa and in 1853 she accompanied them across the plains with ox teams to California. At first the family settled in Sierra County where the father followed mining, and in 1854 she moved with her parents to Nevada County, and it was at Grizzly Hill, in this county, that she first met Mr. Phillips, who was then a young man of about seventeen, while she was about fourteen years of age. Their acquaintance soon developed into courtship and on April 29, 1860, their wedding ceremony was solemnized in Vaca Valley, Solano County, where her parents were then residing.

In October of this same year the young couple journeyed to Fresno County, seeking a place to locate and establish a home. On October 23, 1860, after driving the team all day, Mrs. Phillips had become very tired and said: "This is as far as I am going," and that sentence was the determining act in fixing upon the place of their settlement, for at the time of writing this sketch, over fifty-eight years afterwards, this happy couple are still living in the same place. Mr. Phillips' initial purchase of land was eighty acres from Oliver Childers, which is part of the present Woodlawn Ranch, the Phillips' home place, and was the nucleus of his later extensive land-holdings. At the time of their settlement here their principal trading-place was Visalia, twenty-five miles away. By efficient management and industrious efforts Mr. Phillips subsequently added to his initial purchase of eighty acres until the home place contains 240 acres. As he prospered in ranching he purchased more land until at present he owns several ranches, and in July, 1918, the P. C. Phillips Corporation Company was incorporated under the laws of the state of California, and this company now has charge of his entire land holdings. Besides the home place Mr. and Mrs. Phillips own the following ranches which are controlled and operated by the P. C. Phillips Corporation Company: Fairview Ranch, on Last Chance Ditch, one and one-half miles up the Kings River, which contains 280 acres. Oakdale Ranch, containing 360 acres located one-half mile down the Kings River from the home ranch. On this ranch, in 1860, when Mr. and Mrs. Phillips first settled in Fresno County, there were about 250 Digger Indians, but they were usually quiet and peaceable. Lakeside Ranch is situated east of Guernsey, in Kings County, and contains 400 acres. Cross Creek Ranch contains 2,900 acres and is located six miles east of Hanford, the State Highway running through this property. Ducor Ranch contains 320 acres and is located near Ducor, Tulare County.

The officers of the company are: P. C. Phillips, president; Robert H. Phillips, vice-president; George H. Phillips, secretary; First National Bank, of Hanford, Cal., treasurer. The board of directors comprise: P. C., George H., and Robert H. Phillips. In the early days of the irrigation movement Mr. Phillips became very prominent and was one of the men of foresight who saw that by constructing irrigation ditches water could be conducted from the river to irrigate a large area of unproductive land and by which means this section could be converted into one of the world's garden spots. How well he and his associates planned is evidenced by today's history of this whole region. Mr. Phillips served as a director of the People's Ditch Company for one year.

In 1869, Mr. and Mrs. Phillips built their home and have occupied it all of these years. Today it is as cozy as ever, with its large and cheerful fireplace; and their home has been a center of hospitality for visitors, and for many social and musical functions and happy family reunions.

Mr. and Mrs. Phillips are the parents of eight children of whom they are justly proud: Florence Ellen, who is the wife of Edward Morton, form-

erly of Bremerton, Wash., but now living in Kings County where he is an orchardist, and who has two children—William P. and Carrie, both of whom are married and have children; Isabelle L., who is the wife of W. D. Runyon, a rancher living one mile east of Lemoore, Kings County, and who is the mother of two living children by her first husband; Carrie Winifred, who is the wife of L. L. Lowe, and the mother of one child, they residing on a ranch northeast of Hanford; Ada Bianca, who is single and makes her home with her parents; Dora Elizabeth, who passed away at the age of twenty years; George Hudson, who is a graduate of the University of California, class of 1900, and for several years was a leading dentist of Hanford but is now the manager of the Cross Creek Ranch of 2,900 acres near Hanford, and who married Miss Annie Rey, of Kings County, and who has two children; Robert H., who is single and is the enterprising proprietor of the Phillips Mercantile Company at Laton, the principal general store of this thriving new town; and Oscar Le Roy, who is an extensive sheep-raiser and operates a large ranch near Laton, and who married Miss Gladys Irene Darby of Kings County, and who has one child. In addition to their own large family, Mr. and Mrs. Phillips have brought up in their home Miss Lillian Emmett, who still resides with them.

Although advanced in years, Mr. Phillips being past eighty-one, and his wife in her seventy-ninth year, they are both well and active and still take a great interest in life. Mr. Phillips is a large and dignified man and is still engaged in general farming, raising hogs, sheep, cattle and conducting a dairy. He has owned and sold valuable oil lands at Coalinga; one piece of property consisting of eighty acres brought the handsome sum of \$40,000. At one time he also owned the tract consisting of 1,780 acres, 960 of which now constitutes the celebrated Lucerne Vineyard, the largest raisin-grape vineyard in the world and at present owned by Wylie Giffen, president of the California Associated Raisin Company.

Mrs. Phillips has a most remarkable memory concerning interesting events of pioneer days in Fresno and Kings Counties. She well remembers the Mussel Slough Fight, which occurred May 11, 1881, when five men were killed and two wounded over a land controversy between the settlers of that section and the railway company. She also remembers the early owners of the Laguna de Tache Grant, Messrs. Poley, Clayburg, and S. C. Lillis, also a Mr. Heilbron, who owned but one share. This original grant from the Spanish government comprised 67,000 acres of land in Fresno and Kings Counties and was purchased in 1900 by Nares and Saunders. W. E. G. Saunders was a resident of Emmetsburg, Iowa, and has been a most welcome visitor at the Phillips' home. This great tract has been opened to settlers and sold in small ranches, the enterprise having been very successful and having developed this section of the state to the great advantage of landowners. Mrs. Phillips has the distinction of having been one of the first passengers on the first regular passenger train on the Southern Pacific Railway in Fresno County, when she rode from Fresno to Goshen Junction, in September, 1872.

The interesting record of this honored pioneer couple's useful and successful career, perpetuated in the annals of Fresno County, should prove a source of inspiration to the younger generations and of gratification and pride to their descendants.

**CAPTAIN EZRA M. RUSSELL.**—An honored place among the pioneers of Fresno County is due Ezra M. Russell, who has been privileged to live through years marked by great growth, wonderful changes and marvelous development along all lines of industry in Fresno County. He is a native of the Empire State, having been born in Oswego County, N. Y., on January 16, 1841, a son of Jonathan W. and Elizabeth (Secner) Russell. Ezra's



grandfather was an English sea captain who settled in New York State, and his maternal ancestors, the Secner family, were of Dutch origin.

Jonathan W. Russell, the father of the subject of this sketch, was a brick mason by trade and, in 1847, when Ezra was but a small boy, he removed from New York to Illinois where he resided until 1853, when he moved to Iowa. There he engaged in farming and also worked at his trade. In 1866, he sold out and started to cross the plains, but owing to the activities of the Indians he was compelled to abandon his venture and, having reached Denver, remained there for a short time, but subsequently returned to Iowa. He remained in Iowa until 1872, when he migrated to California, locating near what is now Kingsburg, where he purchased land and followed farming and fruit-raising until his death. His wife also passed away in California. Mr. and Mrs. Jonathan W. Russell were the parents of ten children, Ezra M. being the fifth child.

Ezra M. Russell was reared in Iowa, near Fredericksburg, Chickasaw County, and received his early education in the district school. From early manhood he has made his own way in the world, his success being the result of hard work and persevering efforts. In 1862, fired by the true spirit of patriotism, he volunteered his services in the defense of his country and in the month of January he enlisted in Company B, Thirteenth Regiment, United States Volunteer Infantry, being mustered in at Dubuque, Iowa, but was sent to Jefferson Barracks, Mo., for training. His company was assigned to the Army of the West and he fought valiantly under General Sherman, until he was severely wounded at the Battle of Vicksburg, where, on May 19, 1863, he received seven different wounds, in making the charge on the stockade, being seriously wounded in the left foot, which crippled him for life. On account of his disability he was honorably discharged in 1864, but in the spring of 1865, he assisted in organizing a company of which he was elected the captain.

After returning to Iowa, Ezra M. Russell was united in marriage with Miss Sarah Jane Jones, a native of Lake County, Ill., where she was born on January 12, 1845. Her father, Jonathan Jones, was a native of the state of New York, but who migrated westward and first settled in Illinois, afterwards he located in Iowa and it was in this state that he passed away. After his marriage, Mr. Russell, although badly crippled and for five years compelled to use crutches, did what work he could as a brickmason, having learned the trade in his younger days from his father.

In 1873, the year after his father had located in California, Ezra made the trip to the Golden State and at first settled at Oakland, where he worked at his trade. While in Oakland he became acquainted with Leland Stanford, who told him about the new railroad and of the country around Kingsburg. Later, Ezra, with his family, moved to Fresno County, arriving in 1874. Soon after his arrival he took up a soldier's homestead claim of 160 acres of land near Kingsburg and has lived on this place ever since, making over forty years' continuous residence in Fresno County. He still retains sixty acres of the original ranch and also owns an eighty-acre ranch about a quarter of a mile south of his home. Many acres of his ranches are devoted to vines and fruit. His home is located two one-half miles west of Kingsburg, near the Franklin School. At the time he located here the railroad was finished only as far as Kingsburg, which had only two stores, and the Kings River was crossed on a temporary bridge; and Selma consisted of a section house where the Chinese laborers for the railway company lived. Mr. Russell says that, in taking a trip across the country to Fresno, you would not see a single home, but here and there you would see a sheep corral.

Mr. and Mrs. Ezra M. Russell are the parents of eight children, seven of whom are living. One son, Adrian, when a boy of twelve years, was accidentally killed by a saddle-horse. The seven children still living are: Alice,

who is now Mrs. Enos Sylvia, residing in Selma, is the mother of three children: Rena, the wife of Elias Van Winkle, a rancher near Fresno, has one child, Newton; Nellie, who is the widow of Charles Brown, resides at Hanford; Benjamin at home with his father; Cassie the widow of O. N. Heulton, who died November 14, 1918, has one child, Russell V., and now lives with her father; Clark, married Miss Lottie Grimshaw, from Hanford, and is operating a ranch near Selma, and they have three children, Ezra, Evalena, and Richard; Chester, who is a rancher near Kingsburg, married Addie Mayfield and they are the parents of three children, Louise, Pauline and Clark, Jr.

On December 27, 1917, Mr. Russell was bereft of the loving companionship of his estimable wife, who passed away at the age of seventy-three years. Mr. Russell is an honored member of Atlanta Post, No. 90, G. A. R., at Selma. Fraternally, he belongs to the Knights of Pythias. For nine years he was a director of the high school in his district. He is highly esteemed in the community where he has lived for so many years and is always willing to do his share in promoting the best interests of his section.

**RICHARD NASON BARSTOW.**—Over forty years ago Richard Nason Barstow cast in his lot with other California homeseekers and for nearly thirty-two years of that time he has lived in Fresno County, and has been interested in its development. A native of New Hampshire, he was born at Haverhill, February 3, 1853, a son of the late Hon. James Townsend and Sarah J. (Brown) Barstow, both life-long residents of Haverhill, and farmers by occupation. The elder Barstow was active in the management of public affairs, for many years serving as town clerk, and for two terms represented his district in the state legislature. He died at the age of seventy-six years. Six children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Barstow, four reached maturity, and two are still living. Many members of the Barstow family have acquired distinction in professional, business, political and military circles. William Barstow, great-grandfather of Richard Nason, was a pioneer of Haverhill, and served in the War of the Revolution. William Barstow, Jr., grandfather of R. N., was born, lived and died there; he served for many years as postmaster and was the leading merchant of Haverhill. He served in the War of 1812. One of his sons, George Barstow, was a prominent attorney in San Francisco during the fifties, and was a member of the California state legislature, where he served as speaker of the house for one term.

The eldest child of his parents, Richard Nason Barstow, was reared in his native town and acquired his education in the public schools and the village academy, as well as the school of practical experience. At the age of eighteen he left home to accept a position in a wholesale oil store in Boston, remaining for five years. In 1880 he came to California as superintendent of the Jones-Hill Hydraulic Mining Company, at Georgetown, Eldorado County, where he had charge of two giants until the passage of the Anti-Slickens law, and was subsequently general manager until the business was closed up. In 1887 he came to Fresno County and bought a lot in Central Colony where he immediately began setting out a vineyard and after he had developed it to a high state he sold out in 1895. His next venture along agricultural lines was the leasing of 3,000 acres of California Bank land in the county, and upon this property he was successful as a wheat and barley raiser. In 1901 he purchased 320 acres of land in what is now called Barstow Colony, being named for him as he was the founder. He put it under irrigation and began raising alfalfa; being the first to start intensive farming in that section. He found it uphill work and was ridiculed by others for his attempt. In spite of this he persevered and demonstrated that it could be done, and through his successful efforts Barstow Colony is today a thriving agricultural, horticultural and viticultural section. He has cut five crops of alfalfa a year, which yielded an average of one and one-quarter



*P. H. Barlow*



to one and one-half tons to the acre per cutting. In 1902 Mr. Barstow was nominated as a candidate on the Republican ticket, for the office of county recorder, and was elected by over one hundred majority, and assumed the duties of the office in January of the following year. He was reelected in 1904 and each succeeding four years; the last time being in 1918, and at the close of this term will have held county office longer than any former county official of Fresno County. In the system of keeping records he has introduced the latest devices and methods for transcribing, such as typewriters and loose-leaf record books. His system has been appreciated by other county recorders, who have introduced it in their offices.

Mr. Barstow has watched with much interest the development of Fresno County, and has played a prominent part in its business, social and political life. He still contends that the great resources of the county have hardly been touched. Mr. Barstow is still interested in agricultural pursuits, having 250 acres in alfalfa, a large vineyard, and a dairy of seventy-five fine cows, all of which adds handsomely to his annual income. He devotes the greater part of his time to the duties of his office, and prides himself in the knowledge that it is efficiently and carefully conducted.

In 1881, at Auburn, Cal., Richard Nason Barstow was united in marriage with Agnes H. Baldwin, a native daughter, born in Coulterville, Mariposa County, and a member of a pioneer family who came from Illinois. Mr. and Mrs. Barstow are the parents of two sons: George, a graduate of Fresno High School, is deputy county recorder under his father; James Townsend, graduated from the University of California with the degree of LL.B. and during the World War served in the United States Navy until his honorable discharge with the commission of ensign, and is now practicing law in Fresno. Mr. Barstow is a staunch Republican, and has served as a member of the state central committee. He is a member of Fresno Lodge No. 186, I. O. O. F., and an active member of the County Recorders Association of California. He is one of the most highly esteemed residents of Fresno County, is a self-made man in every sense of the term, and owes his position in the community to his own personal efforts and integrity of character.

**JAMES PATRICK FARLEY.**—The able blacksmith at the Hub, a little station on the Hardwick & Summit Lake Branch of the Southern Pacific Railway, the next station to Riverdale, is James Patrick Farley, who came here in 1911, just when this line of railroad was completed. He bought an acre lot upon which he built his blacksmith's shop, and nearby a comfortable dwelling, and these have been his home and workshop ever since. He has bought another half-acre lot, which he may improve in time, when the growth of this little but promising place justifies it. He has worked at his trade with success, a matter of more than ordinary satisfaction, for Mr. Farley not only came here to make a living and establish a home but he was ambitious also to help build up the town. He does horse-shoeing and general blacksmithing, and is now working into auto truck and tractor work and accessories in order to meet the demands of the time.

Mr. Farley carries with him the air of good cheer and whole-heartedness—a trait no doubt inherited from his ancestors in the Emerald Isle, where his paternal grandparents, Patrick and Mary (Tiernan) Farley, were both born. The grandfather migrated to America and settled in Philadelphia, and soon after his arrival in the United States our subject's father, Philip Henry, was born. He became an operator in the woolen mills, and followed that trade until he moved west to California in 1886. He settled at Redding and tried to farm; but being wholly unused to agriculture and to out-door life, and having spent so much of his time and vitality in the woolen mills of the East, he made no headway as a rancher and died five years after his arrival. He had bought 160 acres of railroad land in the vicinity of Redding, and this he owned at the time of his death. Philip Henry Farley was married at Utica,

N. Y., where he worked in the woolen mills, to Miss Mary Tiernan, whose father, James Tiernan, was born in Ireland, while her mother, Mary Gray, was an own sister of Samuel Gray, the founder of Gray's Harbor, Ore.

Seven children were born to Mr. and Mrs. P. H. Farley, and James Patrick was ten years old when his parents came to California and fifteen years old when his father died. This bereavement meant much to him, for it compelled him to push out into the world for himself. It necessitated also his helping his mother and other members of the family. He did what his hands found to do, and being in close proximity to the gold mines he engaged in mining, beginning at the Calumet Mine and later working at Harrison Gulch, Old Diggings and other places in Northern California and Southern Oregon, but principally in Shasta County. In Oregon he worked in the mines adjacent to Grant's Pass, and in fact helped prospect as far south as Crescent City, in Del Norte County, Cal., a distance of fifty miles or more from Grant's Pass.

Being handy with tools and having a liking for the smithy James Patrick began as a helper around the blacksmith shops in Shasta County, and rather naturally grew into the blacksmith trade—sharpening tools, shoeing horses, building and repairing machinery, and doing a thousand and one things necessary to be done in and around gold-mining camps. When, therefore, he came to the new town of Hub he was a competent workman in his line and a God-send to the locality. A sister, Mrs. Charles L. Montgomery, was then as now living on a ranch near-by, and was the means of calling his attention to the attractiveness of the country in that vicinity (a very fertile dairy district, by the way) and the advantages that might be reaped in his line of work.

Before leaving the gold mines, Mr. Farley was married at Grant's Pass to Miss Edna McManus, a native of Missouri, but a resident of Grant's Pass at the time of their meeting. After their marriage they went to Redding, where Mr. Farley worked at his trade for a year, and then he moved to Stockton, where he set up a shop of his own, and for two or three years carried on a successful business. Then, having decided to settle in Hub, he built his house and shop here in the Fall of 1911.

Mr. Farley takes an active interest in the upbuilding of the community, and especially in the welfare of the North Fork School in his home district; for they have three children of their own; Philip James, Helen, and Louise.

**RICHARD THOMAS OWEN.**—A rancher now enjoying a well-earned period of retirement, but who in his time did much for the development, by the most scientific methods and on a large scale, of grain-farming in California, and who also spared neither pains nor expense to improve the breeding of horses here, is Richard Thomas Owen, the son of the well-known Ohioan, George W. Owen, a pioneer who was born in Cincinnati. He grew up on a farm and followed farming and stockraising, although he had put in some years in the hard life of a river steamboatman. George W. Owen was united in marriage with Miss Eleanor Long, also a native of Ohio, and after his marriage, having a desire for more settled labor, he moved to Illinois, where he secured a farm. In 1850, he came to Iowa, and after that, removed to Nebraska. Wherever he went, he proved himself a man among men, so that one of the most valuable inheritances enjoyed by Richard has always been the good name of his father.

In 1862, George Owen fitted out the usual ox-team equipment and joined a company of about one hundred families bound for California; and enduring all the hardships and the stirring adventure, he succeeded in reaching the promised land by means of the trails across the Plains. At first he located in Yolo County, where he embarked in general farming and stock-raising; but later he pushed on to Sonoma County, next taking up the dairy business. In the fall of 1868, he went over into Modesto County; and it was after that when he first came to Fresno County. In 1876 he took up some Government land near the foothills, bought other land in addition; and he was still in the stock business at the time of his death, in 1880. Ten years



later his good wife, who had been a most devoted mother to seven children, passed to her eternal reward.

Richard was the fourth of these fortunate children, and was born at Freeport, in Stephenson County, Ill., on the fourth of July, 1846. He went to school for a short time in the East before coming to California with his parents. He also lived at home, so that he enjoyed what many a boy has lacked, good home surroundings; he also had the advantage of knowing something of the life of the older East as well as the vigorous and ambitious West. With his parents, he came West to Stanislaus County.

On Washington's birthday, in 1872, Mr. Owen was married to Miss Mary Weaver, a native of Clark County, Mo., who had come to California a couple of years before. Once well established in domestic comfort, he took up farming and stockraising on a larger scale. All this time, and up to 1882, he was in Stanislaus County; then he came to Fresno, reasoning, very naturally, that after all there is but one county in the state offering the many and varied advantages found here.

After his father's death, Mr. Owen was appointed administrator of the estate; and on settling in Fresno County, he bought a section where a part of Clovis is now located. The purchase was really made in 1881, but it took some time to wind up his affairs in the other county. With his brother Charles, he entered into partnership in the raising of race-horses and stock; while, farming to grain on a very large scale one year, he harvested as much as 37,000 sacks. They also rented large tracts of land and continued grain farming until 1902. Then his brother was killed, and he sold out and retired from active duties save in connection with his personal estate.

For twenty-five years Mr. Owen was devoted to the raising of fine horses, traveling through the state both to see what others were doing in that line, and to give fellow-breeders everywhere the benefit of his wide experience.

Three children—George W., Armina Ellen and Sadie Louise have come to bless the family life of Mr. and Mrs. Owen, and to enjoy their residence, the first fine house in Clovis, now surrounded by a productive vineyard and orchard.

**JAY SCOTT.**—Through his identification with public affairs of Fresno County, Jay Scott, now living retired in Fresno, is widely known through the effective service he gave to the people of the county as sheriff, during his two terms in the office, from January, 1893 to January, 1899. A native of Illinois, he was born in Will County, January 13, 1850, a son of J. H. Scott, a native of New York state. When he was a lad, J. H. Scott was taken to Illinois by his parents and was reared to manhood on a farm which his father took up in the vicinity of Chicago. He married Anna Chamberlain, a native of Canada, and at once set up for himself and remained a farmer in that state until 1852, when he brought his family to California. Crossing the plains with ox-teams, he located in the Sacramento Valley and farmed there until a few years before his death, which occurred in Fresno in 1894, when seventy-six years of age. His widow died in 1905 aged eighty-two years.

Jay Scott was but two years of age when he was brought to this state by his parents and he remembers nothing about their long and dangerous trip across the plains. He is typically western, as all but two years of his life has been spent here, and he is keenly alive to the possibilities of this great commonwealth. He was reared in the Sacramento Valley and attended the schools near his home place. He railroaded through Fresno County in 1876, and then spent two years in Cazadero, Sonoma County, where he engaged in the hotel business, and in 1888 located in Fresno engaged in business until 1900, when he located on a ranch he had bought and which he improved. He made of it a valuable property and after several years given up to agricultural pursuits he disposed of the farm and moved into town.

On his ranch he planted vineyards and orchards and carried on diversified farming. He owned 160 acres in one tract and forty in another, all improved under his capable management.

Mr. Scott was united in marriage in Tulare County with Ida Burch, and they have had four children: Oliver C.; Myrtle, who married Robert Clare and is now deceased. She left two sons, Jay Scott and Robert Burch. Philip B. Scott, married Mabel McFarland and they have two children, Elizabeth and Oliver. Jay Scott, the youngest, died at the age of four years. Mr. Scott is a stanch Republican and has been a potent factor in politics in Fresno County. He is a charter member of the Elks and belongs to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. A hale fellow well met, Jay Scott has a host of warm friends throughout the county and has always done his part, as a public-spirited citizen, towards the upbuilding of the county.

**WILLIAM SUTHERLAND.**—The early life history of most men who have passed the allotted term of three score years and ten is usually an uneventful one. Such, however, is not the case of William Sutherland, who while yet but a lad made the voyage to California, coming via the Isthmus of Panama, landing in San Francisco in 1862 and since then has made his home under the sunny skies of California. He was born in New Durham, County Durham, England, February 18, 1844. His mother, Hannah (Armour) Sutherland, died when he was but eleven years old and his father, James Sutherland, when he was fourteen. Thus at that early age he was left to shift for himself. He was the youngest of eight children. His father while living, was superintendent of a coal mine at Whitwell, County Durham, England. Young William, as a lad, attended school, receiving a fair education. During his spare time from school he assisted his father in the offices of the coal company, thus becoming conversant with bookkeeping and business methods. After his father's death, as he grew older, he worked for a time in the mine, leaving the employment of the company in 1862 when he sailed for the United States. In due time he arrived in New York from the steamer Aetna but soon left for Aspinwall on the side-wheel steamer Ariel. The trip lasted twelve days. Arriving at Aspinwall, he crossed the Isthmus on the railroad and took the steamer Golden Age, on the Pacific side, for San Francisco, arriving there, after fourteen days on the water, in October, 1862. He had a brother James and two uncles living in Fresno County who came to California in 1850. Starting out, he arrived at Stockton without a dollar in his pocket. Upon walking down the street he entered into conversation with a gentleman who soon learned that the lad was without funds, and the man gave him ten dollars, telling him he might repay it when he found work. From Stockton he walked south to Graysonville, and on the way met his uncle William who was coming to Stockton for supplies. Returning with his uncle he sought out the man who had so kindly loaned him ten dollars and repaid him. At this time his uncle was living near Kingston, Fresno County, as was also his brother James. In the fall of 1862 he cut timber and made oak rails. In the spring of 1863 he began to drive cattle to Amador County, and continued in this business for some time up and down the San Joaquin Valley. Later he worked for his uncle John, on a ranch, driving cattle to Nevada for him. In the fall of 1869 he located near Alviso, Santa Clara County, continuing the same occupation until 1873. His uncle John had large interests in Stockton and he went there to work for him, remaining with him until 1876 when he and his uncle made a trip through Colorado and Texas by wagon, the trip occupying six months. His uncle then sent him to Fresno County to buy sheep. He bought twenty thousand at an average price of fifty cents per head, that being a dry year. Many of the sheep died. His uncle had also 5,000 horses and 12,000 head of cattle on the plains, which young Sutherland took care of. After the death of his uncle John he was made administrator of his estate, and after settling up his business affairs came to Fresno City, where he has since remained, and where for some time he was engaged in buying and





Olufs

selling farm lands. Later he was in charge of the shipping and distribution of ice for the San Joaquin Ice Company at Fresno, retaining this position until 1910 when he resigned and has since lived retired. He owns 154 acres of land in Tulare County, near Angiola, which he rents. In 1883 he bought the home in which he now resides on N Street in Fresno.

He was married January 15, 1883, to Annette Bacon of Michigan, who died in 1915, leaving two sons, Walter James, a mail carrier, and William Bacon, who holds a responsible position with the San Joaquin Light and Power Company, both of whom make their home with him. Mr. Sutherland is now one of the oldest settlers remaining in Fresno County where he is well known and is beloved by all who know him.

**OLUF BERNARD OLUFS.**—Fresno County is indebted to O. B. Olufs, more than to any other man for its standing as the raisin center of this country. He put into practical application his ideas of cooperation in handling the raisin output of this section, soon after his settlement in the county, by establishing and managing, for several seasons, packing houses at Malaga, Fowler, Kingsburg and Oleander. He was a far-sighted man and with his systematic training, lost but little energy in whatever he undertook. The California Associated Raisin Company, organized in 1912, has continued business along the lines he advocated.

A Frisian, O. B. Olufs was born under the Danish flag on the Isle of Föhr, in the North Sea on May 25, 1849. His father was Capt. Volkert Olufs; and his grandfather was closely allied with the rulers of Denmark and was an admiral in the Danish Navy. O. B. Olufs received his early schooling in his native land and his college course in a university in Hamburg, Germany, as there were no advanced schools in his country. He served one year in the German army, then secured his release. At the age of nineteen he came to San Francisco, Cal., and there he mastered English in the schools and a business college. He was a linguist, speaking German, French and Spanish fluently, and his services were soon sought as an interpreter. He was also associated with the Danish consulate in that city. He later was employed in Colusa and Glenn Counties, and still later conducted a general store at Davis, Yolo County. For one year he was in the employ of Eppinger and Company, large grain merchants in Oakland.

In 1883, Mr. Olufs came to Fresno County and was so impressed with the wonderful possibilities he saw on every hand that he decided to locate here. Entering at once into the spirit of the times he bought land at Oleander and soon had a thriving vineyard of 160 acres, while on another 240 acres he raised grain. He extended his operations to a peach orchard near the town of Kingsburg and also had valuable holdings in that town that are now a part of the town site. The more he entered into the business life of his adopted county the more determined he became to make his work a success and to lead others to the same goal; he organized a cooperative association among the early raisin growers in order to maintain prices and to market their product. He personally managed the packing houses at Oleander, Fowler, Malaga and Kingsburg for several seasons. The result of his work at that time has been the organization and maintenance of the California Associated Raisin Company of today. Mr. Olufs was a personal friend of M. Theodore Kearney, the first president of that wonderful concern. In every way Mr. Olufs aided every worthy movement that would mean prosperity for the citizens of the county and that would enhance the realty values. He was active in the Chamber of Commerce and served as secretary of that body in an early day.

To further prove his confidence in Fresno he erected a fire-proof warehouse at 201 Santa Fe Avenue, a model of its kind, having every known facility for the quick and easy handling of goods in large quantities. It was established in 1906, the original building embracing more than 13,000 square feet of floor space. Its capacity was soon taxed, and four years later an

additional 10,000 square feet of floor space was added, thus making it one of the largest and leading warehouses in the entire San Joaquin Valley. It is used for the housing of large quantities of merchandise and the company does a general warehouse and storage business, numbering among its patrons some of the largest and best-known firms of Fresno. The company also represents some of the large eastern manufacturers and wholesalers, who distribute from this warehouse to the territory adjoining Fresno. The business is under the management of L. F. Matthes. Mrs. Olufs is the proprietor.

O. B. Olufs was married at Davis, Yolo County, to Miss Luella M. Wristen, a native of Illinois. Four children were born of this happy union: Clarence D., who graduated from the Fresno high school and was a student in the University of California at Berkeley when he met his death in a train-wreck, in 1902. He had been in the employ of the First National Bank in Fresno. Elmo B., the second son, also graduated from the Fresno high school and was for a number of years in the hotel business in the Yosemite Valley. He died in 1913. Freda O., is the only daughter. She graduated from the Fresno high school and completed her education at Miss Head's school in Berkeley. She became the wife of Norman C. Ginn, a well-known traveling salesman, who was born in Iowa and had been a resident of California ten years, three of which were spent in Fresno. Mr. Ginn died on October 27, 1918, leaving his widow and a daughter, Betty Ann. The fourth child of the family is Dick Wristen, who was educated in the public schools of Fresno and is now an employe in the county assessor's office at Fresno.

Mr. Olufs sold off his ranch property in different parts of the county and purchased forty acres of vineyard on Princeton Avenue where a modern country home has since been erected. He died on December 7, 1914, mourned by a wide circle of friends. He was a member of the Masonic fraternity and was a man of liberal and progressive ideas whose name will long be associated with the growth and upbuilding of Fresno County.

**WILLIAM D. CRICHTON.**—A prominent jurist whose ever rising career is a splendid example, first of the opportunities offered the aspiring American in this, the freest and most promising of all lands, and secondly of that disposition, so often manifested by our people, to take advantage of and profit by such chances, no matter what exertion or cost is necessary to win the coveted goal. The jurist referred to is the Hon. William D. Crichton; and the story of his life is related to the stories of millions of other Americans in so far as they have overcome obstacles that discourage many, set a high mark and finally attained it, and in reaching and climbing for themselves, have carried upward a considerable pace the high standard of their country's progress.

Born under romantic conditions—on no less a stormy place than the Pacific Ocean, while his parents, David and Honorah Crichton, were on their way from Australia to San Francisco—William first saw the light of day on the twelfth of July, 1863, the summer when his father reached California. The family tarried but a short time in the bay metropolis, and then went to Humboldt County, where Mr. Crichton engaged in farming and stock-raising. He was always a progressive man, and led the way among the pioneers in the most up-to-date methods of which he was cognizant; and there he tilled the soil and threw in his moral weight and material aid in advancing every worthy movement for the local good, until his death in 1891. A manly and most influential man, Mr. Crichton's demise was mourned on every hand.

William attended the public schools until he was fourteen, and then he went to work as a ranch hand, finding employment on different ranches in Humboldt County until he was twenty-three. After that, he went into Eureka, and finding a good opening in the lumber business, he served in different capacities with various concerns.



Meanwhile, however, having no idea of remaining either a farmhand or a lumber-yard helper, Mr. Crichton studied law nights; and in the great boom year of 1887, he came south to Fresno and here entered the law offices of the well-known firm of Webb & Van Meter. There, under exceptional advantages, he continued his legal studies until 1890; and at the beginning of the last decade of the century, he was admitted to the bar.

At the same time that he thus took his place in the law world, Mr. Crichton, whose personality and professional proficiency were becoming known, was elected justice of the peace; and so well did he fulfil his duties and pledges, that he was permitted to hold the office for four years. It was really during his incumbency of that responsible position that he was admitted to practice in all the courts of the state.

Since then, Judge Crichton has been conducting a private practice, and has very successfully handled many important cases. His personal character, as well as his acknowledged ability, has had much to do with the confidence of his fellow-citizens; and in no more satisfactory way was this confidence expressed than when, some years ago, he was made the honored nominee on the Democratic ticket for a member of Congress. This was in 1900, when Republican opposition was strong and well organized; so that, without really reflecting upon him, he was defeated after a brilliant campaign.

At Dyersburg, in romantic Tennessee, on December 28, 1891, Mr. Crichton was married to Alice Stephens, who has proven the most companionable of wives for a professional man, and who shares with him the pleasures and the duties of membership in the Methodist Church, South.

The Judge belongs to the Odd Fellows and the Elks, and there is no more popular, loyal member in either lodge.

**HERMAN H. BRIX.**—This man so lived that since his passing his accomplishment and exemplary life have been a constant reminder to those left behind that what really counts for good in the lives worth recording was preeminent in his life. Born at Namslau, Silesia, Germany, February 16, 1862, Herman H. Brix received his education in his native country and after graduating from a military academy at Potsdam, he served three years in the army. In 1882, then twenty years of age, he came to the United States and located in Iowa the first year, with a brother. Mr. Brix then came to California and for a number of years was engaged in agricultural pursuits near Hanford. He next engaged in the mercantile business at Huron, Cal. This did not satisfy him and he went to Coalinga and took up a homestead, proved up on it and for eight years farmed it to wheat. Low prices made the work discouraging and he decided he would take a chance in the Alaska gold fields, so he left his ranch and went to Dawson City in 1898, and was fortunate enough to accumulate about \$13,000.

While he was in Alaska the news of the discovery of oil in the Coalinga district reached him and he decided to return to California, which he did in 1901, and thereafter devoted his time and talents to the accumulation of a fortune, making his home on his homestead and awaited results of the oil development. He worked in the oil fields to acquire first-hand knowledge of the business and valuable experience. Then the demand for water arose and as he had a plentiful supply on his ranch, he organized a company, laid pipe lines, erected tanks and supplied a number of oil wells with water for the following five years. During this time he made investments in oil stock, bought land in favorable locations and sold it at high prices. Although he began with limited capital he had unlimited confidence in the district, made a special study of geology of the section round about and finally sold his water business and dissolved the company and gave his attention to the oil business entirely, buying and selling oil lands.

His original investment was in the Confidence Oil Company, with its property located six miles from Coalinga. With a Mr. Bunting, he organized the B. & B. Oil Company, which was located on his homestead property

and as this company succeeded he soon bought out his partner and managed the business alone. He also owned lands now operated by the Nevada Oil Company; was a heavy stockholder in the St. Paul & Fresno Oil Company, besides being a one-sixth owner in the Coalinga Syndicate. His estate still owns valuable holdings in the Coalinga district, where with others Mr. Brix owned many acres of valuable oil lands.

Mr. Brix was a heavy stockholder in the Fresno Hotel Company and he personally superintended the construction of the building, one of the finest inland hosteleries in the state; The Brix Apartments, a four-story concrete building, and one of the finest and first modern apartment buildings erected in the San Joaquin Valley, was built and owned by him. He was very much interested in the upbuilding of Fresno County and gave very liberally towards all worthy enterprises, and was a leader in many.

While accumulating these numerous and valuable holdings, Mr. Brix found time to meet his fellow men in a social and fraternal spirit. He belonged to the various Masonic bodies and was a Shriner. In politics he was known as an independent but he never cared to hold a public office. Religiously, he was a believer in Christian Science in his latter years.

The marriage of Mr. Brix in 1890, united him with Miss Helene Schemel, and three children came to gladden their home, viz.: Emma M., a graduate from Stanford University; Karl H., a graduate from the Mt. Tamalpais Military Academy, who, when the war broke out, was a student at Stanford, and volunteered for service in the United States Navy and spent ten months at Mare Island, when peace was declared and he was mustered out; Theodore Frederick, is a student in the Fresno schools. After a very useful and successful career H. H. Brix passed to his reward on September 20, 1915, since which time his capable helpmate has assumed the responsibilities of managing the estate. The family occupy a palatial home at 2844 Fresno Street.

**MAHLON LEVIS.**—An old pioneer of Fresno County, and also a forty-niner of the gold days in California, Mahlon Levis deserves mention when compiling the biographical history of this section of the state. He was one of the very first men to plant grapes on a large scale in the Selma district, and helped to establish and promote the raisin industry in its pioneer days, and it is to such men as he that the present prosperity of Fresno County is due.

Born in Bucks County, near Philadelphia, Pa., February 28, 1825, Mahlon Levis was one of seven sons, all reared on the home farm. Upon the death of the father of the family, in 1838, the home was broken up and Mahlon first went to Illinois. Later, with three of his brothers, in 1842, he engaged in the lumber business in the pine woods of Wisconsin, and continued thus engaged for several years. Then, when the discovery of gold in California turned men's footsteps west, he journeyed to the Coast, in 1849, and for two years tried his luck in the mining districts of the state, meeting with fair success. His companion in mining enterprises, a man by the name of Pomeroy, and himself then returned to Wisconsin, via New Orleans. The two men had \$1,600 apiece with them as a result of their labors, and, upon crossing the Isthmus, Mr. Pomeroy was robbed; Mahlon Levis, with the ready generosity of the old pioneers, divided his \$1,600 with his unfortunate partner and so the two continued to their destination.

After his return from California, Mr. Levis again devoted his attention to the lumber business in Wisconsin, and here his marriage occurred, uniting him with Maria E. Olden, a native of Canada. He later engaged in farming and remained in the eastern state until 1873, when he disposed of his 160-acre farm and went again to California.

Finding conditions here to his liking, Mr. Levis returned to Wisconsin and brought his family back to California with him, locating in Tulare County, where he purchased a large band of sheep, 3,000 of which perished from the drought in 1877. Nothing daunted, though financially embarrassed, the sturdy





*J. D. Collins*

pioneer came to Fresno County in that year, and settled upon 300 acres of Southern Pacific Railway land one one-half miles north of the Canal school and four miles northeast of Selma. Here he started in the planting of grapes, one of the first viticulturists in that section. In 1878 he planted one acre of mixed varieties, of which the muscats tested out the best. In 1880 he planted four acres to grapes which are still bearing and in vigorous condition. Before 1890 he had fifty acres of his ranch planted to grapes. The rest of his land was devoted to grain and alfalfa. Later he planted more grapes, until he was one of the largest raisin-growers, as well as the pioneer of the industry in the district. It must be remembered that the growers of those days did not have the easy access to water facilities that are prevalent in the county now, and it was only by constant and persevering devotion to the culture that they succeeded, so all honor is due to these real developers of the industry in which Fresno leads the entire United States.

Mr. and Mrs. Levis were the parents of eleven children, as follows: Emma, the wife of I. C. Houghton, a farmer of Humbird, Wis.; Ella, who died in California, she was the wife of Frank Peters and mother of one child, Maud, now Mrs. Johnson of Taft; Alvin, the third child and eldest son; W. F., rancher of Selma, married Adah Cockran; Florence, now the widow of C. N. Carrington of Selma; Georgiana, wife of J. C. Rorden of Selma; E. A., a rancher of Selma; Annetta May, wife of Chester Dusy, a druggist of San Francisco; John E., a rancher of Selma; his twin, Kate, died single in San Francisco; Minnie, wife of Dr. O. E. Bronson of Fresno.

As can be seen, the descendants of this worthy pioneer couple are carrying on the developing work started by their parents, and are counted among the representative citizens of the county.

**JAMES DARWIN COLLINS.**—A broadminded and progressive educator and legislator, who did much to develop the early, sound educational standards in Fresno County, was James Darwin Collins. Indeed, he was active in all movements tending to build up the county and to promote the welfare of his fellow citizens, and eventually, as the result of his most notable school enterprise, he was associated with the naming of the district in which he lived and toiled.

James Darwin Collins was born in Rhea County, Tenn., on October 30, 1843. His ancestors, of rugged, vigorous Colonial stock, traced their family history back to the beginning of the Eighteenth Century. His father, James P. Collins, was a first lieutenant under General John Ellis Wool, when he was commissioned with the duty of removing the Choctaws and Chickasaws from Alabama and Georgia into the Indian Territory, now Oklahoma. Great-grandfather Percy, on the maternal side, took part in the famous battle of Cowpens, in January, 1781, when Tarleton, the British commander received his crushing blow; and his son, grandfather to James, fought at the Battle of New Orleans, at the beginning of 1815.

Although only eighteen years of age at the outbreak of the Civil War, James D. Collins enlisted in the Confederate Army; and during the third year of the great struggle, he was captured by the Union forces and spent eighteen months in a military prison, after which he was exchanged. When the War was over, he came West to California, and settled in Fresno County.

The first work that he undertook was teaching, and his first school in California, opened in the summer of 1870, was at Wagys Mill in the mountains of Tulare County. In the fall of that year he established a school on Dry Creek, at what is now known as Academy; and with the exception of one year, Mr. Collins taught school there and later in the Mississippi school district until 1880. It is stated that the name was given to the settlement because it was built around Collins' school; for the reputation of the young schoolmaster drew many of the pioneer families to the vicinity, and they pitched their tents and made their homes on Upper Dry Creek, in order to

give their children the benefit of his tuition. Finally, the settlers built a substantial schoolhouse and named the town Academy.

In 1876, Mr. Collins was elected to the State legislature, where he served one term, and in 1898 was elected sheriff, and served two terms of four years each. It is said that while he was sheriff he astounded the supervisors by appearing before them with a request that they cut down his allowance per meal for the boarding of prisoners. He explained that he had found that the established rate allowed a margin of profit, and that his interpretation of the law was that merely the actual cost should be covered. On relinquishing his duties of sheriff, to the regret of many, Mr. Collins devoted his time to his vineyard and orchard near Lone Star.

On December 15, 1869, Mr. Collins married Miss Ann Caldwell, a native of the same town in Tennessee in which he was born, and together they migrated to Fresno County. Here they became the parents of eleven children, three of whom are deceased. James died at Dry Creek in 1875, when two years old; Thomas M. died on December 5, 1903, in Fresno County, at the age of twenty-four; and Henry C. passed away at Oakland on April 14, 1919, after spending much of his life in Fresno County. Mary E. married Robert Heiskell, a vineyardist in the DeWolf district, Fresno County; William A., supervisor of the Fifth District of this county, is mentioned in detail on another page of this work; Catherine became the wife of Charles H. Byrd, horticulturist and farmer, in the same district, and is interested in lands on Kings River; White, a graduate of the Fresno Business College, is a farmer; Clinton Darwin was the County Physician of Fresno County until he resigned in 1918 to enlist in the War. He served until after the armistice was signed, having attained the rank of lieutenant, and he is also mentioned elsewhere in this work. Robert F. is a vineyardist in the DeWolf district; Annie is the wife of Dr. James W. Nicholson, physician and surgeon at Porterville, Cal., and Joseph P., of Fresno, who served in the naval reserve at San Pedro until the War ended.

Many of the leading men and women of Fresno County today were once pupils under James D. Collins, and look back with fond recollection and deep gratitude to his help and influence; and it is no wonder that, when once he had consented to become a candidate for public office, he was elected as one to whom a public trust could well be committed. The fact is that, whether or no he inherited the sterling qualities from those forebears of virility who wrested commonwealths from a wilderness and made them blossom as the rose, he had in a large measure the cardinal virtues of honesty, candor and fearlessness as part of his make-up, as was clearly shown in his discharge of public duties. Mr. Collins was affiliated with the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, at Academy, and for many years served as steward.

**WILLIAM H. RYAN.**—In the passing of William H. Ryan, March 6, 1918, Fresno sustained a great loss, and the hearts of those associated with him for many busy years were saddened as they realized that this genial, lovable man's earth life was ended. He was one of the oldest continuous residents of the city, covering a period of forty-six years, he was born at Galveston, Texas, June 10, 1866, and was the eldest son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Ryan, who were among the very earliest residents of Fresno. The family moved to Fresno from Texas in 1872, attracted to the place by the superior school facilities promised, the father of the family first visiting Oregon in expectation of locating there. Jerry Ryan was the section foreman, and marshaled the railroad employes on the day that the vote was taken to remove the county seat from Millerton to the projected railroad town of Fresno. He was a railroad man and veteran of the Civil War, having in early manhood served in a Texas cavalry regiment in the Confederate Army. He and ex-Sheriff J. D. Collins were war captives in the same prison in the North, and in later years in Fresno renewed their war time chance acquaintance.



William H., a lad six years of age when the family first came to Fresno, continued to be a resident of the city until death ended his earthly career. He was a graduate of St. Mary's College when it was located on the San Francisco peninsula. Mr. Ryan had been city clerk for thirteen years. His first public office was as a deputy in the county recorder's office, followed by the license collectorship under town Marshal John D. Morgan. He was first elected city clerk in 1905, and was the city's second elected clerk under the present charter. The first was J. B. Johnson, the present supervisor, who succeeded William F. Shanklin. Mr. Ryan was elected clerk four successive terms, no one ever offering serious opposition to his candidacy. He was also elected a free holder, that framed the last charter submitted to the people but not ratified, and was secretary of the charter framing board.

He was president of the Jerry Ryan Company, holding the estate of the father for the heirs, and incorporated with Louis F. Ryan as secretary. The company owns the pioneer corner hotel building at Mariposa and I, the old Arlington hotel property at J and Inyo, the Yosemite apartment house on J opposite Gottschalk's, three flats on R Street, twenty acres in farm land at North and Fruit Avenues, and 160 acres of pasturage land on the West Side in the Cantua Creek district.

For many years a sufferer from heart trouble, Mr. Ryan frequently had attacks which compelled his temporary retirement from official duties. A few months before his death he had a serious attack, and was under the treatment of Dr. W. L. Adams and had apparently recovered. On the night of his death he played with his children in the evening, and one hour after retiring at nine o'clock passed away of heart failure. It was the death he had often expressed might be the one to visit him when his time came.

He is survived by five brothers and sisters, a sorrowing wife and four children. His living brothers and sisters are: Maurice, a druggist formerly in business in Fresno, now in San Francisco; Louis F., deputy county clerk of Fresno; Mrs. Josephine Hinkle, a widow, of San Francisco; Mrs. E. W. Gardner of Sacramento, wife of a deputy in the office of the secretary of state, and Charles Ryan, a deputy in the office of the motor vehicle license department at Sacramento. There was another brother whose death preceded that of the father and mother by many years, and also an elder brother named for his father, who died a little more than a year ago.

William H. Ryan's wife was before marriage, Margaret Kennedy, a native of Tipperary, Ireland, who came to Fresno when a small child with her mother, brother and sisters. Her father, John Kennedy, a native of the Emerald Isle, located in Fresno in 1883, and followed the trade of tailor until his death. Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Ryan's children are by name: Mildred, aged thirteen; William H., Jr., aged ten; Josephine, aged nine; and Jerry, seven years of age.

One of his official associates said of him: "He was one of the squarest men that I ever knew. His integrity was unimpeachable, and with him his word was good as his bond. The community has lost a good man and one of the most accommodating public officials. It will be difficult to replace Bill Ryan, as every one lovingly called him."

**WILLIAM GLASS.**—Prominent among the men of present note and widely-felt influence in California, who have contributed more and more toward the development of the state since they first came to the Pacific Coast and cast their lot here, may well be mentioned William Glass, a native of the Empire State, who first came to Fresno County in 1890. As the business manager of the Fresno Republican since 1890, he has had much to do with directing the progress of Central California along broad and permanent lines, and it is safe to say that no one in this city of representative Americans is more highly esteemed both for what he has already accomplished, and for what he is disposed and able yet to do.

He was born at New York City on March 22, 1860, the son of John

Glass, who first saw the light there on the 10th of November in 1832. He came of a family not so widely extended in America, and yet including in its branches men distinguished in classical learning and the fine arts. He married Margaret Hart, a native of the delightful old New York State town of Binghamton, where she was born on May 10, 1840. She was an accomplished and worthy representative of another American family of high attainment, numbering in its ranks some famous in letters and art, at the bar, on the battle-field and in publishing enterprises.

While a lad in New York, in the early seventies, William Glass attended Grammar School No. 2, after which he completed his formal education at Cooper Institute, a part of the Cooper Union for the Advancement of Science and Art opened in 1859, commencing his studies there in the Centennial Year, when Peter Cooper was a candidate of the National Independent Party and polled about 100,000 votes for the presidency, being then a very familiar figure in the metropolis.

Having completed the course there in 1878, Mr. Glass served as a book-keeper for a stockbroker in New York City, and in 1882 became cashier in a stockbroker's office. An opening as purser on a Pacific Coast steamer, the following year, began to associate him with California, and a complimentary engagement with the San Francisco Bulletin from 1883 to 1890 demonstrated his ability to adapt himself fully to the more exacting conditions of the newer, bustling western life. Since the beginning of the closing decade of the last century, Mr. Glass has directed the affairs of the Fresno Republican's counting room, and his past experience, together with his admirable foresight, have helped make that paper one of the best in the United States—to California quite as valuable an organ for the public weal as its namesake, the Springfield Republican, so long proved to the great commonwealth of Massachusetts. With the entry of the nation on its second century, in 1876, the Weekly Republican was established as the proper expression of the new life and enterprise developing here; and in 1887 the Morning Republican became a reality, and has ever since continued the exponent of Fresno and its unrivaled county. More than that, it has proven the faithful expositor of conditions in the San Joaquin Valley, and with its Associated News service has enabled the patrons, scattered in towns and on outlying ranches, to keep in close touch with the pulse of the country at large.

As far back as 1896, Mr. Glass was a member of the Executive Council of the One Hundred Thousand Club, and today he is president of the Chamber of Commerce and a member of the Commercial and Rotary Clubs. He was a member of the Promotion Committee of the Raisin Exchange, out of which grew the California Associated Raisin Company. He was chairman of the Promotion Committee of the California Peach Growers, Inc., and he represented the State of California on the Board of Directors of the San Joaquin Valley Milk Producers Association. He is president of the Fresno County Welfare Department, and chairman of the Fresno Chapter, American Red Cross. He is also chairman of the Odd Fellows Hall Company, treasurer of St. Paul's M. E. Church, South, and secretary of the Fresno Republican Publishing Company. Since 1908 he has been a trustee of the Fresno Public Library. Mr. Glass is a Democrat in matters of national politics.

At San Francisco, on January 17, 1884, Mr. Glass was married to Miss Theresa McKittrick, the daughter of Edward McKittrick, a well-known early Californian pioneer. Two children have blessed this fortunate union—a son, Edward Glass, and a daughter, Emma Theresa. The family attend St. Paul's Methodist Church, South. Mr. Glass was made an Odd Fellow at Occidental Lodge, San Francisco, on August 6, 1886; and in 1888 was Noble Grand. He was Chief Patriarch of Fresno Encampment, 1910, Commandant of the Fresno Canton, 1909, and Chairman of the Fresno General Relief Committee, 1899.





*Scott McKay*

**SCOTT MCKAY.**—In all of the offices connected with the administration of county affairs there is none more important than that of county surveyor. Upon his work depends the proper location of all boundary lines, and it is necessary that only men be called to that position who are especially qualified. They must bring to their work not only natural aptness, but this must be supplemented by a thorough course of study, coupled with earnestness and a conscientious discharge of their duties. Scott McKay was thus equipped, as the people of Fresno County thought, for after he had served as deputy county surveyor, he was elected for four consecutive terms of four years each, making a term of sixteen years of continuous service in that office.

Mr. McKay came from good old Hoosier stock, being born in Vevay, Ind., July 17, 1868. His father, George W. McKay, was also born there. In early manhood he was employed as civil engineer, and was county surveyor of Switzerland County, Ind. He was a strong Republican and active in public affairs. Two of his brothers served in the Civil War. He married Mary Siebenthal, who was a native of Vevay, and she passed away in 1899. Her father, Benj. Siebenthal, was a lifelong resident of Vevay, his parents having located in Switzerland County, Ind., when they came to this country from Germany. Three of his sons served in the Civil War. The grandfather, Isaac McKay, was a resident of Vevay, also, his parents migrating there from Virginia.

After completing his studies in public schools and in the Vevay High School, Scott McKay entered the scientific department of the Indiana State Normal, at Terre Haute, and later taught school one year. Entering the senior class of the University of Indiana at Valparaiso, in 1890, he graduated in 1891 with the degree of C. E. Coming to Fresno County soon after, he became construction engineer for the San Joaquin Light & Power Company, and had charge of the building of the reservoir pipe line ditches. At the end of sixteen months he was made deputy county surveyor under Surveyor Hoxie. In 1902 he was nominated on the Republican ticket for county surveyor of Fresno County, and elected by a large majority. He was re-elected in 1906, 1910, and 1914, a remarkable attestation of his popularity and a just recognition of his services. He was married to Helen Jewett, a native of Wisconsin, daughter of George D. Jewett. They have two children: a son, Warren Scott; and daughter, Helen Lois. Mr. McKay was a member of the Independent Order of Foresters, Woodmen of the World, and of the Chamber of Commerce.

It is said that "Death loves a shining mark." Neither pomp nor circumstance, popularity nor efficiency avail anything upon the approach of the pale horse and his rider. Care abundant and love unlimited, evoked with all the skill and intelligence of human hands and hearts, were impotent to stay the course of disease; and so, at three quarters of an hour after midnight of May 4, 1918, the spirit of Scott McKay was wafted away, and those who knew and valued him so highly will know him no more in this life. The immediate cause of his taking away was pneumonia, contracted while on a professional journey to Tollhouse. Thus do men come and go, working through their brief span until the evening comes, and the morning breaks upon a world bereft of all joy to the hearts of those who have loved and lost; but surely there must be some mitigation of their sorrow when they contemplate the success of the life that has ended. There must have been, too, in the mind of Scott McKay something of pride as he thought of the work he had accomplished for his neighbors and countrymen, work that would endure long years after he had passed away. There would be occasion for this pardonable pride, for he bequeathed to his county a record of activities that stamp him as a man of vision, and intelligence to make that vision a reality. His trail may be traced through the water, lumber and road enterprises in the upper and foothill regions: the great piece of engineering and

construction work on the Sand Creek mountain road on a six per cent. grade, and built under his personal supervision; the reduction of the grades on the Squaw Valley foothill road in overcoming by a six per cent. grade the Squaw Valley, Boren and Irwin hills, making it one of the finest foothill scenic roads in the county. Other results of his professional activities will be revealed in the future, and accentuate the value his friends now put upon his work. Mr. McKay was conscious for a greater part of the time until his death. And so, at last, he "wrapped the drapery of his couch about him and lay down to pleasant dreams."

**GILES N. FREMAN.**—No history of California would be complete without the acknowledgment of the generous and effective service rendered the commonwealth by the members of the teaching profession, a profession for years represented with honor and dignity in the life and work of Giles N. Freman, and also by his wife, who has been his able assistant. Now he lives retired on his Central California ranch, happy in the recollection of years of service well done, and service that again and again left its moulding mark on the evolution of the community.

In Abingdon, Ill. where he taught in Abingdon College, Giles N. Freman had married Mary Martin, born in Missouri, and together they came to Yolo County, Cal., in 1863. They had three children: G. Clarence, who was a member of the law firm of Snow and Freman at Fresno, died in 1915; F. H., is advertising manager for the Los Angeles Examiner, and resides in that city; and Frank Forest. Mr. Freman taught for many years in Yolo County as principal of the Woodland schools, and in Hesperian College for five years, also served as county superintendent of schools for two terms.

On account of failing health, caused by too close application to his indoor work, Mr. Freman went to Arizona and for two years was superintendent of the McMillen Silver Mining Company, near Globe. Upon his return to Yolo County, Cal. he engaged in the mercantile business at Capay, with G. C. Grimes for a partner, continuing till 1885. In 1887 he removed to Fresno and engaged in the real estate business and bought his ranch of forty acres, part of the holdings of the Iowa and California Fruit Company, the oldest horticultural project in the Fowler district.

In time Mr. Freman came to own 100 acres, with which he produced some notable results and acquired fame as an enthusiast in the cultivation of the Calimyrna fig, of which there are, on his ranch, over 250 trees of the Adriatic variety, grafted over fifteen years ago, and are now thrifty and productive. Much as he was absorbed in fruit culture, Mr. Freman could not give up his educational work, and he became principal of the Easton school. In 1901 he was appointed county superintendent of schools to fill the unexpired term of Mr. Ramsey, and in 1902 he was elected to the office and served until 1908. During this time his wife acted as his deputy.

Mr. Freman lived in Fresno for five years and then settled on his ranch. His first wife died in Woodland in 1883. His present wife was in maidenhood, Miss Sarah DeBell, a native of Kentucky who grew up in Mattoon, Ill., and in that state taught her first school; later she taught in Sedalia, Mo., and after that came to Modesto, Cal., in December, 1884 and taught for two years. She married Mr. Freman in October, 1887, and ever since has been an able helpmate in all his endeavors. She is a member of the Peach Growers' Inc., and of the California Associated Raisin Company.

Central California will not soon forget the services of Professor and Mrs. Freman, whose traditions for useful life and work are at present so admirably carried on by the son, Frank Forest Freman, who is making good as manager of the home ranch and as fruit buyer for the Bonner Packing Company. He was born at Woodland, Yolo County, November 30, 1876, and attended the public schools in Fresno from his eighth to his thirteenth year, after which he made his home on the ranch, completed his schooling and remained at home



and became a proficient horticulturist and business man. Since 1916 he has been a buyer for the Bonner Packing Company, of Fresno, a field of work that occupies about ten months of the year. He operates the home ranch, which is devoted to Thompson seedless grapes, figs and peaches.

F. F. Freman has been twice married, his first wife was Cornelia Gower, of Fresno County, by whom he had a son, Giles E., born in 1907. The wife and mother passed away in 1913. In 1917 he was united in marriage with Miss Sarah McClure, daughter of J. P. and Annie (Young) McClure, of Shamokin, Pa. Mr. Freman is always ready to cooperate, to the full extent of his ability, in the promotion of California industry.

**GEORGE H. MALTER.**—More than 150 years ago the culture of the grape was introduced on the Pacific slope by the Padres. Could they have looked into the future and beheld the wonderful development of their land of manána in the opening years of the twentieth century and have seen the extent that the grape industry in its various ramifications has attained, they would have opened wide their eyes in astonishment.

George H. Malter, the owner and founder of the St. George Vineyard which was one of the largest sweet wine and brandy producing establishments in the world, was born in Silesia, Bohemia, March 25, 1852. Educated in the Polytechnic school, he became a mining engineer and while still in his teens came to the United States, locating in Chicago for a short time, after which he came to California, via Isthmus of Panama, in 1869. One of Fortune's favorites, his success in his business ventures, was from the first assured. He was engineer on many large mining projects and put in one of the first blast furnaces in the United States for the Union Coal, Iron and Transportation Company, at Chicago. He was engineer in the construction of the rolling mills at Joliet, Ill., and built the Marsac mills, in the silver mine at Park City, Utah, in 1872, which after all these years are still in operation. After following mining engineering all over the mining section of the Middle West and West he returned to California and began to make investments. In 1878 he purchased his first piece of land in Fresno County, consisting of 480 unimproved acres, and from time to time added to his holdings until he owned 4,000 acres along Fancher Creek in Fresno County, 2,000 of which were planted to vines.

The St. George Vineyard was started in 1879, when 160 acres of vines were planted. It eventually comprised six vineyards, aggregating nearly 2,000 acres which were planted in choice imported varieties of wine, brandy and raisin grapes. These vineyards produced annually upward of 6,000 tons of grapes. About one-third of this amount was used for raisins. A large quantity of table grapes were grown and shipped annually to Chicago, New York and other large cities, where they were sold at auction to fruit dealers. The remainder of the St. George Vineyard grape-product went to its winery and distillery in which about 10,000 tons of grapes were annually crushed for wine and brandy purposes. A large amount of the grapes so used were bought from neighboring vineyards during each season.

The St. George Vineyard had its warehouses in San Francisco, New York and New Orleans; its winery for making dry wines at Antioch, Contra Costa County, and its sweet wine producing vineyards, winery, and distillery at Maltermoro, Fresno County. The first winery at Maltermoro was built in 1884. It was then a comparatively small concern, but grew to be one of the largest in the state with a capacity of working 200 tons of grapes per day, crushing 10,000 tons of grapes during the vintage. It was totally destroyed by fire on December 12, 1902, with all its contents of nearly a million gallons of wine and brandy, together with the adjoining packing house, the raisin seeding plant and cream of tartar works. This fire, the most extensive and disastrous which had ever occurred in Fresno County, destroyed over one-half million dollars in property, only \$75,000 of which was covered by insurance. The St. George winery at Maltermoro was reconstructed as a

fire-proof structure, fully as large and efficient as its predecessor. Among the new cooperage in the reconstructed winery there were ten wine vats, each of which was of double the capacity of the famous Heidelberg tun, the great size of which made it one of the marvelous sights of Europe. The Antioch winery was located at the confluence of the Sacramento and San Joaquin Rivers and had its own wharf and warehouses. The grapes were shipped to this winery by rail from various grape producing sections of the state and converted into dry wines and brandies.

The St. George Vineyard enterprise was entirely independent of any wine trust. Its management aimed to reach the wine merchant directly, without the intervention of middlemen or blending or stretching establishments and it furnished wines ready for the consumer.

Mr. Malter never personally conducted the vineyard, always having a superintendent. He made his home in San Francisco until the great fire in 1906 when he settled in his Fresno County home. In early days he was a member of the San Francisco Yacht Club and his yacht, "The Emerald," won the cup for three successive years. He has been a member of the Bohemian Club of San Francisco since 1877, and belongs to the Sequoia Club in Fresno. Mrs. Malter was, in maidenhood, Miss Mabel P. Richardson of San Francisco, a woman of good business acumen. They are the parents of one son, George H. Jr., thirteen years of age.

Since taking up his residence in Fresno County, Mr. Malter has been selling off his holdings and retiring from the arduous cares of business life and is enjoying the fruit of a long and prosperous business career. He has always been a loyal supporter of projects for the upbuilding of the state and has made a large circle of friends wherever he is known.

**ELISHA ARNOLD MANNING.**—The title of pioneer was justly merited by Elisha Arnold Manning, who left the established civilization of his native city, Boston, Mass., to come west and take part in the hardships and adventures of a civilization still in its growing pains and needing men of his caliber to help in the good work, for Elisha Arnold Manning was known as a man who did things; what he set out to do he did with all his might; obstacles never discouraged him, nor did disappointments and defeats. He knew how to push on and he gave of his courage and his vigorous activities to the accomplishment of whatever interested him or whatever he planned to do. He was a fine example in that phase of his sturdy character; exacting in business, but generous in his friendships and his heart was as big as it was stout. Wise in counsel and efficient in execution, his life was an admirable example to every citizen because of his patriotic, pioneer labors for the welfare of the community and for his breadth of disinterested devotion to worthy causes.

A descendant of a prominent Eastern family, Mr. Manning received good educational advantages, through his own efforts, which fitted him for his duties in later life. After reaching young manhood his desire was for greater adventure in life than that afforded by his environment, and 1856 found him crossing the plains with ox teams to California, by way of the sink of the Humboldt. Soon after his arrival in the state he engaged in freighting between San Francisco, San Bernardino and Salt Lake City, and during this time he became very familiar with the Bay section, also the San Joaquin Valley, which, at the time he freighted through it abounded in wild horses and hogs, which roamed at will over the great expanse of plains.

Before leaving the East Mr. Manning had learned the shoe manufacturing business thoroughly, and after he quit freighting he established a shoe factory in Oakland, the first one on the coast, and on account of a strike among his workmen he was the first man to employ Chinese as shoemakers, he and his wife having first taught them the business. This was in the sixties, and he operated the factory a number of years.



MR. AND MRS. MANNING



While on one of his freighting trips to Salt Lake, Mr. Manning met and later married Adeline Hogle, a native of Pennsylvania who had come to California via Panama in 1856 to make her home with her uncle, Eugene Walker, who was the proprietor of a hotel in Redwood City in the year 1866. With her uncle she went to San Bernardino, and later to Salt Lake City.

Selling out his factory interests, Mr. Manning came to Hanford in the seventies, and there he built and owned the Mussel Slough Ditch, which caused so much trouble in later years between the settlers and the Southern Pacific Railroad. He also built and was one of the owners of the 76 Ditch in Fresno County, and in that undertaking was cotemporary with Dr. H. P. Merriitt, Moses J. Church and others in early irrigation work. He ran the ditches until 1888, when he retired to a home in Fresno, and here first with W. R. Thomas, and then with John McMullen, he was engaged in real estate business in Fresno for many years. He came to own a tract of 1,600 acres south of Kerman. He put the land under the Fresno canal, and moved onto it to personally superintend the operating. His land was planted to alfalfa and he engaged in the raising of stock and in time sold off some of his holdings. He laid out and surveyed, with Col. Josiah Hall, all the Perrin Colonies, 1 to 6. It was through his influence that many men, who later became prominent in Fresno County affairs, were attracted here to make their homes. The Manning school district, west of Fresno, was named in his honor. While interested in irrigation, he had charge of all the ditches for the Fresno Canal and Irrigation Company. Prominent throughout the central counties, Mr. Manning is best remembered for his humanitarian characteristics; kindly, just, charitable, he was a friend to all, and any project for the advancement of his county and state had his hearty endorsement and active cooperation. His death occurred on his ranch in Fresno County, January 29, 1918, at the ripe age of eighty-three, and he lived to see many of his prophecies for this section fulfilled. Mrs. Manning passed away on April 11, 1918. She shared with him all his trials and tribulations as well as his successes and triumphs. To this pioneer couple seven children were born: Mary, widow of Albert Gribi, resides in Hanford; Elizabeth married Charles Coe, of Hanford; Nellie, wife of L. E. Jones, of Porterville; Thomas G., of Hanford; Nannie M., Mrs. E. H. Smith of Fresno County. Orson and Marcus are both deceased.

**NATHAN D. GILBERT.**—The pioneer painting contractor of Fresno, Nathan D. Gilbert has witnessed the wonderful transformation of California in the forty-eight years he has made it his home. He was born on a farm on Knob Prairie, in Jefferson County, Ill., July 3, 1847, and attended the local district schools and Eastman College of Chicago. His father left the farm and engaged in the general merchandise business at Ashley, Washington County, Ill., and after having completed his common school education, Nathan D. entered the store as a clerk. He later entered the college at Chicago, and when he had completed the course, went back to the old farm in Jefferson County, and engaged in farm pursuits until enlisting for service in the Civil War, in 1864. He volunteered in Company F, Forty-ninth Regiment, Illinois Volunteer Infantry, under Captain Laur, and was stationed at Paducah, Ky., doing garrison duty until the war ended.

After returning to civil life in Illinois, Mr. Gilbert married Phoebe Welsh, and farmed on the Welsh property, in Jefferson County, until the fall of 1870, when he decided to come to California and locate in a newer section of country. He settled on the Merced River, in Merced County, and engaged in ranching. When Merced was started, Mr. Gilbert moved to the new settlement and was one of the founders of the place. He bought some of the first lots sold, built one of the first houses in the town and began working at the painter's trade, soon becoming very proficient and began taking contracts in that line of business.

Looking for a broader field, in 1874, Mr. Gilbert came to Fresno, then a small hamlet, but with superior possibilities. He had passed through Fresno in 1871 on his way to Pleasant Valley, and remembered it as one vast plain, with but few houses. He painted the first schoolhouse in Fresno, erected and endowed by Joseph Smith. Soon after, he formed a partnership with J. J. Boyle, under the firm name of Boyle & Gilbert, and carried on business for some time. After they dissolved their partnership, Mr. Gilbert bought and sold considerable town property which included the Dunn property at the corner of J and Kern Streets, for which he paid only \$100 and upon it erected three houses and sold at a good advance. This increase shows the wonderful advance in property values in Fresno. Mr. Gilbert's work has been that of a painter, and he was the second man to engage in that trade in the town. He has a record for reliable work and satisfied patrons and enjoys the confidence and esteem of those who know him.

During early days in Fresno's development, Mr. Gilbert had some experiences with Vasquez and his gang of outlaws. He was on a trip to the California Ranch, west of Fresno, and had stopped at a store when he was told by a Spanish girl that Vasquez and his followers were in the neighborhood. She hid him in the store until the gang had departed, and he has always felt that he owed his life to this girl's brave act. Once again he escaped the gang at Firebaugh Ferry. Mr. Gilbert was prominent in the social and civic life of the early days in the county. He was a member of the hook-and-ladder company of the first Volunteer Fire Department of Fresno. He and L. Gundelfinger are now the only survivors of the original company. Mr. Gilbert was a member of the first Fresno Brass Band, and played the alto horn in that organization, of which J. J. Boyle was the leader; today there are only three left of the first "band boys." Mr. Gilbert was the first president of the local Painter's Union, and now belongs to the Union of Master Painters. He also belongs to the Owl Lodge.

Mr. Gilbert had four children by his first marriage, John L., and Mrs. Lillie Wright, both of Fresno; Herman W. and Andrew Asa, are deceased. The second marriage united Mr. Gilbert with Augusta Steinberger, who was born in Mariposa County, a daughter of a pioneer merchant of Mariposa who died there. By this marriage two children were born; Charles E., who died leaving a son, Charles Nathan; and Waldo A., who is in the United States Army, attached to Letterman Hospital at the Presidio in San Francisco. In the life of this successful citizen, self-made in every sense of the term, are illustrated the results of perseverance and energy, which make of him a citizen of whom any community might well feel proud.

**FRED J. DOW.**—An enterprising citizen and upbuilder of Fresno County, Fred J. Dow has been identified with the viticultural and business interests of the San Joaquin Valley since 1884. A son of the late William H. Dow, he was born on a farm in Switzerland County, Ind., February 13, 1865. His early training was along agricultural lines, interspersed with attendance at the public school in his home district up to the age of nineteen. His father, who was also born in the Hoosier state, decided to come to California to escape the rigorous climate of the Middle West, and in 1884, with his family, settled in Fresno County. At that time the country was little better than a desert and Fresno as it is today was little dreamed of. Mr. Dow purchased a forty-acre tract of raw land and began the development of a raisin vineyard. In time he became a well-to-do man and was well known throughout the county. He died here in 1910.

After Fred J. Dow arrived in Fresno County, then a youth of nineteen, he entered the employ of the Griffin-Skelley Company and for twenty years was a valued employe of that concern. He began at the bottom of the ladder and in time worked his way to a position of responsibility and learned the various phases of the fruit business. As he prospered financially he bought town lots in Fresno and ranch acreage. In 1904 he resigned his position to



purchase an interest in the Merchants Warehouse Company of Fresno, and gave his attention to the upbuilding of that business for two years, when he bought a half interest in a shoe business, having two stores in the city. In 1912 Mr. Dow organized the contracting and building firm of Dow & Cannon and since that period he has been identified with the building business and has handled some large contracts, in fact in every line of business in which Mr. Dow has been interested he has made a success by his indomitable energy and business acumen. Mr. Dow has increased his financial interest by becoming a stockholder and a director in the Fresno Savings Bank and the Union National Bank of Fresno; he also owns a business block adjoining the Griffith-McKenzie Building.

In 1893, in his home city, Fred J. Dow married May Lundy, born in Bakersfield, the daughter of a pioneer family. Their home life has been brightened by the birth of a son, Kenneth L. Dow. In all his efforts towards the development of the county, Mr. Dow has been generous of his time and means in bringing the possibilities of the county to the notice of those looking for desirable homes.

**JOSEPH DAVIDSON REYBURN.**—A progressive pioneer who braved and surmounted primitive scenes and experiences often fraught with danger, and disparaging conditions, and in the end made a substantial contribution to the development of the fast-growing commonwealth of California, himself living to see changes which must have seemed to him as miraculous as any ever recorded, was Joseph Davidson Reyburn, who came to the Pacific in the days of the argonauts, and died only three or four years ago. He was born at Burlington, Iowa, on Christmas Day, 1840, a son of John Stewart Reyburn and a brother of John James; and in his native state he was reared, attending log-cabin schools. He started to work on a farm and continued to plow and till; and when he was old enough to work for others, he hired out as a farm hand.

In 1862 he broke away from the environment under which he had thus far grown up and, joining a company traveling with mule teams, crossed the plains by way of the Platte River and made for The Dalles, Ore., after which he went down the Columbia River to Portland—a journey he never ceased to talk about, for at the end, on their arrival in the embryo town, he and his companions got the first good meal they had enjoyed since leaving home. Then they proceeded to Marion County, where they wintered in Howell's Prairie; but becoming disgusted with the persisting rains, they pulled up stakes and in 1863 drove south over the stage route to California. From the Sacramento they went to Folsom; and heading for Nevada, they crossed the mountains into Carson City. There Mr. Reyburn found work as a teamster, driving to Virginia City, and so continuing until the fall of that year. In September he hitched up the same team and drove it to Stockton; and having disposed of his mules, he camped for the winter in the vicinity.

The next year Mr. Reyburn returned to Nevada and there he was kept busy until the fall of 1864, when he returned to California and settled on the Stanislaus River; and there on the present site of Salida, he preempted and homesteaded 320 acres. He had run a lumber yard in Oregon, and for the first two years he engaged in the lumber business on the Tuolumne River. He was married in 1869 and then began the cultivation and improvement of his property, increasing his holding to 400 acres. He farmed to grain until 1881, when he sold out for fifty dollars an acre.

The same year Mr. Reyburn came to Fresno County and with J. P. Vincent purchased three sections of land on the plains, but later sold two to his partner. The next year he bought three sections more; and although he let John Lester secure one of them, he made good use of the remaining three. For thirty-eight years he raised little but wheat, and in that field he became a path-breaking specialist. After a while he rented some land to his son; and getting old, he gave each of his children forty acres; retaining 1,980 acres

until his death. All this he accomplished despite the fact that he was forced to go through some very hard times. In 1892 he erected a large and handsome residence on one of the sections he owned, and a couple of years later set out a vineyard of forty acres of muscats, near which he planted twenty acres of a peach orchard and in 1908 he set out eighty acres more of vineyard.

Mr. Reyburn was twice married. The first time he was united to Mary Ella Lester, a daughter of Iowa, who came to California and located near the Stanislaus County homestead he had started to prove up. When she passed away in 1893, she was the mother of nine children, one of whom died in infancy: Charles T., Leslie D., Glenn W., Emery Everett, C. Ray and Ida May (twins), Walter P., and John L., were children of this union. On May 9, 1897, at San Jose, Mr. Reyburn married Annie P. Buckley, a native of Auburn and a graduate of the State Normal at San Jose, who was a teacher for eleven years before her marriage. Six children came to them, and they are: Gilbert Rowell, who died at the age of two; and Gladys, Alfred, Doris, Mary Margaret, and Adda.

Reared in the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, Mr. Reyburn became an elder in the Clovis Church, and filled that ruling office for twenty years. He was also their popular Sunday School superintendent. In national politics he was a Republican; but he put aside preferences in local movements. He threw himself heart and soul into the organization of the Jefferson school district, of which he was a director for years. He gave needed and appreciated assistance in the organization of the state grange in Napa, in 1876, and when the branch at Salida was formed, he was the first master. The last six years of his life he made his home at Pacific Grove, and he died in 1914. He was a man of the highest probity and for many a year his name will be mentioned with both respect and affection.

**JOHN G. S. ARRANTS.**—The life of John G. S. Arrants began in Sullivan County, Tenn., on September 9, 1838, and closed in Selma, Cal., on October 23, 1914. Within these seventy-six years is a record of much accomplished for the benefit of his fellow citizens, many improvements introduced of lasting value to Selma, and substantial interests established that left his family in comfortable circumstances at his death.

John G. S. Arrants grew to a sturdy manhood in his native state and received such educational advantages as were offered by the subscription schools. He came from a prominent Scotch family that settled in eastern Tennessee. When the Civil War broke out, Mr. Arrants went with his state and the South, and joined the Confederate Army. He became captain of a company and served until the close of the struggle. In 1870 he left Tennessee for Missouri, and engaged in mercantile pursuits in that state for the following ten years, when he closed out his interests and came to California, locating in Selma.

Here, in the then small village, Mr. Arrants started the first exclusive grocery store in the place. He formed a partnership with a cousin, under the firm name of Arrants & Longacre, and for many years this establishment was known as a reliable place to trade, and as the locality became more thickly populated, the business of Arrants & Longacre expanded to meet every demand. Mr. Arrants laid out Arrants Subdivision to Selma, one of the main residence sections of the city, and Arrants Street was named in his honor. He promoted the Selma Gas Works, and became interested in organizing the First National Bank of Selma, became a director and was serving as its president when his death occurred. As a business man he was the acme of honor, and as a financier, one of the most conservative, yet liberal. Mr. Arrants was a prominent factor in the growth of Selma, which expanded by reason of the display of wisdom, generosity and the sagacity of its pioneer business men, of whom perhaps none were more far-seeing than Mr. Arrants, whose keen business judgment and liberal character were impressed upon the very life of Selma, which is today one of the best towns,





Mary A Burns



Geo Burns

for its size, in the San Joaquin Valley, and which was not built by railroad influence. He was one of the first men in the Valley to appreciate the value of cooperation among the peach and raisin growers, and helped to establish the first Cooperative Fruit-Packing House at Selma, which was later incorporated under the name of the Selma Fruit Company, with some fifty or sixty stockholders. Upon the organization of the California Associated Raisin Growers Association, for the sake of harmony, the Selma Fruit Company sold out to the latter concern.

Mr. Arrants was twice married. His first wife was Miss Mary Alice Gray, born at Nashville, Tenn., September 1, 1855, and died in Selma, on November 2, 1904. Three children were born of this marriage: Lulu, who died at the age of four; Annie, and Elizabeth, both single and residing in Los Angeles. The second marriage of Mr. Arrants united him with Mrs. Mary A. Freeland, who survives him, and who is mentioned on another page of this history.

**JOSEPH BURNS.**—Great honor is due the courageous pioneers of the Golden State, and one of these deserving especial mention is Joseph Burns, late of Sanger. He was known as a man who did things, and what he set out to do he did with all his might; obstacles never discouraged him, nor did disappointments and defeats. He was a fine example in that phase of his sturdy character. He was exacting in business, but generous in his friendships, and his heart was as big as it was stout. He was always brave, always ready, always loyal, following where duty led. He was wise in execution and in counsel, and his life was an admirable example to every citizen because of his patriotic, pioneer labors for the welfare of the community and for his disinterested devotion to worthy causes.

Joseph Burns was born in South Carolina, September 13, 1830, a son of Stewart and Sarah (Gillispie) Burns, parents of six sons and four daughters. One son is now a resident of Illinois and another lives in Kansas, and these are the only survivors of the family. At the age of twenty-three, in 1853, young Burns left Sparta, Ill., with two companions, and traveled to St. Joseph, Mo., where they joined a party consisting of thirty-five persons bound for California. They outfitted with provisions twenty-two wagons drawn by ox teams, and began the long and tedious journey across the great plains and desert and mountains. Some members of the train conceived a clever idea by which the party would profit financially—that of transporting freight from Missouri to Salt Lake City, and other merchandise from the Mormon capital through to the coast, there to dispose of it at a profit. The project of freighting merchandise across the plains was an unusual one at that time, and it proved all that was claimed for it by the promoters. The trip was made in safety, and at the end of six months the train arrived at Truckee, Cal., by way of the Humboldt desert.

Leaving the party Mr. Burns worked in the mines for a time, but like many others he found it unprofitable as well as uncertain and abandoned it to take a position on a stock ranch. Later he engaged in freighting supplies from Stockton to the mines, using oxen to haul the big wagons. Subsequently he engaged in ranching at Coarse Gold for six years, giving especial attention to raising hogs, which then commanded high prices, and at one time had over 200 head in his drove. To his stock interests he added the raising of cattle, horses and sheep, owning over 2,000 head of the latter. For years he had the finest horses in this part of the Valley, and his driving teams were the comment of all who saw them, as they were of the finest standard-bred stock. When he began in the stock business he bought 160 acres of land, and as he succeeded he added to his holdings from time to time until he owned 1,150 acres, part of it given over to general farming, and part to an orange grove. He was one of the first to set out orange trees here, securing his stock in Florida and having it brought around the Horn, the trees costing him three and a half dollars each. He also set out the first

peach trees, the fruit of which he sold readily at fifty cents per pound; and he was the first man in Fresno County to dry peaches. After six years at Coarse Gold he moved to Kings River, and while there secured the contract to build a part of the Gould Ditch, the first to take water for irrigation from the river and the beginning of irrigating land in the county. While he was building the ditch he secured a cook and boarded the men working under him. In all his undertakings he had the helpful cooperation and encouragement of his good wife, who shared with him the hardships and trials incident to pioneer life in California.

On August 17, 1862, Mr. Burns was united in marriage with Miss Mary A. Lewis. Their marriage license was the first one issued in Fresno County, and the ceremony was performed by Justice McLaughlin at the bride's home in Fine Gold Gulch, twelve miles from Millerton. With his bride riding a horse beside him, Mr. Burns went to his mountain ranch at Coarse Gold, where they lived for six years. Mrs. Burns was born in Austin County, Texas, February 17, 1848, and was the daughter of James Henry and Malvina (Akers) Lewis, who crossed the plains from the Lone Star State in 1852. The daughter, Mary A., then in her fifth year, remembers very distinctly how the wagons of their caravan were drawn up in a circle each night in order to protect the women and children from any surprise attack of Indians. After their arrival in California the Lewis family settled in Fine Gold Gulch, where Mr. Lewis kept a general store and a hotel. He built the first lumber house in Fine Gold Gulch. Mrs. Lewis was the first white woman in that section. Gold was plentiful in those days and prices were high; regular meals cost from one dollar and up; ordinary work shirts, which Mrs. Lewis made by hand for the miners, were readily disposed of for five dollars each; and other necessities were proportionately high. Mr. and Mrs. Lewis were parents of ten children, eight of whom are now living: William H.; Jane, Mrs. F. J. Finch; John A.; Frank M.; Thomas Jefferson; George W.; Robert L.; and Mary A. Mrs. Joseph Burns; and seven of these reside in California. Two, Mrs. Margaret A. Witt and Harvey, died in Fresno County. On the maternal side Mrs. Burns is connected with the pioneer family of Akers, long identified with the best interests of Fresno County, and whose names appear frequently in this history.

Mrs. Burns received her education from private tutors, her father hiring, with some of the immediate neighbors, an instructor for their children, until such a time as a public school could be organized. Among her teachers was Judge Lynch, the pioneer. She grew up amidst pioneer surroundings, little dreaming of the wonderful progress the county would eventually enjoy. Mr. and Mrs. Burns became the parents of six children: Ella A. became the wife of Simeon Evinger and the mother of a son and a daughter, Joseph Burns and Eleanor. Joseph Burns Evinger is married and has a son, Robert Burns Evinger. The Evingers live in Fresno. William Burns owns an orange grove adjoining the old home place, where he lives and looks after the family interests; Agnes J. is with her mother and is acting as librarian of the Sanger Branch of the Fresno County Library; Florence M., who married Fred McAllister, resides with her mother at Sanger and is engaged in newspaper work; Pearl is a copyist in the county recorder's office; and Archibald J. married Annie M. Overholt and is the father of a daughter, Mary Elizabeth. He is attendance officer for the county schools. These children are all natives of Fresno County and have been given the best of educational advantages, for Mr. Burns was a strong advocate of good schools. In his district, when it was organized, he gave the land for the schoolhouse and yard, gave money towards the erection of the building, and even "boarded" the teacher; and he also served for almost forty years as a trustee in Hazelton school district. It was in order to give their youngest daughter the advantages of better school facilities that the family removed from the ranch to Sanger, soon after the town was established; and there Mr. Burns erected a com-



fortable and even pretentious house for those days, where he lived until the Master called him, on December 13, 1918.

Mr. Burns was a Republican after the party was organized, and cast his first vote for Gen. Winfield Scott. It was said of him that at all elections "Joe Burns cast a Republican ballot and said but little about it." His was the only Republican vote cast for years in Fresno County. He was one of the ten men (Republicans) of Fresno County who banded together and started the Fresno Republican. Dr. Rowell was selected to go to San Francisco to buy a small hand press on which the paper was first printed. This was the beginning of the paper that is now the leading daily in the San Joaquin Valley and wields a strong influence for good in thousands of homes.

Joseph Burns showed his faith in Fresno County by inducing many people to settle within her borders, and to them he gave valuable aid and advice. At the ranch home of Mr. and Mrs. Burns, as well as in their town abode, a charming and typical California hospitality was always extended to friend and stranger alike. When "Uncle Joe Burns" died, there passed away one of the true upbuilders of this great commonwealth, and he was mourned by hundreds who had met him in business and social relations. Mr. Burns held membership in the Ancient Order United Workmen Lodge.

**FRANK A. DRAPER.**—A California pioneer with an interesting history and a record for enviable accomplishment both in the Golden State and Alaska, and a representative of one of the few families able to claim a part in the foundation of Kingsburg, is Frank A. Draper, the son of the late Elias J. Draper, and a nephew of Josiah Draper, who took up the land upon which a part of Kingsburg is now located. The father came to California from Iowa in 1852, crossing the continent with his half-brother, George Harlan, when the two brought a large drove of cattle, one of the first ever driven across the mountains. His full name was Elias Johnson Draper, and he was born in Vandalia City, Wayne County, Ind., on August 21, 1830. He even belonged to the pioneer days of Indiana, but he so far improved the educational advantages of the log school-house that he became a teacher himself. At sixteen years, also, he became a Christian, and always thereafter he lived the life of a professing Christian, holding steadfast to his dying day, June 7, 1914. In 1851 he was married to Miss Elizabeth Hobaugh, by whom he had three children: Theodore is now a rancher in Monterey County; Francisco Americus (named by his mother), or Frank, is the subject of our interesting sketch; while the third child is Sarah Elizabeth, who was born in Iowa.

With their first-born child, subject's mother and father crossed the plains to California. Soon after reaching California, their second child, the subject of this review, was born. The parents engaged in dairy-farming and stock-raising, for a short while, and then returned to Iowa via the Isthmus. The third child, as before stated, was born after they returned to Iowa, where the mother died on the fifteenth day of June, 1857, leaving her husband and three small children and the blessed memory of noble life.

In the state of Iowa, in 1858, the father married his second wife, Mrs. Lydia Hobaugh, who was the widow of George Hobaugh, by whom she had one child, Lucy Hobaugh, who married a California pioneer, of Donner Party fame, namely, the late Elisha Harlan, extensive land-owner and farmer and stockman, in what is now the Laton-Riverdale section of Fresno County. In 1863, Elias J. Draper and family returned to California by ox team, the second Mrs. Draper enduring the privations and hardships of those pioneer days. After trying their fortune in different lines of business in various parts of California they settled at Kingston, Fresno County, and ever after were well satisfied with their choice. Mrs. Lydia Draper passed away on July 10, 1887, fifty-seven years of age.

Born near San Jose, Santa Clara County, on February 13, 1855, Frank Draper remembers the trip in 1863 very well, when the party drove three ox teams across the plains to California. They attended the funeral of the

Government agent who kept the stage station which was burned, and who died from wounds received while fighting the Indians of the Little Sweetwater. From his eighth year, Frank grew up in California; and on January 1, 1864, the family settled at Kingston, on the Kings River, what is now Laton, where the father bought a squatter's claim which afterwards proved to be on grant land. They continued to live there five years, and then they went to Monterey County and preempted 160 acres, and lived there six years. In 1872, Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Draper and a part of the family moved to Kingsburg, but Frank remained in Monterey County and continued to take care of the ranch there, and five years later reached Kingsburg and rejoined his father. The latter, who was early honored by his fellow citizens as justice of the peace, was then proprietor of the Temperance House, which he had built, and which was later burned. Frank became a partner with his father, and the hotel was one of the well-known hostleries of the time.

On September 21, 1878, Frank Draper was married to Miss Florence Livermore, a native of Iowa who had come to California when she was eighteen years old, and who was the daughter of Wilson and Huldah (Russell) Livermore, Pennsylvanians, who settled in southern Fresno County, where they improved a farm and were among the first settlers. Mrs. Draper well remembers the outlaw Vasquez and a party of six followers, coming to their home early on the morning after the hold-up at Kingston. They were hungry and asked for breakfast. The mother appreciated the situation, and without arousing fear or alarm in her children (by herself showing fear), she prepared the best meal she could from their scanty food-supply and set it before the desperadoes, who voraciously devoured it, and showed gratitude for her kindness. The sheriff's posse appeared a few hours later, and Vasquez was duly apprehended, tried and brought to justice.

Continuing in partnership with his father until 1882, Frank Draper then bought his forty acres and built a home upon it. Altogether he bought and sold between two and three hundred acres, in vines and trees, among which eighteen acres are in muscats, six acres in Thompson seedless, and eight acres in peaches. For a while he cultivated his land himself, but now he has it leased to others.

An adventurous chapter has to do with Mr. Draper's several trips to the far North in search for gold. He first went to the Klondike in 1898, when he was one of thirty-five thousand to rush there because of the excitement about the yellow metal, but he came back the same fall, only to return to Nome the next year and the year following. In 1901, too, he was back in the North, but in that same fall he was smilingly greeting his friends in Kingsburg, having acquired some profit, if not a fortune, by going to Alaska.

Before he went to the Klondike, Mr. Draper was a grain-farmer, but since he returned he has devoted himself to the fruit and raisin industry. He has long been a member of the Raisin Growers Association and the California Peach Growers' Company, and has helped all movements for bettering California husbandry. His choice ranch of forty acres is only three miles southwest of Kingsburg.

Mr. Draper has been local superintendent of the Fulgham Canal Company's draining ditch, which runs from Selma, where it connects with the Centerville-Kingsburg Ditch, four miles south, and supplies water for irrigation purposes to Mr. Draper's section of the county. It is now a part of the Consolidated Canal Company, and in its management Mr. Draper has proven very able and efficient.

The Drapers were among the first settlers at Kingsburg, and Draper Street will always be a memorial of their association with the foundation-laying of what is bound to be one of the most prosperous and attractive small cities of Central California. They were good, honest, sober-minded folk, and in a measure Kingsburg has partaken of their character.





Mrs. Anna Foster



J. W. Traber

The two children of our subject are: Clayton F. Draper, who is Justice of the Peace and the Assistant Cashier of the Kingsburg Bank, in which town he resides, happy as the father of one child, Pauline; and Flossie E. Draper, who became the wife of Arthur Blair, and has her home at Richmond, Cal.

Frank Draper is a courteous, generous man, and is a member of the Christian Science Society at Selma. Mr. and Mrs. Draper have recently purchased a residence-property on Draper Street in Kingsburg, whither they will soon retire and there enjoy the fruits of well spent lives, and the distinction of belonging to the first generation of honored pioneers of Kingsburg.

**PROF. JOHN W. TRABER.**—There are men whose lives are so fraught with interesting and important events, that the writer, after he thinks he has done justice to the subject before him, declares as did the Queen of Sheba of King Solomon, "The half has not been told." Perhaps there is not another man in Fresno County who has done more along the same lines and under the same circumstances for the betterment of the county than has Prof. John W. Traber, a man of broad mental caliber and a keen sense of perception.

The parents of John W. Traber were Peter C. and Harriet (Jacobson) Traber, of Holland Dutch extraction, forefathers of whom came with the Van Rensselaer party and settled in Albany County, N. Y., near Schenectady, and the family is still represented there as property holders of the original lands obtained at that period. Peter C. was prominent in politics in Albany County; he died in 1859, and his wife lived until 1867, passing away in Milan, Mo.

John W. was born near Albany, N. Y., on May 22, 1849, where he lived until four years of age, when he was taken by his parents to Platteville, Grant County, Wis., where he was reared and attended school until he was sixteen. He moved with his mother, his father having died when he was ten, to Northern Missouri, and at Kirksville he fitted himself for the profession of teaching. He taught in Missouri until 1872, when he migrated to the Pacific Coast.

Upon his arrival in California, Professor Traber taught school in Mendocino County for two years. Then, in 1874, with a brother and other relatives, he came to Fresno County and took up government land in what is now the Parlier district. He improved a home on a quarter section of land and has ever since made that place his residence. He engaged in general farming, stock-raising and fruit-growing. With twenty-three neighboring ranchers, Mr. Traber was one of the first to take water out of Kings River to irrigate the land in his section. He has assisted materially in changing the once arid desert into a veritable garden where almost everything in plant life will thrive. In all the years that Professor Traber has been a resident of the county he has continued his educational labors, teaching school winters and giving his attention to the cultivation of his ranch during the summer. Today he ranks among the oldest, as well as the ablest teachers, in this section. For three years he served as justice of the peace of the Fifth Judicial district in the county, but declined the office longer on account of his educational work and the added cares of the ranch.

Mr. Traber was married on August 13, 1871, to Miss Anna Kane, a native of Vermont and a daughter of Dennis Kane, a native of Ireland who immigrated to America and made settlement in Vermont. During the Civil War he was employed as a railroad contractor, which occupation he subsequently followed in Michigan and Ohio. He spent his last days in Indiana. Of the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Traber four children were born: J. Orra, who is a well known lawyer in Fresno; Charles H., who was formerly a teacher but is now a well known and successful physician at Reedley; Roy C., who is a rancher and owner of the original home place near Parlier; and Cul-

len B., well known in the oil business of the San Joaquin Valley, later engaged in ranching and during the war was employed in shipbuilding at Mare Island.

As a kind and indulgent father, Mr. Traber has deeded to each of his sons twenty acres of land, while he retained eighty-two acres until selling to his son in 1918. On this ranch are grown peaches, prunes and grapes, all yielding abundant harvests and adding to the annual revenue. The Traber home is a modern structure and the family radiates good cheer and dispenses a kindly hospitality to neighbor and friend. Professor Traber is devoted to his profession, having taught for over thirty-five years in Fresno County, and continued up to the age of sixty-nine to direct the pathways of the young, when he retired to private life and is living in Fresno. He is a consistent member of the Methodist Church and for years has taught in the Sunday School. Mr. Traber has always been in favor of cooperative marketing for the fruit-ranchers of Fresno County, and he holds stock in the raisin, peach and apricot, and prune associations. He is a man of high moral principle and most highly respected by all who know him.

**LEWIS P. SWIFT.**—Men possessing the fundamental characteristics of Lewis P. Swift have ever been regarded as bulwarks of the communities in which they have pursued their active lives. A native of Perry County, Ind., he had a common school education, and when quite a young boy, left school to earn his own way in the world. Self-made and self-educated, he followed the lumber business all his life, and erected mills in various parts of the country. He built a mill at Cheboygan, Mich., and ran it a number of years; also built another at Quincy, Ill.

Arriving in Fresno, Cal., February 5, 1893, Mr. Swift erected a sawmill in the mountains, sixty miles northeast of Fresno, with Charles B. Shaver as partner, this being the eighth mill Mr. Swift had erected; it was called the Fresno Flume and Irrigation Company, and Mr. Swift brought thirty families from the East, the men to work in the mill and lumber yards, many of them having worked for him in eastern cities. The town of Shaver was established on this spot, Mr. Swift became known as the father of the town, and erected a school, dwellings, a general store, and other necessary buildings for a growing community. It took two years to complete the mill in the mountains and there abundant timber of sugar and white pine was found. Oxen were used at first to haul the logs, next electric power was installed, and now railroad locomotives and cars, tugboats and booms are used. The capacity of the mill is about 40,000,000 feet of lumber annually and during the time when Mr. Swift had charge of the immense plant there were more than 500 men employed in the mill and timber during the busy season. When the town was first established and a postoffice asked for some of the men who had been with Mr. Swift for years wanted him to have it called Swift, but his innate modesty forbade it, although he was prevailed upon to write to Washington, D. C., but was informed there were other names of Swift and it could not be allowed, so it was called Shaver, in honor of his partner.

Later Mr. Swift erected a box factory at what is now Clovis, in fact his was the first industry to be built in what is now a thriving little town. A flume was constructed, over forty-eight miles in length and requiring over 9,000,000 feet of lumber which totaled a cost of \$200,000. The planing mill and box factory, also the dry kilns are located here and many men are given employment at this establishment. Of an inventive turn of mind, Mr. Swift constructed a "Nigger," used to turn logs in the machine carriage; he also invented other valuable labor saving devices that are now in use in mills.

Mr. Swift was known as the friend of the working men and it was his greatest delight to make them and their families happy. It was said of him that he was the largest buyer of toys in Fresno County for he always saw that the children of his men were supplied with amusement and thus endeared himself to the rising generations. He was one of the foremost develop-



ers of the lumber industry and was known as a man who did things; what he set out to do he did with all his might; obstacles never discouraged him, nor did disappointments and defeats; he knew how to push on and he gave his courage, his strong will and his vigorous activities to the accomplishment of whatever interested him or whatever he planned to do. He was a fine example in that phase of his sturdy character and his memory is revered because of his patriotic, pioneer labors for the welfare of the community, for his breadth of interests, and for his disinterested devotion to worthy causes, and the mill at Shaver and factory at Clovis stand as monuments to his memory. His death occurred January 29, 1901. Fraternally, he was a member of the Fresno lodge of Masons.

The marriage of Lewis P. Swift united him, in 1888, with Ella C. French, a native of New Orleans, La., and two children were born to them; Lewella, wife of J. C. Forkner, and the mother of three children—Mary Jane, James Swift and Robert Lewis; Gertrude, wife of Edwin M. Einstein, and the mother of one daughter, Evelyn T. The widow, who resides at the family home, 1661 M Street, is very active in philanthropic work; for five years she was treasurer of the local Y. W. C. A., and is now on the board of trustees and an active worker in the society; she is also a most active and conscientious worker for the Red Cross, and had a class of 130 knitters who did noble work for the association, knitting sweaters, bandages, etc. Mrs. Swift has been a member of the Parlor Lecture Club for twenty-four years. She attends the Episcopal Church.

**RUSSELL HARRISON FLEMING.**—Probably no other state in the Union has such an absorbingly interesting (because ultra-romantic) pioneer history as California, and most likely no commonwealth excels this in cherishing every memorial of those who paid so dearly, in the matter of their health, comfort and worldly prosperity, in order that others who have come after them may enter into a promised land. Among the truly, if somewhat humbly great of this path-breaking army of American patriots is Russell Harrison Fleming who was born on April 12, 1832, at Kingston, Luzerne County, Pa., the son of John Fleming, a native of the north of Ireland with enough enterprise and endurance to cross the ocean and settle in the still freer United States. Ardently patriotic, he shouldered a musket when the War of 1812 began, and did his duty there as a soldier, along with the Yankee natives. At the age of sixty-five he died in the Quaker State, survived by his wife, who had been Annie Karle, a popular belle of Massachusetts, before her marriage. Mrs. Fleming must have come from especially good Colonial stock, for she lived to be ninety-seven years old.

Russell had the ordinary education of a grammar school boy of that period and section, and when he grew to manhood and found his way to California, he busied himself at farming and mining, as so many pioneers came to do. When the mines no longer had an attraction for him, he took to staging; and getting worn on the road, he opened a livery for the service of others. In all these undertakings, honesty and conscientiousness characterized his varied and often risky dealings, and a good nature and kindheartedness won for him a host of friends.

On January 18, 1863, Mr. Fleming married Elizabeth Dorgan, a native by birth of Cork, Ireland, from which city her parents came; the marriage occurring in Mariposa County. While she was a mere child, she had been brought to the United States, and at the same time, she had lost all trace of her nearest relatives. A goodly family blessed this union, and several of the sons and daughters are still living to further honor an honored name. John Daniel and Mary Ellen died; Elizabeth married C. A. McCoy; Alice is Mrs. Jarvis Streeter, Jr.; Emma is also dead; Russell Anthony is also married; Anna is the wife of J. P. Coyle; George died February, 1917; Rozillah was joined in wedlock to George F. St. Louis; Julia Ellen (whose

career is so interestingly sketched elsewhere in this volume) is also, like her two younger sisters Florence and Isabel unmarried; nor has William Timothy as yet taken a wife, he is now in the One Hundred Sixtieth United States Infantry in France. Mrs. Fleming passed into the great beyond July 30, 1913.

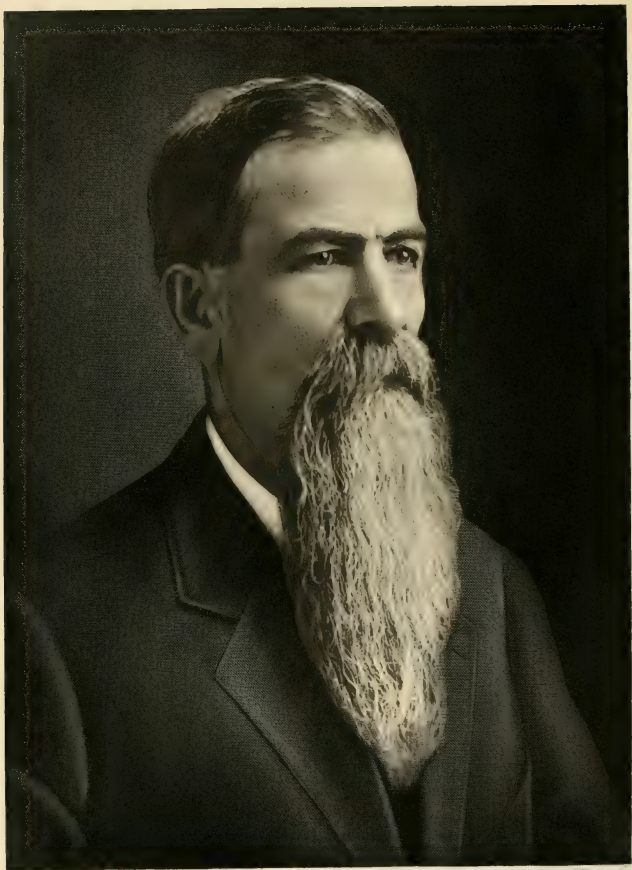
Ever since attaining his majority, when he could understand political issues and think and act for himself, Mr. Fleming has been inspired with civic pride and a desire for public-welfare service, and until three years ago he has been active as a citizen proud of his franchise rights, in the ranks of the Republicans. Fond of social life, he joined the Masons far back in 1858, and was a Master Mason and held the office of Senior Warden. To know Mr. Fleming has been to like him, as by the most natural of processes; and to live and work with him has always resulted in an increased respect for human nature, and an enthusiasm for what is so typically American.

**JOHN M. FLEMING.**—Few persons, on seeing the valuable and attractive vineyard of John M. Fleming, the pioneer who came to Fresno in the early nineties, would picture the sorry plight in which he found himself at first on account of the squirrels and jack-rabbits, and the almost insurmountable difficulties with which he had to contend in getting vines well started. He persisted, however, and by extraordinary and patient labor, he made for himself a finely improved place.

The father of our subject was John Fleming, an Irishman by birth and a native of the County Antrim, while the grandfather was James Fleming, who joined the father later and resided in New York with him until he died. While yet a lad, the father crossed the ocean to the New World and at New York he completed his schooling. After that he was in the mercantile business at Lewiston, N. Y., until he retired, and when he died he closed the record of four-score years. The mother was Margaret Miller before her marriage, and she was born at Glasgow, Scotland, from which country she migrated with her parents to New York. She died four years older than her husband, the mother of eight children, seven of whom are still enjoying life. Among these John M. was the second oldest, and the only one in California. John attended the public school at Lewiston, Niagara County, where he was born, and when twenty years of age entered the employ of the New York Central, having secured a clerkship in the freight department. He was with that company for fifteen years, but desiring a change of climate, he came to Dinuba, Cal., in 1892, and in a short time to Fresno County. He found that outdoor work was beneficial, and so he labored in the vineyards. He studied viticulture and then leased one of the vineyards and engaged in growing raisins. These were sold as low as one and a quarter cents a pound, however, and there was no profit in the venture.

In 1902, Mr. Fleming located on his present ranch, a fine tract of 160 acres five miles east of Clovis. It was stubble-field at first, and it was no wonder that, when the grasshoppers came in the year of the first vineyard, the experiment was a failure. But he set out a new vineyard and worked hard four years in succession, and later he was able to sell off forty acres and to retain 120, both proving profitable. He has about forty-five acres in vineyard, of which ten acres are zinfandels and the balance muscats; and there are five acres of peaches, with alfalfa. All this was possible only after a bitter fight carried on against the ground squirrels, the almost equally numerous rabbits, and Jack Frost, so that it was necessary, in some cases, to set and reset the vines four or five times. He made the usual improvements of buildings, and built himself a fine residence, for Mr. Fleming duly became a married man, and his family is noted for social life and the dispensing of hospitality. He was always in the successive raisin and other fruit associa-





Steve T Barker.

tions and has long supported the California Associated Raisin Company and the California Peach Growers, Inc.

The marriage of Mr. Fleming to Miss Emma Odell, a fair daughter of Michigan, took place at Niagara Falls and resulted in the birth of five children: May is Mrs. Hamilton and resides at Clovis; John Harry has become a promising and successful viticulturist, and is with his father; Carrie Irene is better known as Mrs. Burk of Squaw Valley; Florence, who graduated from the San Diego Normal, was a teacher in Clovis, till she married Sidney I. Drake, and now resides in Squaw Valley; and Benjamin, who responded to the call and is serving in the United States Navy. Mrs. Fleming is a member of the Methodist Church at Clovis.

Civic affairs have long interested both Mr. and Mrs. Fleming, who usually work for national reforms along the lines of the Republican party. When it comes to local issues, however, these good citizens do not talk politics, but support men and measures for the good of the community generally.

**STEVE TODOROVICH BAKER.**—Industry, thrift, unceasing toil, at least during those times when a man should work, are excellent requisites to success, but these alone will hardly cause the plums desired to fall into one's waiting basket. The career, phenomenally successful, of Steve Todorovich Baker, the well-known viticulturist, shows the value, in addition, of having a good head for business and being a first-class manager; for he has prospered where others have failed, and in prospering he has brought all these conditions and qualities to aid him in his years of struggle. What adds to the interest of his story is the fact that he accomplished so much in a relatively short time, but the truth of the matter is, very likely, that in order to make such a rapid run, Steve put on (as so many are unwilling to do) just so much more steam.

Born in the city of Krushovatz, Servia, in 1854, Steve was the son of Theo. Todorovich Baker, a merchant, who reared him in that vicinity, and had him educated in the local public schools. When sixteen, he was apprenticed to a baker, from whom he learned the baker trade; and two years later he enlisted in the Servian army. He joined the Morava Artillery, and became a gunner in 1876 during the year of war with Turkey. When the Balkan Wars took place in 1877-78, he volunteered in the Russian Army, and he was in the Battle of Plevna, between Russia and Turkey, and assisted the Russians to free the Bulgarians. He was then made a sergeant, and served as such until the close of the war.

In 1878 he went to Egypt and engaged in the grocery business in Alexandria, in which line he continued until 1881 when he enlisted in the French Army as a volunteer and served a year during the occupation of Tunis, 1882. Then he returned to Alexandria and enlisted in the English army as a private, and under the famous General Gordon he went through the campaigns of the Soudan War.

Having had enough of war, Mr. Baker came to the United States in 1887, and at Pottsville, Pa., engaged in coal-mining, but a strike taking place there a year later, he left the district and came west to Denver, Colo. To his disappointment, however, he found a strike in progress there, and disgusted, he took the train and sought the land of gold and sunshine,—at least the country where, he had heard, gold might be readily picked up, but where, he was yet to learn, the unrivalled sunshine was itself prosperity. He found himself in San Francisco a stranger and friendless, and soon without money; and he had to hurriedly get something to do in order to have something to eat. He was glad, therefore, to get a place with Post & Larkin, at fifteen dollars a month and his board.

Three months later he quit this undertaking and made his way to Seattle, in 1889, where for eleven months he was engaged as a fisherman on Puget Sound; after which he returned to San Francisco. The big city did not seem

to offer him much, and perhaps it was well that it did not, for in 1890 he came on to Fresno, luckily heading for this promising center, although he arrived with but ten cents in his pocket. He found work in a restaurant at the same wages as before—fifteen dollars a month and his board. In the fall of 1891, he advanced a peg by obtaining a place to prune vines in Butler's vineyard, at fifty cents a day; and feeling the attraction of out-door labor, he continued in that line. He was wide-awake and observing, and soon acquired a very valuable knowledge in the caring for vines.

In 1892, Mr. Baker branched out by taking contracts for the pruning of vineyards, and the next year he began buying and drying figs in fig-orchards, curing them carefully and selling them to Griffin & Skelley. He made many friends by the quality of his service, his business increased, he obtained credit, and he made a success of the enterprise. For ten years he was on and off in the employ of George H. Malter of the St. George vineyard, and he also bought figs of him.

Finally, Mr. Baker leased from Captain J. E. Youngburg his present place, and in five years bought the 120 acres on North Avenue nine miles east of Fresno, in the Kutner Colony. This splendid tract is devoted to raising malagas and muscatel grapes, and white Adriatic figs. Since then, he has bought 160 acres more located on National Avenue, ten miles east of Fresno, where he is building a modern residence for his permanent home. On this ranch he has set out a vineyard, which takes all of his time, but he sees that it is well cared for, and therein lies one of the secrets of his success. Mr. Baker has been a benefactor in the growth of Fresno County in other ways, also. In 1898 he imported Blue grapes from Servia, known here as the Fresno Beauty. Twelve rooted vines arrived in March, 1898, and he was successful in raising seven of them; the next year he saved all the cuttings, giving them away, and they proved a success, and now there are hundreds of acres of Fresno Beauty grapes growing and bearing in the County.

While at Pottsville, Pa., Mr. Baker took out his first citizenship papers, and at Fresno in 1894 he secured his second and final documents making him an American citizen—a fact of which he is justly proud. In national politics, he is a Democrat, but his first interest is for local advancement, and for that he sees no party lines. He has never regretted coming to Fresno, and for Fresno's prosperity he gives time, thoughtfulness and good-will.

**CHRISTIAN SAXE.**—Whenever the history of California is recompiled, the historian will need to review, and with grateful recognition, the splendid accomplishments of Christian Saxe, who was born in Audrain County, Mo., November 20, 1852, and died in Fresno, February 6, 1913. His father, Jackson Saxe, was a native of Pennsylvania and settled in Missouri as early as 1835. The lad was educated at the local country schools, and reared on the home farm until he was eighteen years of age. He then started to learn the trade of a plasterer; and having finished his apprenticeship, worked at his trade in the East until 1879. Thoroughness was always a marked characteristic of his method, and fidelity to employers a dependable stamp of his character; and so it happened that, no matter how adverse the "times," or wherever he wandered, he was seldom or never in want for employment, and at a very fair compensation.

It is hardly true that he tired of the East, in which he had met with such a hearty reception; but his curiosity was aroused as to the Great West, and at the end of the seventies he came out to California to see what the country was like. For a while he located in Modesto, Stanislaus County, and later moved to Merced County, where he went in for sheep-raising. In 1884 he went to Madera and engaged in the mercantile business with A. Cohn as a partner; and at the same time he owned a band of sheep near by.

In 1905 he located in Fresno and entered the field of cement and plaster contracting and building, and soon became a leader among his competitors.



He was original in his ideas, abreast of the times and even a forerunner of much that eventually came into great vogue, careful and very conscientious in his execution, and in time erected some of the best private buildings in Fresno, including the Forsyth building, the Unitarian Church and the Chester Rowell home.

During 1881 Mr. Saxe was married to Miss Ida Daulton, the eldest and accomplished daughter of Henry C. Daulton, the well-known California pioneer who proved himself so hardy in opening some of the paths to civilization. Mrs. Myrtle Halberson, of Coalinga, is one of the children of this union; Enslin Clay Saxe, her brother, is another; he is now in charge of his mother's ranch in Madera County, where he shows the clear indications of inherited ability. Henry Clay, another son, is married and lives in Pomona; Barbara Naomi, is a daughter, and Madeline is the youngest.

The Saxe ranch referred to is one of the famous estates of its kind in California, comprising as it does some 1,800 acres, and being one of the most productive grain ranches in Madera County. Its purchase, equipment and development have always reflected creditably on the good judgment of the deceased, who willed it to his wife as her share of the estate, and its maintenance and management reflect with equal credit on those now responsible for its administration. Mrs. Saxe has perpetuated in her Red Cross and other humane and charitable work the traditions started by her lamented and honored husband, and all who know the estimable lady will rejoice that she has thus been so nobly provided for. The women as well as the men of California have done the empire building; and California has always had a kindly thought for its daughters as well as its sons.

**GEORGE W. SMITH.**—A well-known and highly esteemed resident of Fresno County is to be found in the person of George W. Smith, now serving his fifth term as Justice of the Peace in Fresno. Of Southern birth and lineage he was born in Tennessee, March 27, 1851, into the family of Dr. John D. and Isabella (Dickson) Smith. Dr. Smith was a native of North Carolina who moved to Tennessee in the year 1827, and, in the locality where he settled became a very prominent physician. His wife came from good old Colonial stock, her two grandfathers, Capt. Daniel McKissick and Col. Joseph R. Dickson, both served with distinction in the Revolutionary War. Five sons of Dr. and Mrs. Smith served in the Confederate Army.

George W. Smith received a public school education, was reared on a farm and devoted some years of his life to farming, until in 1880, when he left his native state to locate in Booneville, Ark. He lived in that city for five years, when in 1885, he felt the call of the West and came to California and settled in Fresno County. He was a young man, full of energy and soon made his influence felt in political circles and during President Cleveland's administration he served four years in the Internal Revenue service, in Fresno County. His next occupation was as a vineyardist in Temperance Colony, where he lived for ten years, and at the same time he bought fruit for George West & Son. He was also interested in the oil business in Kern County for some years and in 1902 he was elected to his present office and has succeeded himself in office at each election ever since, which in itself speaks for the satisfaction he has given in the discharge of the duties of the office.

On December 31, 1871, Judge Smith was united in marriage with Miss Mary E. Kerr, who proved her worth as a helpmate and counsellor for many years. She passed away at their home in Fresno on February 9, 1919, mourned by a large circle of sincere friends. Besides her husband, she left a daughter, Olive Bell Smith, and a son, James Dickson Smith, to mourn her passing. Mrs. Smith was a member of the Baptist Church.

The promising son of Judge Smith, James Dickson, who was born on November 27, 1898, graduated from the Fresno high school, then took a

two-years' course at the Mt. Tamalpais Military Academy, and was captain of the High School Cadets until he enlisted in the U. S. Navy on October 20, 1917. He was sent to Goat Island, San Francisco Bay and from there he was sent to Harvard University, where he graduated in the Radio service and received a rating of first class. He then was sent to Pensacola, Fla., where he won a rating as first class machine gunner. He served his country until his discharge on February 10, 1919, when he returned home. He is now employed in the electrical department of the General Chemical Company at Nichols, Cal.

Judge Smith is a Democrat and active in the councils of the party. He is a Thirty-second degree Mason, belonging to the Lodge, Chapter, Consistory, Council, Shrine and Eastern Star. He is Past Commander of Fresno Commandery No. 29, K. T., and Past High Priest of Fresno Chapter, No. 69, R. A. M. He also belongs to the Eagles and to Fresno Lodge No. 439, B. P. O. Elks, where he is always warmly welcomed. He is a true type of the Southern gentleman, high-minded, generous, hospitable and is a genial friend and companion.

**G. P. CUMMINGS.**—The transformation wrought in the San Joaquin Valley during the past thirty years is due to the energy and patient perseverance of its pioneers who, leaving comfortable homes in other parts of our country, identified themselves with the newer sections and out of its crudity evolved the present day prosperity. G. P. Cummings is a true representative of this class of pioneers, and has been serving the public of Fresno County since January, 1899, at which time he became deputy county clerk and acting clerk of the board of supervisors, a position he filled most acceptably, as was evidenced by his being chosen in July, 1900, by the board of supervisors to fill the office of county assessor. Since that period he has served the public in various capacities with the same efficiency and in his usual painstaking and genial manner, that characterized his duties as deputy county clerk.

G. P. Cummings was born near McMinnville, Warren County, Tenn., May 30, 1856, the youngest in a family of ten children, all of whom reached mature years. The family came originally from Virginia, where his father, G. P. Cummings, Sr., was born, and he was the youngest son born to Col. Joseph Cummings, a Scotchman who went to Virginia and won his title in the war of 1812. Colonel Cummings engaged in farming near Spencer, Van Buren County, Tenn., after the war was over, and there he died at the advanced age of ninety-nine years. G. P. Cummings, Sr., was also a farmer and he served as sheriff of Van Buren County, whence he moved to the vicinity of McMinnville. He served in this district as assessor, and also engaged in farming until he died, aged sixty-four years. His wife was in maidenhood, Elizabeth Plumlee, a native of Virginia, and daughter of John Plumlee, who was a soldier in the war of 1812. She died in Tennessee.

G. P. Cummings of this review received his education in Burritt College, at Spencer, Tenn., and at the age of nineteen began teaching school, which profession he followed for nine years. He won a position on the county board of teachers' examiners, of Warren County, through his thoroughness as a teacher. Deciding to locate on the Pacific Coast, he came to California in 1885, and in Fresno County taught school at Eastin (now in Madera County). Two years later he came to the small town of Fresno and secured employment as a clerk in a grocery store, remaining for one year. He then engaged in business for himself on I Street, under the firm name of Cummings and Higgins. This business was continued successfully until 1894, when the partnership was dissolved and the business sold out. Mr. Cummings was then employed as traveling salesman. On January 1, 1899, he was made deputy in the office of George W. Cartwright, county clerk of Fresno County, and was the clerk of the board of supervisors from that period until July 30, 1900, when he was appointed by the board of supervisors to fill the vacancy in the office of



*G. O. Cummings*



assessor, caused by the death of J. W. Ferguson, county assessor. He filled this office with satisfaction until the end of the term, when he retired and engaged in the real estate business under the firm title of Murdock, Cummings & Murdock, with offices on Tulare Street. One year later, January, 1904, the partnership was dissolved and Mr. Cummings accepted a position with the county recorder to make abstracts of mortgages for the county assessor, but on February 1, of that year, he was appointed under-sheriff by J. D. Collins, and he discharged his duties here with the same fidelity that characterized his other positions. In 1906, Mr. Cummings was elected county assessor and he is still in that office. He was an active member, from its organization, of the County Assessors' Association of California, and served as its President in 1912-13, and at present is secretary of the association.

Mr. Cummings was united in marriage with Miss Bettie Smartt, who was born in Warren County, Tenn., a daughter of George M. Smartt, a Tennessee farmer, and a grand-daughter of William C. Smartt, a soldier in the war of 1812, who emigrated from Virginia to Tennessee. Mr. and Mrs. Cummings are the parents of the following children: Bonnie Jean; George, the wife of C. E. Hamilton, cashier of the Bank and Trust Company of Central California, who resides in Fresno; Annabel, wife of J. T. Tupper, who also resides in Fresno; G. Penn, Jr., was a practicing attorney in Fresno, until he enlisted in the United States Army, and is now serving overseas as First Lieutenant and Adjutant on the Major's Staff, First Battalion, Eighth U. S. Infantry, and is a member of the Courtmartial Board at Brest, France.

Mr. Cummings has taken an active interest in educational matters in Fresno, serving for five years on the city board of education. During the building of the high school, the Park Avenue, and the remodeling of the Emerson school, he served as secretary of the board, and was an important factor in the progress of the school system.

Fraternally, he was made a Mason in Las Palmas Lodge No. 366, F. & A. M., Fresno, and was exalted to the Royal Arch degree in Fresno Chapter, No. 69, R. A. M., and Knighted in Fresno Commandery No. 29, K. T. Mr. Cummings became a Scottish Rite, 32nd degree Mason in Fresno Consistory No. 8, and is a member of Islam Temple, A. A. O., N. M. S., of San Francisco. With his wife, he is a member of Fresno Chapter No. 295, O. E. S., of which he is Past Worthy Patron. He is a member of Fresno Lodge No. 439, B. P. O. Elks; the Independent Order of Foresters, of which he is Past Chief Ranger; the Woodmen of the World; St. Andrews Society; and is also a prominent member of the Knights of Pythias, of which organization he is a Past Chancellor Commander, and at present is Grand Chancellor of the Grand Domain of California.

In his political affiliation, Mr. Cummings is a Democrat and has served as a member of the county central committee. Mr. Cummings is endowed by nature with a very pleasing personality and an affable manner, and during all the years that he has lived in Fresno County, has made many warm friends and possesses the faculty of retaining them. He is square in all his dealings and no man living in the county is better liked or more highly respected than G. P. Cummings.

**HUGH WILLIAM La RUE.**—Prominent among the raisin growers of Fresno County, residing in the vicinity of Malaga, is Hugh William La Rue, the eldest son of the late Jabez H. La Rue, an honored pioneer of the county. H. W. La Rue was born in Lewis County, Mo., on December 1, 1851, and his early days were spent on a farm. In 1873, he migrated to the Golden State and secured employment on his uncle's ranch located near Davis, Yolo County. His careful performance of his duties and good business management soon won for him the responsible position of foreman of the ranch.

The year 1885 marked the advent of H. W. La Rue into Fresno County. His first investment was forty acres of raw land situated at what is now

Calwa, which he improved by cultivation and the planting of an orchard and vineyard, but his high hopes of a promising enterprise were soon blasted, for the following year this section of the county was visited with the grasshopper pest and his orchard and vineyard were both ruined. With the characteristic spirit of the pioneer he was undaunted and determined to succeed as a viticulturist, so in company with his brother, Samuel R., he purchased 160 acres of raw land at Malaga, which they improved. At first they planted a portion of the land to grapes and later began raising alfalfa.

The old adage, "If at first you don't succeed try, try again," was heeded by Mr. La Rue and his second venture in viticulture was a splendid success and he believes in using the latest methods in the cultivation of his land. By close attention to details and excellent business management he has become one of the most successful raisin growers in the valley.

In 1916, H. W. La Rue was united in marriage with Emma Hall, a native of Missouri. Fraternally, Mr. La Rue is a member of the Knights of Pythias, in which circle he is very popular and has passed through all of the chairs of the lodge.

**HUGH KNEPPER.**—A self-made man who has been privileged to become one of the real builders of Fresno County and has been rewarded with a large measure of prosperity, is Hugh Knepper, now living retired at 357 Glenn Avenue, Fresno. He was born in Somerset County, Pa., on January 16, 1837, one of a family of fifteen children, only three of whom are now living. He comes from a pioneer Dutch family, his ancestors having been pioneer settlers in Pennsylvania. While he was still a young man, the family moved to Missouri.

In 1853 he crossed the great plains with a small party in three wagons, and landed at Hangtown; and later he mined at Forbestown, in Butte County. In 1861, however, stirred by the call of the Union, he enlisted at San Francisco with the Second California Cavalry, and so long as his services were needed he did faithful and expert scout and patrol duty in both California and Arizona. He passed through Fresno County in 1863, and the same year was sent to Utah for patrol duty there; and at Camp Douglass, Salt Lake, he was mustered out in 1864.

Free again to pursue the avocations of a peaceful life, Mr. Knepper started back to his home in Missouri by the overland route, driving a team of horses. He was exposed to terrible storms, being three times snowed in, and altogether he suffered many privations. For eight years he farmed in Missouri, and for another eight years he followed agriculture in Nebraska.

In November, 1881, Mr. Knepper arrived in Fresno County, to remain for the rest of his life. He bought ten acres east of the town on Tulare Street, and greatly improved the property; and when, after residing there for four years, he sold out, he located in the foothills on 160 acres in Section 11, Township 12, Range 23. This was along the headwaters of Fancher Creek, and was so favorably situated that he kept adding to his holdings until he owned 1,300 acres,—800 in Watts Valley and 550 on the headwaters of Fancher Creek. There Mr. Knepper lived for thirty years, engaged in stock-raising, with cattle, horses and mules, steadily increasing his reputation as a scientific and progressive farmer. During these years he owned the Copper King Mine, at the head of Dog Creek, which he sold to an English syndicate. On his mountain ranch he had six acres of apple trees, and these produced an average of seven tons of fruit a year. He had one lemon tree which produced 200 dozen of lemons yearly, and one season it yielded as many as 220 dozen. He was particularly able in the cultivation of large fruit, and frequently made displays in Fresno that attracted wide attention. In his latter days Mr. Knepper owned a vineyard of forty acres near Fowler, and this he rented for a number of years, finally selling it for \$15,000, in 1917. He has parted with all his ranch acreage, and now lives retired.



Mr. Knepper married Emily Short, a native of Ohio, a widow and the mother of Frank and John W. Short, of Fresno; and of this fortunate union one son was born—Charles Knepper, who died in 1916. Mrs. Knepper died nine years previously. She was a noble woman active in many charities.

Mr. Knepper is a charter member of Atlanta Post, No. 92., of the G. A. R. of Fresno, and also a charter member of the First Methodist Church of that city, with which organization he has always been identified in good works and every movement for the improvement of public morals and the elevation of good citizenship. He has been a strong and effective advocate of prohibition, and the happiest birthday he ever celebrated was his eighty-second, in 1919, when the constitutional amendment became an assured fact through the ratification of the prohibition clause. With his devoted wife he conducted a Methodist Sunday School for twenty years at the foot of the hill ranch; and he was a school trustee for many years in the Hawkins school district. All in all, Mr. Knepper has had an enviable career, highly profitable both to himself and to many others, and he will be long and agreeably remembered as a pioneer of the sterling order. (Since the above was written, Mr. Knepper passed away at the home of his sister, 357 Glenn Avenue, on March 26, 1919.)

**JOHN FELIX HILL.**—A ranchman who, by up-to-date methods, steady and hard labor, has made a success of his later agricultural undertaking, is John Felix Hill, of the Sanger district. He was born in Bosque County, Texas, March 24, 1854, a son of Harrison Hill, a soldier who died while serving in the Civil War, and of Mattie Moss Hill, who like her husband was a native of Arkansas. They had six sons and one daughter: Warren, who died at Bakersfield, was a former constable of Sanger and had had a bout with the famous Sontag and Evans gang during their depredations in this county; William D., of Fresno; John Felix; Thomas, of Phoenix, Ariz., formerly a hotelkeeper at Dinuba; Mrs. Mandeville Williams, who went to Phoenix in 1872; Preston, of Phoenix; Harrison, a miner in Nevada. A second marriage united Mrs. Hill with Samuel Stroud, father of J. A. Stroud, and by that union she had three children: Mattie Keeler, of San Diego; Laura, Mrs. George Dameron, of Selma; and Ira, a cattle-buyer of Fresno.

John Felix Hill came to California with his step-father and the family, reaching the Sample ranch at Academy, on October 17, 1869, and there in the Dry Creek district he went to school for a short time, having for his teacher the late J. D. Collins. When he began to work for others he took up the sheep-shearing business and the driving of ox teams, putting in ten years on the old Armstrong ranch. The days were weary enough and the labor was hard, and the modern citizen will never know the price paid by our forefathers that we might enjoy the more comfortable things of an advanced civilization. His first business venture was a partnership with W. D. Hill, when they carried on a hog-raising business at King's River; after two years they divided their interests and John began raising grain in the vicinity of what is now Sanger. This he continued till he went broke and he next went into the dairy business, about 1900, and delivered milk to customers in Sanger until 1906. He profited by all that could be learned about the enterprise, but he was not a man to rest there. He made his own experiments, installed the latest and best of apparatus, devised several things which seemed to him superior to what one could buy, and soon had a dairy of which one might well be proud, since there was not only every convenience, but all the operations were carried on in the most practical, as well as the most rational and safe way. Mr. Hill has always believed that one could not afford to spare either pains or expense to get the very best results in the production and the handling of such an important commodity as milk, and it is pleasant to know that his many patrons appreciated all he sought to do for them.

Receiving an offer from W. W. Phillips to improve some eighty acres of land for him, he undertook the contract, the agreement being that he was to be given half of the vineyard in return after leveling, irrigating and work-

ing it three years. This fine stretch of land, including forty very choice acres, and one of the most valuable in the section, he at present owns, and where he has made all improvements and makes his home. Mr. Hill also has twenty acres of land set out to orange trees; and in addition he holds 175 acres not yet improved and only awaiting the most favorable time and conditions to be made equal to the best in a high state of culture.

On September 20, 1877, Mr. Hill was united in marriage with Alice N. Fink, oldest daughter of Mrs. Peter W. Fink, the oldest living woman settler on the Upper Kings River, whose sketch is given on another page of this work. The following children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Hill: William P., a molder by trade, residing in Oakland, who married Althea Crosswaith and has three children; John Felix, Jr., who married Mrs. Edith Markle, and who is constable at Sanger; Allen H., ranching at Round Mountain, married Nellie Giffen and has one daughter; and Eliza May, who is Mrs. Herman Hanke of Sanger and has a son.

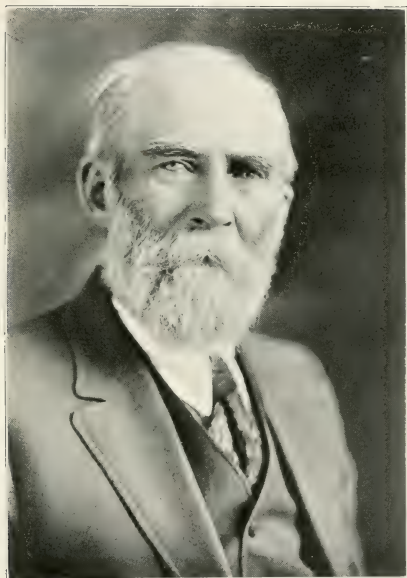
Mr. Hill has worked on nearly every irrigation ditch in this part of Fresno County; has built many miles of roads; and there are many tracts of land he has leveled, plowed, planted and cared for on contract, in fact the best money he has made since he quit grain-farming was in this kind of work, until he made a success of his own fruit and grape-growing. He has helped to organize schools and served as a trustee for years. A Democrat in national politics, Mr. Hill has always placed patriotism and devotion to local interests above party matters, and is ready at all times to do his full duty as a loyal citizen.

**ALEXANDER TAYLOR.**—A venerable pioneer in the great San Joaquin Valley who has long been a successful grain-grower, ranking among the best farmers in the State, is Alexander Taylor, who lives ten miles northwest of Lanare and two miles northwest of Wheatville, where he is ably assisted by his youngest son, who lives with him. In addition to the large holdings of the subject, they farm two sections of rented land; and being scientific, practical farmers, competent machinists and able business men, they enjoy their full share of prosperity.

Mr. Taylor was born in Nova Scotia on February 15, 1839, the son of John Taylor, who was also born in Nova Scotia where he was married to Sophia McCoy, a native of the same district. Grandfather Taylor was a sailor who came from Scotland to Nova Scotia when a young man, while Grandfather (Alexander) McCoy was born in the highlands of Scotland. He was called the "faithful Alex," as he would act as a guide for the early settlers of Nova Scotia, and especially the early Presbyterian missionaries in their hard and dangerous work there.

John Taylor died when Alexander was a boy, leaving to his widow, besides the enviable reputation of an industrious, honest farmer, five children: William, Ann, Alexander, Thomas Trotter, and Hannah Bell. The mother died in Nova Scotia when she was seventy years old, bequeathing a blessed memory, and our subject is the only one of the five children now living. He was brought up in Nova Scotia, and when seventeen went to learn the blacksmith trade at South River, Antigonish, N. S., where he served the full four years' apprenticeship. From his tenth year he had lived with an uncle, Magnus Taylor at Pictou, in Pictou County, N. S., and there he had worked on a farm, enjoying but limited advantages of schooling. Having learned the trade of blacksmith and horseshoer, he started out as a journeyman.

His older brother, William, was then located in Marin County, and he wrote to Alexander to come out to the Pacific Coast. So he bade good-bye to his mother and home, took the train to New York City, and from there the steamship to Aspinwall, and crossed the Panama Railway to Panama, from which port he proceeded by steamship to San Francisco, where he landed in May, 1862. He then went on to Marin County and there joined his brother William.



*Wm. Taylor*



For two years Mr. Taylor worked at teaming, drawing wood from Mt. Tamalpais in the service of an employer, and then for two or three years he ran a team of his own. After that he accepted a post at the Schaeffer saw mill in Marin County; then he went to Stockton; and next he rented land at Plainsburg, in Merced County, continuing there for three years.

In the year of the Philadelphia Centennial, Mr. Taylor came to Hanford and pioneered in Kings County. He bought a farm three miles east of Hanford and improved it; and while there he was married to Miss Fannie Smith, a native of Missouri. She died in 1912, the beloved mother of four children: John Ernest; Arthur, who died when he was ten years old; Chalmers Alexander, who died of influenza in December, 1918; and Orvie Ruskin. The two last-named helped to run the 160 acres owned by Mr. Taylor and planted to grain, and the 320 acres on the plains, twelve miles to the southwest. Chalmers was single, but Orvie Ruskin married Levira Haskell of Fresno, by whom he has had one child, Orvie Earl. All reside with Mr. Taylor. Their farm and home are seven miles southeast of Helm and about four miles west of Burrel.

Mr. Taylor has continued in grain-farming and is one of the really successful grain-farmers of Kings and Fresno counties. He has a Best combined harvester and thresher, and a large Best tractor. They plow, harrow, seed, harvest and thresh by means of these wonderful machines, and lead the way, in their advanced methods, for others. As a pioneer of Kings County, he farmed in the vicinity of Hanford when that country was a part of Tulare County, and he cut and threshed grain where Hanford now stands, and before that town was started.

Although a Republican in national politics, Mr. Taylor is a supporter of President Wilson. He is a member of the Presbyterian Church at Hanford, and is a strong advocate of temperance, and he was superintendent of a Sunday School held in the Eureka schoolhouse at Hanford. He served in that capacity for three years, and also helped create an interest in the big camp-meeting held there in 1876. He assisted in the building of the imposing church structure at Hanford. Mr. Taylor finds himself at eighty, hale, hearty and happy. Mr. and Mrs. Taylor and her mother were all admirers of John Ruskin, the great English author, and Mr. Taylor's youngest son was named after that celebrity. In his home library may be found many rare and valuable books by English and American authors, reflecting the literary taste of the family circle.

**MATHIAS ASMUSSEN.**—A most estimable and highly-respected pioneer, who for years has given his best energy and unabated enthusiasm to the upbuilding of Fresno County, is Mathias Asmussen, one of the oldest settlers of Rolinda. He came to California in 1882, and a year later was fortunate in beginning to lay the foundation of his prosperity in this most favored portion of Central California. He was born at Christiansfeld, near Hadersleben, Schleswig, Denmark, on November 27, 1854, the son of Jens Asmussen, a farmer there, owner of the same farm that his father before him had owned. He had married Annie Marie Johansen, and they both died there, the mother passing away in 1912 at the age of eighty-nine, and the father in 1898 at the age of seventy-two. They had four children, and Mathias was the third oldest.

Mathias was brought up on a farm, attended the local public schools, and when seventeen years of age concluded to come to the United States. He spent a year at St. Louis, and then moved farther west to Cedar Falls, Black Hawk County, Iowa, where he worked on farms and continued his schooling for a winter, studying English. In 1881 he made his first trip back to Denmark, to see his parents and friends; and after such a good time there as one would expect who knows Danish life, he returned to Iowa in 1882, and came to San Francisco, where he worked on the street-car line, acting as both driver and conductor on the South San Francisco line from Fourth

and Townsend Streets. It was one of the old horse-car lines. After that he came on to Salinas for the summer, and then, in the fall of 1883, to Fresno.

Mr. Asmussen had worked for Alexander Smith in Salinas Valley and drove a team for him to Fresno County, when Mr. Smith moved from Salinas to Fresno; and he worked for him for three years on a farm that is now the American Colony. Then he bought eighty acres of land east of Fowler, at what was known as Clifton, that is now Del Rey, and after running the same for two years, sold it at a profit. Then he came to Houghton district, to his present place, now called Rolinda, before the railroad was put through or there was a station by that name; and in 1888 he began with his original purchase of forty acres here. It was raw land, but he leveled and checked it and planted it to alfalfa and vines, setting out muscats. He soon found, however, that they were not good bearers; so later he set out Thompson seedless, for which he finds the soil well adapted, so that he has good crops. He also engaged in dairying, and later bought twenty acres two miles west of, and twenty acres on the corner of his place, on Coalinga Avenue.

He improved these to alfalfa and vines, and still later bought forty acres half a mile north of Rolinda. After that he disposed of the three pieces at various times at a good profit. In March, 1919, he bought eighty acres of raw land on McKinley and Coalinga Avenues, which he intends to develop in alfalfa and vines. He retains the old forty-acre place where he had made splendid improvements, and has a fine vineyard and good alfalfa. Mr. Asmussen was one of the organizers of the Danish Creamery Association, and is still interested in it. He also belongs to the California Associated Raisin Company, and was in all the raisin associations from the start.

Mr. Asmussen was married at Rolinda to Miss Meta Enemark, a native of Schleswig and a member of an old Danish family; and two children have added to the life and joy of the Asmussen home. They are Annie and Arthur, and both live at home. The family attends the Lutheran Church. Mr. Asmussen follows the lead of the Republican party in matters of national politics. In 1892 he made his second trip to Denmark, and was more than compensated in finding his mother still living.

**B. D. MAXSON.**—An honest, thoroughly reliable, kind-hearted and public-spirited gentleman, who has the distinction of having been one of the rig-builders in the Coalinga field ever since the start of the oil-development there in 1896, is B. D. Maxson, who first came to Fresno in the great boom year of 1887. He was born in Richburg, Allegany County, N. Y., on September 18, 1847, the son of David Maxson, who was born in Rhode Island of Scotch descent. He was a farmer in Allegany County, who worked hard, accomplished much, but he died soon after oil was discovered on his farm, about 1873 or 1874. He had married Jane Coon, also a native of that county, although she came of old New England ancestry; and she died in New York. Both were members of the Seventh Day Baptist Church. They had seven children, three of whom are still living; and the subject of our story was the fifth eldest in the order of birth. A brother of B. D. Maxson, Cassius, was in the One Hundred Sixtieth New York Regiment serving in the Civil War, and was killed in the fighting before Petersburg.

B. D. Maxson was brought up on a farm in New York, and there attended the common and the Alfred high schools. When twenty-one he began to work at the carpenter's trade, and for some years worked as a contractor and builder. This led him naturally into the enterprise of rig-building in the Bradford oil field in Pennsylvania, and later he built rigs in Allegany County, so that when their old farm was leased for oil, he built the first rigs erected there.

In the late eighties he came to Fresno, drawn here by the residence at the corner of N and Mariposa Streets of his brother, Dr. Willis H. Maxson, who had arrived in 1885 and had opened a sanitarium. He worked here as a contracting carpenter and builder, helped put up the Adventist Church



and many of the most substantial and ornate of the early buildings, and thus contributed to laying the foundations of the great city that was to be. About 1889 he bought his present place of twenty acres on California Avenue, three miles west of Fresno, and two years later moved onto it. He immediately improved it with a muscat vineyard; and when he decided to live here, he pulled up some of the vines, built a residence and planted ornamental trees. One of the fine features of the place that his wisdom and taste brought into existence at that time was a long, beautiful fig-arbor, or fig drive, of white Adriatic figs.

In 1896, at the beginning of the oil development at Coalinga, he went there and constructed rigs for the Home, the Phoenix, the Crescent, the Coalinga & Mohawk and other oil companies; and having successfully finished the first work there, he proceeded to Bakersfield and to Kern River, where he made the rigs for the Independent and other oil companies. He continued this difficult, and more or less pioneer work, all along the Coast, and put up rigs for test wells in Monterey County, as well as in Contra Costa County, near Mt. Diablo. He put up rigs for two test wells near Herndon, and one near Lane's Bridge, as well as a rig at Silver Creek, north of Mendota. As one result of this work for oil companies, Mr. Maxson has from time to time become interested in oil-well projects, but his investments have never brought him the returns hoped for, or that they ought to have yielded.

It is as a vineyardist that Mr. Maxson has had his greatest success in California; for he has improved several vineyards in Fowler and West Park, selling them at a fair and just profit. He was a member of the California Fig Growers Association from its start, and of all the raisin associations, and is now a member of the California Associated Raisin Company.

While in Allegany County, N. Y., Mr. Maxson was married to Miss Vina Mix, a native of that section, by whom he has had three children: Bertrand resides in Fresno and is a carpenter; Genevieve, educated at the Fresno High School and the Pacific Union College at St. Helena, is now at home; and Louise, also a graduate of the Fresno High and the Pacific Union College, is teaching school in Kings County. Mr. Maxson used to be a member of the Seventh Day Baptist Church at Richburg, but was transferred as a member to the Church at Riverside, Cal. Wherever Mr. and Mrs. Maxson and their attractive family are known, there they have friends, the truest evidence of their value as citizens in the community, the county, and the great nation whose welfare they have so much at heart.

**LEE A. BLASINGAME.**—The history of the pioneers of California, who laid the foundations of our social conditions and contributed to what they themselves could not enter into and enjoy, is the history of men who tried first one thing and then another, sometimes shifting through necessity, and sometimes changing because they did not at first find that which was best suited to them; and their history is often repeated in the lives of their descendants, who, in making their destiny a part of the common weal, have had to experiment in order to discover in which field they could be most useful and attain the most of real success.

This is well illustrated in the life-story of Lee A. Blasingame, for some time one of the well-known young financiers here, but more recently active, with exceptional rewards for his labors, in various departments of agriculture. As a native son, he was born on Big Dry Creek in Fresno County, and at Academy he attended the public school. Ambitious for higher learning, the young man entered the Methodist College at Santa Rosa, where he continued his studies over two years. Still desiring a more definitely practical training, he took a course at Heald's Business College in San Francisco, and when he had accomplished all that was there expected of him, he pushed out into the business world.

He began his business experience in Fresno, where he became a book-keeper for the First National Bank; and proving his fitness thoroughly, he

was made cashier. That responsible post he held for five years, drawing much patronage to the bank which has so long been rated as one of the best bulwarks of Central California, and himself making many warm personal friends; and only when he felt the call to an altogether new field, did he resign from an activity always congenial to him.

Joining his brother, Alfred Blasingame, he has since engaged in farming and stock-raising, especially sheep and cattle. Their operations are carried on from their headquarters on the old Blasingame ranch. He is interested in viticulture and owns a 145-acre ranch seven miles northeast of Fresno, and there he has developed a most interesting and valuable vineyard. He endeavors to have the most up-to-date devices and also specimens most promising for culture. He has applied himself early and late to the problems presented; sought and given others cooperation, and been one of the active supporters of organizations designed to advance vineyard interests.

Of a pleasing personality, and decidedly social by nature, Mr. Blasingame has been active in fraternity life, and is a popular and influential member of the Fresno Lodge of B. P. O. Elks, the Sequoia Club in Fresno, and the Bohemian Club of San Francisco. In both commercial and social circles, he is a familiar figure that counts, and it may safely be predicted for him that he will be more and more identified with Central California as the years roll onward.

**ROBERT BAIRD.**—It is pleasant to recall the lives and activities of those who have bravely and cheerfully done their duty in life, and have thus contributed much to make life well worth the living, and especially to repeat such a life-story as that of Robert Baird, a Scotchman who became one of the best of American citizens, was a devoted husband and father, and left in his widow an estimable woman upon whom his children shower their affections. He was born in Scotland on November 20, 1851, came to the United States, and for a while settled at Virginia City, Nev., where he tried his luck at mining and prospecting. Moving still further to the West, he became a pioneer of Fresno County, and about 1882 engaged with his brothers, Andrew, Dugal and John, in dairying, establishing in the Washington Colony what was known as the Baird Dairy which retailed milk in Fresno. As Baird Bros. the firm enjoyed an enviable reputation for honesty and enterprise, and prospered from the start.

When Robert Baird sold out his interest in the concern, and the partnership was dissolved, he located in the Kutner school district in 1901 and bought the tract of forty acres which soon came to be identified with his name. It was a stubble-field, but by hard labor he so improved it that it smiled as a choice vineyard and orchard. On January 5, 1909, however, Mr. Baird, widely honored by all who knew him and especially esteemed by the Masons, to whom he was affiliated through the Fresno Lodge, passed away in his fifty-eighth year.

Mr. Baird was married while at Fresno in 1887, and his bride was Miss Charlotte Rogers, a native of Birmingham, England, who had been orphaned when she was very young. In her twentieth year she came to New Zealand, after a trip of three and a half months on the sail-boat Chili, and finding it such a beautiful place, she remained at Auckland for about eight years. Then she crossed the ocean once more and landed at San Francisco; and after a while she came on to Central California, arriving in Fresno in 1884. There she met and married Mr. Baird.

Six children—all of whom were born in Washington Colony—blessed this fortunate union: Elsie became Mrs. O. M. Campbell; Evelyn and Robert assist their mother on the ranch; Florence is Mrs. H. N. Hansen; Edward also assisted his mother until he entered the service of his country, in May, 1918, assigned to the Hospital Corps of the United States Navy, and is now in the transport service; and Winifred, a graduate of the Fresno High School, is at home.





F. M. Siskind

Since the death of her husband, Mrs. Baird, with the aid of her children, has continued the interesting work of viticulture, although she sold ten acres of her original holding and cut out the peach orchard. The remaining thirty acres, however, are well-improved and well-situated, eleven miles east of Fresno, and entirely set out to vines, especially to Thompson's seedless and muscat grapes. The Bairds have always been supporters of the different raisin associations, and Mrs. Baird is a member of the California Associated Raisin Company. She is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Fairview, and her son Robert is a trustee of the congregation and assistant superintendent of the Sunday School. The Bairds are interested in any movement for the betterment of the community; and for improving the tone of politics, and they generally work with the Republican party.

**J. F. NISWANDER.**—Prominent among the builders of Fresno County, whose splendid foresight and extraordinary vitality and energy have already accomplished so much in its development, and who are most optimistic for its future and the future of the central part of the Golden State, is J. F. Niswander, the efficient and popular general manager of the California Peach Growers, Inc., and one of the best-posted ranchers, through whose instrumentality many orchards and vineyards have been developed and changed hands. He is a native of the proud old State of Virginia, having been born at Staunton, in Augusta County, in November, 1871. His father was Isaac Benjamin Niswander, also a Virginian and a planter, who served in a Virginia regiment of the Confederate Army throughout the Civil War. He married Miss Barbara Frank, a member of one of the long-established Virginia families; and both died at the old home. Of the nine children born to this worthy couple, Mr. Niswander was the fifth eldest and the first of the family to come to California.

He attended the public schools until he was seventeen and then set out for California, arriving in Fresno in the year 1889. Here he immediately went to work to earn his own livelihood, laboring for a while in orchards but chiefly at farming for grain. He drove the big teams in the grain fields and otherwise made himself not only useful but indispensable. After three years he returned to Virginia and invested his savings in a three-year course at Bridgewater College.

As with so many thousands of others who have once beheld the attractions of California, the call of the West was too strong for the young man and he returned to Fresno in 1897. For a year he engaged in horticultural work, and subsequently performed the clerical duties for the Malaga Co-operative Packing Association. Three years later, Mr. Niswander was made secretary and after another three years, during which time he filled the office with signal ability, he purchased the entire packing plant. At that time the business was small; but through his experience, ability, untiring energy and tact, the volume of trade was rapidly increased. In the meantime he established another plant at Del Rey which he also ran with success. In 1914 he sold both plants to the California Associated Raisin Company.

During all these years, Mr. Niswander had engaged in farming and in improving ranches, and in setting out orchards and vineyards; and little by little he acquired more and more property for himself. At present he owns a ranch of 287 acres in Madera County devoted to vineyards, orchards and the growing of alfalfa, and a vineyard of 160 acres at Clovis, raw land when he bought it, which he himself improved, planting around the place a fine border of figs. He also improved a home place of forty acres on North Avenue, just east of Fresno, which he set out as a vineyard and an orchard, building a large, comfortable residence, where he lived with his family until February, 1918, when he sold it and purchased his present home. This comprises sixty acres of vineyard and orchard with a commodious and modern residence on Butler and Willow Avenues, adjoining Fresno on the east.

Believing implicitly that cooperation is the only successful method of marketing vineyard and orchard products, Mr. Niswander was actively and prominently identified with the organization of the California Peach Growers, Inc., assisting vigorously from the time when the first steps were taken in that direction in 1915 until the aim was accomplished in the following May, when the organization was completed. Since that time Mr. Niswander has been vice-president and general manager of the association, and it would be difficult to find one better qualified for this responsible and influential post. The headquarters of the Peach Growers are in Fresno; but the organization is state-wide in its scope, and the association includes a membership of some 6,500 producers of peaches throughout California, or about eighty per cent. of all the peach-growers of the state. The capital stock is \$1,000,000, with \$850,000 paid up, and the average total crop handled amounts to about \$6,000,000. The association operates twenty-six different plants, each plant being equipped for grading, processing, packing and shipping; and through the machinery and service of these plants the entire product of the 6,500 members is marketed to the wholesaler. Dried peaches are shipped to all the markets in the United States, Canada, South America and other foreign countries, in both the Occident and the Orient, where the Blue Ribbon Brand, the trade-mark, is best advertised through the superior and maintained quality of the delicious output. Mr. Niswander is also a member of the California Associated Raisin Company.

At Fresno, on June 19, 1901, Mr. Niswander was married to Miss Eula P. Shipp, a native of Texas who was reared in Fresno. She is the daughter of R. B. Shipp, the well-known viticulturist of Jensen Avenue, and is a graduate of the Fresno High School. She was engaged in teaching at the time of her marriage. Four children have blessed their union: Roy, who is attending the Fresno High; Edna, Horace and Virginia. The family are members of and attend St. Paul's Methodist Episcopal Church South, in whose benevolences and charities he is very active. In national politics Mr. Niswander is a prominent and influential Democrat, while fraternally he is an Odd Fellow and a member of the Manzanita Camp of the Woodmen of the World. He is also a welcome member of the Rotary, Commercial and Sequoia Clubs.

**WILLIAM F. HANKE.**—Among the experienced California stockmen who have later made great progress, both for themselves and the commonwealth generally, in other fields, and who have also found time to perform public service of one kind or another, must be mentioned, William F. Hanke, now retired at Sanger, a native son full of the spirit of the Golden West, who was born at Dixon, in Solano County, December 21, 1861. His father was H. H. Hanke, a native of Germany, who came to the Pacific slope in pioneer days. He first settled at Sacramento, where he followed draying and teaming, and later he took up government land near Dixon, coming to own a ranch of 800 acres, on which he engaged in farming. After a while he located in Fresno County, and here he owned a ranch of 2,452 acres east of where the town of Sanger now stands. With continued success he followed stock-raising and farming, and in 1878 closed a busy career, crowned with a fair share of this world's prosperity, but what was more, the well-merited esteem of those who knew him.

William was educated in the public schools of the county and at the Sacramento Business College, and at still an early age he was given the best opportunities to judge of cattle. When only ten years old he owned thirty-five cattle that he had acquired through his own speculation, and when eighteen he traveled through Washington, Nevada and Oregon, buying cattle for the San Francisco markets. After the death of his father, Mr. Hanke managed the Dixon ranch and engaged in the butcher business in Dixon; and he also ran the Fresno County ranch, to which he moved in 1883. Besides



raising cattle and sheep on the Sanger ranch, he had 700 acres planted to grain.

In 1903, Mr. Hanke gave up stock-raising and began the development of a fine orchard of 170 acres, planted largely to peaches and prunes, with some alfalfa sown near by; but later, after he had amply demonstrated the value of his methods of culture, and had made a veritable show-place of his little estate, he sold out and retired. In doing so he left a record for definite contribution to Californian agricultural advancement. At present Mr. Hanke is interested in the development of a gold mine on the San Joaquin River, and in this he has again shown his capacity for enterprise. Sanger is especially gratified at his success, for he may truly be called one of the fathers of the town. When he came to Fresno County, Sanger was not yet on the map, and it fell to his lot not only to establish the first butcher shop in the young town, but to build there the first dwelling-house. In fact, he helped to lay out the town, and the value of his common-sense judgment and foresight is shown today in the well-planned community.

In June, 1890, Mr. Hanke was elected, on the Republican ticket, supervisor of Fresno County, from the Fifth district, which happens ordinarily to be strongly Democratic, but by polling a large vote he became the first Republican so elected there. He also served as school trustee of the first grammar school erected in Sanger, and held the office many years; and when the high school was built, he was on the board for seventeen years. He has always taken a deep interest in educational affairs, and he has done what he could to found and advance mercantile and financial interests. It was natural enough, therefore, that he should become one of the organizers and directors of the Bank of Sanger.

During the year 1882, Mr. Hanke was married in Lake County, Cal., to Miss Clara Bell Sweikert, a native daughter. Their only daughter is Pearl Edna, born on Washington's birthday, 1884, and who married Edwin Stevens, and they have two children, William Hanke and Pearl Isabell Stevens. In all their associations Mr. and Mrs. Hanke have been exceedingly fortunate, and the family is held in high esteem.

**MRS. MARY A. ARRANTS.**—To the pioneer women of California, no less than to the pioneer men, are due the honor and respect of the generations that have followed. To Mrs. Mary A. Arrants is due much credit for the part she has taken in pioneering in California. She was born in Scotland and attended the schools and grew to young womanhood near Edinburgh. While living there she married James Freeland, a native of the same country and by trade a blacksmith. With him she came to California and settled at Soquel, Santa Cruz County. Mr. Freeland was employed on a large ranch, his services being valuable as there was a large blacksmith shop on the place and considerable work to be attended to. Four years later Mr. Freeland brought his family to Selma, Fresno County, where he resided until his death. Two children were born to this worthy couple: W. C. Freeland, now cashier of the First National Bank of Selma, and Marion, wife of John E. Levis, a successful rancher of Selma.

The second marriage of Mrs. Freeland united her with Mr. Arrants, one of the substantial men of Fresno County and a pioneer upbuilder of the town of Selma. A more complete sketch of his life will be found on another page of this history. Mrs. Arrants is prominent in philanthropic work, social and church affairs, and is an active member of the Selma Red Cross. She is a member of the Presbyterian Church, and a liberal supporter of all movements for the development of the county. She lives in a comfortable home at 2515 North McCall Avenue, where she is surrounded by all the comforts of city life. She has a wide circle of friends who esteem her for her many fine qualities of mind and heart.

**MARQUES MONROE SHARER.**—If you wish to know what Fresno and vicinity were like in the "good old days" when there wasn't much of any Fresno, you should seek out Marques M. Sharer at his well kept vineyard ranch, and ask him what he saw and experienced when he first came to Central California. For Mr. Sharer was here in the beginning of things; he helped place the foundation for Fresno's phenomenal growth; he knows who did this and did that, and why that or this was done; and if anyone else has a more interesting story to tell, the story isn't known.

Mr. Sharer was born near Griggsville, Pike County, Ill., on September 28, 1854. His father, Peter S., was born near Philadelphia, Pa., whose father, John Sharer, was a miller in Pennsylvania. Peter S., when a lad, was a tow-boy on the Canal; when he was grown he came west to Pike County, Ill., and followed farming and there he married Rachael Moore, a native of Maryland, of Scotch ancestry and the daughter of John and Sallie Moore, early settlers of Pike County, Ill. Rachael Moore Sharer died in Illinois in 1864. Peter S. Sharer, when he retired, came to California and made his home with his son, Marques M., the father dying in February, 1906. Of the union of Peter S. and Rachael Moore Sharer, five children were born, of whom Marques Monroe is the eldest.

Marques M. received a good education in the public schools, worked on the home farm and lived with his parents until he was twenty-one years of age, when he moved to Carroll County, Mo. There, for three years, he worked on farms in the service of others; but having a chance to come to California with B. F. Giffin, he set out for the Pacific Slope. He reached Fresno on October 6, 1881, and his first work was driving teams on a grain ranch, within sight of what is now his home farm, a line of work he followed for eleven years.

In 1888, when California was feeling the great boom, Mr. Sharer struck out for himself; and having rented land three-quarters of a mile from where he now lives, he planted it to grain for a couple of years. He continued to farm the Joe Reyburn place for five years; and then he bought the property including 92.40 acres of land so dear to him as the scene of the happiest days of his life. It was quite unimproved when he bought it; but with characteristic enterprise, he lost no time in setting it out as a vineyard. They called the section Enterprise Colony, and his was one of the first vineyards to be started there. He used to gather twenty-eight or more tons of raisins, for which he received only a cent a pound. He was also at one time interested in a co-operative store in Fresno.

Mr. Sharer, besides his home ranch, also owns forty acres more in Enterprise Colony and forty acres in Red Bank district. His home ranch is devoted to raising Malaga grapes and muscat raisins, which he originally set out when it was a stubble field, giving the vines the best of care. He also planted a border of figs around his ranch. Aside from water from the Enterprise Canal, he also has a pumping plant for irrigation. The balance of his ranch property is devoted to raising grain and hay. Marques Sharer's home ranch is beautifully located three and one-quarter miles southeast of Clovis, where he has built a large modern residence, surrounded by a beautiful park of ornamental trees and flowers,—and it is known as one of the show places of the district. He also owns valuable residence property in the city of Fresno. He believes in the cooperation of the fruit growers and has been active in all the different raisin associations and is now a member of the California Associated Raisin Company.

On September 26, 1888, Mr. Sharer was married to Nannie Mary Reyburn, a native of Scotland County, Mo., who came with her parents to California, being a daughter of James J. and Mary (McDonald) Reyburn, pioneers of Fresno County, who are represented on another page in this book. Nine children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Marques Sharer: Florence is the wife of Ira Arbuckle, a viticulturist of the Jefferson district; Clarence married Emily Westrup, also a vineyardist in the same district; Ethel is the wife





*M M Sharer*



*Nannie M Sharer*





of Walter C. Brown, a rancher in Red Bank District; and the others are Wilbur, Mary, Bertha, Ressie, Margie, and Ray, who died in infancy.

Their home life is delightful and in their house the friend or stranger never fails of a welcome and their hospitality is dispensed with a true generosity of the old time Californian. The family are members of the First Presbyterian Church at Clovis, where Mr. and Mrs. Sharer were charter members, and Mr. Sharer has been both deacon and trustee. He has always been a friend of the cause of education and served acceptably as a trustee of the Jefferson School District and also of the Clovis Union High School. Indeed, both Mr. and Mrs. Sharer take a live interest in the problems of the town, and in any movement which will advance Fresno County.

When Mr. Sharer first came here, most of the country at all improved was farmed to grain, and there were no such vineyards as that he now owns which produces some of the famous raisins of the State. Throughout the whole section between Centerville and the San Joaquin Valley there were only four houses. Mr. Sharer was one who looked beyond the hardships and saw the future recompense, and of course he won out, and is now one of the substantial citizens of his locality.

**JORGEN HANSEN.**—An interesting man of both affluence and influence, respected both for his enterprise and his honesty of purpose, is Jorgen Hansen, one of the pioneers of Washington Colony, who came to Fresno in 1878. He was born in Fyen, Denmark, on April 18, 1853, the son of Hans Jensen, who was also born in that country. Hans became a miller, was widely esteemed for the quality of his products and the reliability of his dealings, and passed away in the country where he first saw the light. He had married Anna Christophersen; and when she died, she was the mother of seven children, six of whom grew to maturity, while five are now living.

Jorgen was the second youngest of the family and was destined to be the only one in California. He was brought up in Fyen, attended the public schools there, and from fourteen years of age until he was nineteen, he worked at the miller's trade. In 1872 he swung away not only from that occupation, but from his native country, crossed the ocean to the United States, and, arriving in Chicago, was employed on a farm sixteen miles from that bustling city. Six months of that experience sufficed, and then he moved to Michigan and settled at Whitehall, in Muskegon County. He was there two years, lumbering and saw-milling; and then he went back to Chicago.

During the Centennial year, when America began to expand so wonderfully with her national spirit, Mr. Hansen came to California, and for a couple of years he was active in one way or another in San Francisco. Then he moved inland to Fresno, and bought twenty acres in Washington Colony, where he at once began to lay out the raw land. By hard work of the intelligent order he greatly improved his purchase, leveling the surface and planting to trees and vines; and while he also sowed alfalfa, he built for himself a residence.

For six or eight years Mr. Hansen remained there and then he sold his property, which had come to have a much appreciated value, and moved to the Central Colony, where he had a forty-acre ranch devoted to a vineyard, orchard, a dairy and the growing of alfalfa. Owing to the coming up of alkali, however, he found the section unsuitable; and after a residence there of about twenty-five years, he sold out and bought his present place in the Madison district. Here he also located, building a residence, a barn, a windmill and a well; and now he has his entire tract in vineyard, save some three acres which are devoted to a peach orchard. He has twenty acres of Thompson's seedless grapes, seven acres of muscats, and seven acres of Feherzagos; and these are situated most conveniently, only three miles west of Fresno. From his first activity as a rancher in California, Mr. Hansen has been a member of every raisin association, and he is now an enthusiastic supporter of both

the California Associated Raisin Company and the California Peach Growers.

While living in the Central Colony, Mr. Hansen was married to Mrs. Jorgina (Jorgensen) Rasmussen. She was born in Fyen, Denmark, a sister of Chris Jorgensen, the county supervisor, and by her first marriage she had one child, Herman Rasmussen, a farmer living near Clovis. Mrs. Hansen came to Fresno County in 1881, having an aunt and uncle, Mr. and Mrs. Jens Hansen, living in Central Colony, and there her first marriage occurred, to Mr. Rasmussen, a blacksmith and rancher there till he died. Mr. and Mrs. Hansen have been blessed with eight children: Annie is Mrs. Field, now residing in Fresno; Meta, is Mrs. Moller, living near; William is a machinist in the same city; Louis assists his father; Emma lives at home; Lillian and Elsie are bookkeepers in Fresno; and Harry attends the High School.

Mr. Hansen belongs to the Danish Brotherhood, and is popular in that organization. He was an original stockholder of the Danish Creamery Association, and one of the early directors. Mrs. Hansen is a member of the Danish Ladies and of Fresno Chapter, Red Cross. Mr. Hansen has long been a loyal Republican, but he is independent in local matters. His good citizenship has been recognized as he has been twice elected school trustee for the Central Colony district.

**THOMAS F. MOODY.**—A well-to-do pioneer California rancher, who is historically interesting as one of the earliest settlers in the Laguna Tract, and today well sustains the honorable and enviable traditions of one of the best early families, is Thomas F. Moody, who resides three miles west of Hardwick. He was born near Santa Clara, in Santa Clara County, on May 31, 1855, the son of George W. Moody, who was a native of Jackson County, Mo., farmed there and was there married to Emily Lynn. Grandfather Daniel Moody was born in Virginia and there became a planter. He came to Kentucky, and from Kentucky to Missouri; and thence to California, ten years after George Moody arrived here. The Moodys came from England, settled in Virginia, and had a very creditable part in the Revolutionary War. The Lynns were likewise of English blood, although Mrs. Moody's mother was born in Indiana. The paternal grandmother, Hannah King, was an own cousin of Daniel Boone. Back in Missouri in the early days there was a trapper, and he came all the way out from Missouri to Oregon for trapping, thence moving south into California in the early thirties, when George was still a boy. Returning to Missouri, he related stories about California, and the lad George's imagination was fired and he resolved to come to California. Luckily, he was able to see his dream come true, for he was one of the few whites, forty in all, who came to California from Jackson County, Mo., in 1847. Grandfather James Lynn being one of them, and the captain of his company. This company came through Colorado, Utah, and Nevada, and on September 12, 1847, they halted at where Stockton now stands. George Moody brought with him to California his young wife and first-born, William, who was then only one year old, and having established himself in the Santa Clara Valley, he engaged principally in store-keeping, farming and stock-raising. He owned the Fremont Place in that valley near Mountain View, at one time the headquarters of General Fremont while he was stationed on the coast; but through failure of title he lost it, and he died a comparatively poor man, in 1910, aged eighty-four years. The mother died in Santa Clara County, aged thirty-six, leaving eight children: William A. is at Elko in Nevada; John J. is at Boulder Creek, Santa Cruz County, Cal.; Mary is now Mrs. McDonald of Hanford; George M. married, lived and died in Nevada and left three children; Thomas F., who is the subject of this sketch; Charles S. resides at Elko, Nev.; Ellen, the widow of Stephen Henley, also lives at Elko; and Emma is the wife of Major Miller of Elko.

Marrying a second time, George Moody chose for his wife Mrs. Ellen Deitzman, widow of Henry Deitzman of Santa Clara, and the mother at that

time of five children—Lovey J., Nellie, John, Emma, and Frank; and by her Mr. Moody became the father of three more: Lee, who resides at Stockton; Daniel lives in Lompoc; and Lena, the wife of Henry Barker, of Santa Cruz County.

Thomas Franklin Moody's early life was passed in the Santa Clara Valley, where he grew up on his father's ranch and went to the public school until his mother's death, which occurred when he was fourteen years old. Then after his father's second marriage, he started out for himself. He went to live with an uncle for a year, and worked for his brother-in-law McDonald; and from that time on until he was twenty-one he hired out by the month for various farm-labor. Then he was married to Miss Lovey Jane Deitzman, his step-sister; but she died in 1906 and left seven children: Pearl lives at home; Ernest resides at Elyria, Ohio, where he is married and is the foreman in a rubber-heel manufactory; George Cleveland is a rancher in Kings County; Lela resides nearby in Armona, the wife of Kenneth Starr, a rancher; Le Roy married Edna A. Laidley, and is now in Belgium, a lieutenant in the United States marine aviation service; Lester is in the marine aviation service at Pekin, China; and Irene is at Berkeley, a junior in the University of California.

On Mr. Moody's second marriage, he was joined to Mrs. Daisy Mylar, widow of Fred Mylar of San Juan Bautista in San Benito County, by whom she had three children: Fred, Leslie and Elmer Mylar.

After his first marriage, Mr. Moody ranched for a couple of years in San Benito County; and when the extremely dry season of 1877 hindered operations, he went north into Napa County and worked around with his four-horse team. Having returned to San Benito County, he moved in the Fall of 1878 to the San Joaquin Valley and settled near Lemoore, which was then in Tulare County, but now in Kings, and farmed for a year. Then he went to the south of Hanford, and farmed there two years; and next he came to the Liberty Settlement, about half way between Riverdale and Caruthers; and there he resided for ten years.

In 1898, Mr. Moody came to the Laguna de Tache Grant, where he rented for three years, after which he bought sixty acres from Nares & Saunders. He has not only improved the place but added to it by purchase from time to time till it is now 200 acres in extent. He and his sons, George C. and Pearl, own a place of sixty acres in Kings County, south of the railway tracks near the county line between Fresno and Kings counties. He also owns a piece of land in the slough on Murphy Creek, consisting of twenty-eight acres, and owns a quarter interest in his wife's place of forty acres in Fresno County, near the Kings County line, where he now lives, three miles west of Hardwick. In 1909 he had an interest in city property at Coalinga, but he has disposed of his holdings there.

A Democrat in matters of national politics, Mr. Moody is non-partisan in his service as Trustee of the Laguna Grammar School and the Laton High School. He was also Road Supervisor for two years under John Clough, and he has done jury duty. He is one of three directors of the Riverdale Federal Land Association, and passes upon land values before loans are made. This is a plan by which any person owning real estate to the value of from \$500 to \$10,000 may borrow money to the latter sum, for from five to forty years, at six per cent. interest.

An interesting bit of local history associating the Moody's with Santa Clara Avenue, on which they reside, is furnished in the story of how that thoroughfare came to be named. When the Rural Free Delivery was established, the Postal Department expressed the wish to have the avenue named; and Mr. Moody, as the oldest resident, selected Santa Clara because that was the county in which both he and his wife were born.

Mr. and Mrs. Moody were for years identified with the United Brethren Church, and Mr. Moody belongs to the Woodmen of the World.

**ALBERT ANDERSON BLASINGAME.**—One of the most prominent stockmen and pioneers of Fresno County, himself a worthy descendant of an honored pioneer, is the subject of this sketch, Albert A. Blasingame. He was born in Eldorado County, Cal., January 12, 1858, the son of the late Jesse A. and Mary Jane (Ogle) Blasingame, pioneers of Fresno County, who settled near Academy, when Albert was a very young child. The land in this section was a vast uncultivated wilderness, and Albert has ridden after bronchos over the land where Fresno is now situated.

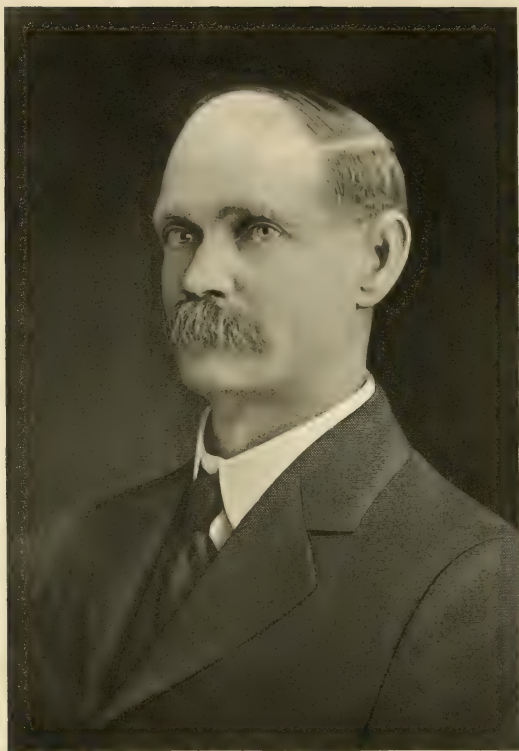
The interest which attaches to the life story of California pioneers, is a visible expression of the gratitude which all men feel towards the forerunners of civilization, in the Far West. The life of Albert A. Blasingame has been full of interesting incidents. From associating with his father, from boyhood, Albert at an early age became an expert cattle buyer and manager of stock. When a boy of about thirteen years, he assisted his father in driving a herd of some 2,000 head of cattle across the plains from Texas to Nevada. Albert was often left in charge of the whole band of cattle, but his experience was such that he could, with the aid of riders, manage the whole herd satisfactorily.

An interesting incident occurred one night while he slept in the Raton Mountains, with his head on his saddle and his horse tied to it with a rope of rawhide; during the night the coyotes ate the rope to within six inches of the saddle. Fortunately for the young man his faithful steed was undisturbed and awaited his master in the morning.

In 1870, his father, J. A. Blasingame, took his wife and Albert back East to his old home state, Alabama, where he went to settle an estate. They spent one winter in Bell County, Texas, and Albert, being but a boy of about twelve years, attended school for six months. In the spring, the father began to purchase cattle to drive across the plains. His first lot was purchased at San Antonio, Texas, and consisted of 1,200 head. As he continued his journey he made other purchases, paying from one to two dollars per head. Although Albert was but a boy in years, he possessed a man's judgment when it came to selecting cattle. At Denver he helped to select 200 fine steers from a herd of 5,000. Albert cut them out of the large drove and superintended the branding of them with the Blasingame brand, a letter B with a bar under it. This lot of cattle, for which they paid fourteen dollars per head, proved to be the best they had purchased. With their 2,000 head of cattle they continued their journey over mountains and prairie until they reached Brown's Hole, in Wyoming, where they spent the winter. The next winter found them at the end of their trail, Humboldt Wells, Nev., the destination they had planned to reach. The railway company built a corral for their cattle and Albert Blasingame and his father were the first shippers to use it. From this place they shipped their cattle to San Francisco, Sacramento, and Colfax. The cattle reached the various destinations in such fine condition that Mr. Blasingame received most excellent prices; in fact, the lowest price was seventy dollars per head. The enterprise proved a most gratifying success. Albert Blasingame was filled with justifiable pride to know that he was instrumental in making the undertaking such a splendid success, he being but a boy of fourteen. He continued with his father for some time and was actively interested with him in his stock interests, looking after all of his sheep, having at times as high as 16,000 head under his care. Later in life he engaged in the stock business for himself and made a splendid success.

On May 2, 1884, Albert A. Blasingame was united in marriage with Jennie P. Cease, the ceremony being solemnized in Kingsburg, Cal. She is a native of Lexington, Va., and was the daughter of H. P. and Frances (Johnson) Cease. Her mother passed away in 1861. H. P. Cease was a merchant in Virginia and at one time kept a hotel at Lexington. He brought his family to





*Clarence J. Reylburn*

California in 1883 and settled on a vineyard near Kingsburg. Mr. Cease was born in 1826 and passed away in Fresno at the age of eighty-nine years.

After his marriage, Albert Blasingame started in the stock and sheep business on the old Pitman place, located at the forks in the road between Centerville and Fresno, thirty miles east of Fresno. He purchased this place, which contained 620 acres. As he prospered he purchased more land and kept on adding to his initial ranch until he possessed 2,200 acres. He makes a specialty of raising short-horn cattle of the Hereford strain. Mr. Blasingame has his father's old branding-iron, and it is the first one that was recorded at Fort Miller. On his ranch, at the head of Dry Creek, there is an excellent spring and the ranch also contains valuable mineral land, with gold and chrome ore. A few years ago he took a trip to Arizona and New Mexico and purchased 400 head of cattle, which he shipped to Fresno, and disposed of them at various times.

About 1902, Mr. and Mrs. Blasingame removed to Fresno where they built their new home on Blackstone Avenue, where they own forty acres. They are the parents of four children that are living: Albert A., Jr., a deputy sheriff; Mary, who is now Mrs. Arnold, and who resides in St. Louis, Mo.; Edna, attending the Fresno State Normal; Janet, a student at Fresno High School. For over twelve years Mr. Blasingame was a trustee of Mechanicsville School District and was acting clerk for years. He is a member of the California Cattle Men's Association, and politically is a Democrat. Mrs. Blasingame is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church South, of Fresno.

**CLARENCE JAMES REYBURN.**—A broad-minded and liberal-hearted man, whose hospitality and generosity are evidences of the appreciation of his own prosperity and his belief in the excellent doctrine of "live and let live," is Clarence J. Reyburn, the well-known rancher and son of James John Reyburn, so widely and well-known as a pioneer of the San Joaquin Valley. He was born near Memphis, Scotland County, Mo., on December 21, 1865, his parents having just come to that state from Iowa. His father was a native of Miami County, Ohio, and traced his lineage to John Stewart Reyburn, his father and the Kentucky pioneer, and to Grandfather Reyburn, who was one of the heroes of the War of 1812. Striking out bravely for himself when a mere boy, J. J. Reyburn worked on a farm near Burlington and afterwards purchased a share in a flour mill at Des Moines. At Mount Pleasant, in the same state, in 1866, he married Mary A. McDonald, a native of Henry County, Ind., where she was born on July 29, 1831. She came to Iowa with her parents, John and Mary (Dyson) McDonald, who had three children: Mrs. Reyburn; Leander, who served in the Twenty-fifth Iowa Regiment in the Civil War and now resides in Oklahoma; and Minnie P., who resides with Mrs. Reyburn in Enterprise Colony. In the middle sixties Mr. and Mrs. Reyburn migrated to Scotland County, Mo., and there engaged in raising grain and stock; and in 1873 they came far westward to California, into which section a brother had already come and settled. J. J. Reyburn raised wheat near Salida, and then preempted and homesteaded at Red Bank, on Big Dry Creek. After a while he bought eighty acres ten miles from Fresno, where he had a notable vineyard and orchard; and when he retired and sold his 640 acres in the Big Creek district, he resided in Fresno until his death, on March 25, 1914. Mrs. Reyburn still lives, honored as was her husband, and makes her home with our subject. She is the mother of five children, four of whom grew up: Chester H., lives at Mountain View; William D., in Los Angeles; Clarence J., of this review; and Nancy, who is Mrs. M. M. Sharer. All have chosen the better paths leading to honorable careers, and all have prospered.

Brought up in Missouri, Clarence Reyburn came to Stanislaus County in 1873, and two years later to the Red Bank district, where he also attended the public school. He was fortunate in being able to remain at home, and



there thoroughly learned the ins and outs of farming and stock-raising. Even after his majority he continued to run the home farm with his father; and together they raised grain and stock. When his father retired, he took up his residence and work on the place of 640 acres now owned by R. Madsen.

In 1889, Mr. Reyburn with his father purchased eighty acres of his present place in the Jefferson district, and the following year began the difficult and arduous work of improvement. A first-class vineyard resulted, and in time forty acres were sold. The estate still owns forty acres devoted to the growing of muscat and Malaga grapes. In the meantime, Clarence J. Reyburn bought forty acres of wheat stubble adjoining, which he cleared up, leveled and otherwise so improved that it now bears the highest grade of muscat and malaga grapes. His home was destroyed by fire July 7, 1907, and he immediately erected the present large modern residence of fine architecture. He has always been a member of the California Associated Raisin Company and is proud of his support of an organization that has done so much for the interests it fosters.

Mr. Reyburn modestly stands for what is edifying and inspiring in religion, and takes pleasure in doing his part as a member of the First Presbyterian Church in Clovis. He has been deacon of the church, and at Jefferson he was superintendent of the Sunday School. He is a Republican and yet loyally supports the present administration; and he aids in all worthy movements for local expansion and improvement.

**JACOB VOGEL AND HERBERT E. VOGEL.**—The president of the Fresno Hardware Company, H. E. Vogel is well known to the citizens of Fresno County as a man of high business standing and as a progressive and loyal resident, who is ever ready to assist in the advancement and general upbuilding of the county. His father, the late Jacob Vogel, was prominent in financial circles in the San Joaquin Valley and gave his best efforts toward the development of this section of the state.

Jacob Vogel was born in Hesse-Cassel, Germany, November 27, 1830. His father was Baltasar Vogel, a native of the same locality and a well known and prosperous farmer and merchant until his death in 1848. He was a Lutheran and a strong moral citizen who gave his best efforts to advance the welfare of his community. His wife, formerly Christine Hoffman, was also a native of Germany, where she died. They had five children, of whom Jacob Vogel was reared on the home farm and educated in the public schools until he was fourteen when he was confirmed. He was then apprenticed to learn the trade of shoemaker, remaining three years, when in 1857 he came to America. He took passage on a slow steamer, the voyage occupying three weeks. Landing in New York, he went on to Chicago, arriving there with a single dollar in his pocket. He found work there for four months, then went to Bloomington, Ill., and for three months worked for a mason, as he was unable to follow his trade. He received one dollar a day for his services and then found work at his trade until the breaking out of the Civil War. He had taken a keen interest in the questions of the day and in 1858 had heard Lincoln and Douglas debate five times in as many cities in Illinois. In the spring of 1862 he became a volunteer among three hundred, a company raised in one night to go to Springfield to guard prisoners. In July he enlisted in Company A, Ninety-fourth Illinois Regiment, Volunteer Infantry, being mustered in at Bloomington, after which the regiment was sent for service in Missouri and Arkansas. With his regiment he participated in the siege of Vicksburg, then the regiment was sent to the relief of Port Hudson and thence to New Orleans, where a greater part of the command was incapacitated through fever. When the Thirteenth Army Corps was organized, four months later, all that was left of the regiment became a part of same. They were then sent to the Rio Grande, in Texas, then to Mobile Bay, where they took part in the battles of Fort Morgan and Fort Gaines. The troops were again sent to Texas, where at Galveston, Mr. Vogel was honorably

discharged from the service in July, 1865. He was wounded in the right hand at the battle of Vicksburg.

After his discharge Mr. Vogel returned to Bloomington, worked at his trade for a time, then traveled some, going as far west as Omaha. His employer suggested to him that he start a store and shop of his own, so he went to Clinton, Ill., where he became established in business. He met with success from the start and soon his business grew to such proportions that he had to make two trips East each year to visit the factories, where he purchased his goods. He invested in farming property, owning a farm of 480 acres, which he improved. In 1886 he came to California as a delegate to the National Grand Army Encampment at San Francisco. It was but natural that he should visit several sections of the state while he was here, and he became so charmed with the climate and the business possibilities of the state, that upon his return to Illinois, he sold out his interests and returned to make his home in California. He invested in lands, real estate and stock, in the vicinity of Fresno. He erected a fine home in the city of Fresno, bought and improved a forty-acre vineyard; improved a fine tract which he planted to alfalfa and made other wise investments. In 1900 he bought a home in Fruitvale, to which he retired, although he looked after his business interests in Fresno in person. He was vice-president and a director of the First National Bank of Fresno; president of the Fresno Street Improvement Company, which owned a brick block at Fresno and I Streets. He was also a stockholder in the Peoples Saving Bank of Fresno, the Fresno Abstract and Title Company, the First National Bank of Selma, the Selma Savings Bank, the First National Bank of Dinuba, and the Dinuba Savings Bank. He was also interested in business property in Sanger.

Jacob Vogel was married in Bloomington, Ill., to Eliza Ludolph, born in Kur-Hessen, the daughter of Martin Ludolph, who became a farmer in Indiana, where he died. Mr. and Mrs. Vogel became the parents of six children: Amelia, Mrs. A. Hall, of Fresno; Mrs. Louise A. Aldrich, of Fresno; Olivia, Mrs. Charles McCardle, of Dinuba; Herbert E., of this review; Welby and Bernal. Mr. Vogel was an Odd Fellow, belonging to the Lodge and Encampment; a member of the Grand Army Post; a Lutheran; and a Republican. He died on February 11, 1915, in Fruitvale. Mrs. Vogel died on the same date.

It will thus be seen that H. E. Vogel, who was born in Dewitt County, Ill., on May 16, 1877, has a valid claim to the best interests of Fresno County as an inheritance from his worthy sire who contributed to the best of his ability to the betterment of business, social, religious and agricultural conditions of the central part of California. Herbert E. attended the public schools of Fresno, graduating from the Fresno High in 1895 with honors, after which he worked in various places and gained valuable experience, for the next two years. He then started on his own account as a rancher and gradually developed a model ranch from its primitive condition. His property consists of about 400 acres of fine land and is located about ten miles west of Fresno and south of Kearney Avenue. Here will be found one of the finest dairy ranches in the county upon which all improvements have been made by its owner.

Mr. Vogel began breeding Holstein cattle in 1899, beginning on a small scale and against heavy odds, for many said the business would not pay. He brought his bulls from the East, having only the highest grades to be found and now he has 200 registered Holstein cattle and much of the stock in the county has been bred from his herd. He has done much to bring into being a higher grade of stock than hitherto thought of by dairymen in the San Joaquin Valley. He is one of the oldest and best known breeders of Holstein stock in California and he belongs to the Holstein-Friesian Association of America and the California Holstein-Friesian Association. He exhibits at the State Fairs and at the Fresno District Fairs, and at both places he has won

many premiums for his fine grade of stock. He has been a director of the Fresno District Fair Association for the past ten years. In all matters for the betterment of conditions in the county he has followed in the footsteps of his father. In 1910 he became a stockholder and was elected president of the Fresno Hardware Company.

Mr. Vogel was united in marriage in Fresno County with Miss Irma E. Foley, a native daughter of the county, and they have a daughter, Verna V. Both Mr. and Mrs. Vogel are highly esteemed and have a wide circle of friends. He is a Mason and a Shriner.

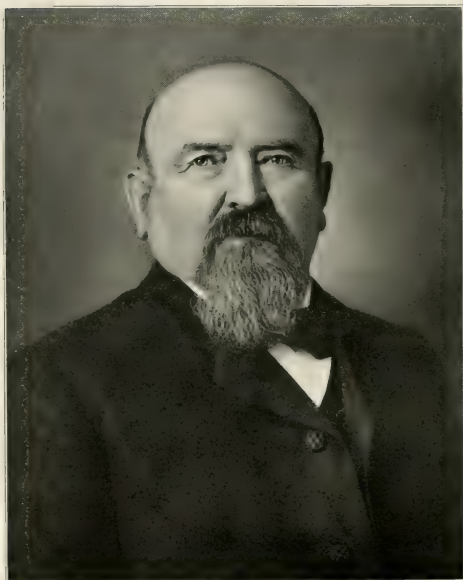
**JOHN W. SHUEY.**—Pride of ancestry will not alone achieve success. It will assist, for the stirring blood of men who have wrought for the well-being of the nation will tell in the generations coming after them. To be well born is an asset that counts tremendously in the world effort to promote progress, provided the possessor of such birthright exerts himself in the direction of growth. There are many who do not thus exert themselves, but are content to live their lives depending upon their forbears to carry them along. Preferring to add to rather than detract from such ancestry, John W. Shuey stands today an example of the type of men who will reflect credit upon their forefathers.

Mr. Shuey was born near Quincy, Adams County, Ill., June 23, 1852. His father, John Shuey, was born in Ohio, but early went to Illinois and was a pioneer farmer near Quincy. In 1847 he came to California with one comrade, crossing the plains on horseback and with pack animals, but went back East again. In 1850 he started a second time for the Great West, as before on horseback and with pack horses, trading in stock. Again he returned East, this time via Cape Horn and New York, and in 1856 brought his family, consisting of wife and eight children, to San Francisco via Panama. They landed in the northern city the day Casey and Corey were hung. He located in Contra Costa County, buying a farm in the Moraga Valley, where they remained four years. He bought land in Fruitvale, 100 acres, where he resided until his death. The grandfather was Colonel Martin Shuey, who was a native of Pennsylvania; he gained his title of Colonel in the War of 1812. He enlisted in the War with Mexico, but was not sent out. Colonel Shuey, accompanied by his wife, drove a horse team across the plains in 1862, when he was seventy-five years old. He died in Oakland at the age of ninety-three years. The mother was Lucinda Stowe, a native of Massachusetts. They were married in Illinois, and to them were born six boys and four girls; two boys and three girls are living. Mrs. Shuey died in Berkeley.

John W. Shuey and brother Henry were twins, the youngest in the family. The brother now resides at San Lucas, San Luis Obispo County. John was brought up in Alameda County, getting his education in the public schools and at the same time working on the farm. He stayed at home until he was twenty-two years of age, when he went to Crow Canyon, near Hayward, where he and his twin brother bought a farm and engaged in raising grain and stock from 1875 to 1883, when they sold and dissolved partnership. During one of the years they farmed together they raised 38,000 sacks of wheat. John then went to Green Valley, Contra Costa County, and bought a ranch. In 1881 he made a trip to Fresno and never forgot it, and in 1887 returned there and engaged in farming on land owned by the California Bank. He was the first man to lease lands in this district, which is now Barstow District. He remained here three years, and then removed to Douglas County, Ore. He and his brother Henry bought a ranch near Oakland, and engaged in stock-raising, continuing there for five years. They lost out in the panic of 1893.

After the panic, Mr. Shuey returned to Fresno County and located on the Sharon estate, leased about 1,000 acres and engaged in grain-raising the first year; the second year he added another section where Biola is located; he drove two eight-horse teams and continued on the Sharon estate for three years and on the Biola six years, and was reasonably successful. In 1898 he





*Geo. B. Otis*

bought his present place, beginning with twenty acres in the Empire Colony; upon this he raised alfalfa and also ran the Biola ranch and other land upon which he raised grain. This he continued until 1902 when he gave this up and farmed on the Jeff James tract five years, retaining his original twenty, to which he added twenty acres. In 1907 he came back to his home place and has since given his entire attention to it. In 1905 he had set out ten acres to a vineyard. He bought more land, and now has sixty acres, all well improved. There are thirty-five acres in Thompson seedless grapes, and the balance is in alfalfa. One year, at the Fresno County Fair, he exhibited in the Kerman booth a cane, about thirty inches long, cut from his vineyard, that had bunches of grapes attached, weighing forty pounds. At another time he exhibited a bunch weighing eight one-half pounds.

Mr. Shuey was married in Alameda County, Cal., to Miss Mary Cull, who was born in Kentucky, but came to California early in life. She is the daughter of S. T. Cull, one of the early settlers of Alameda. Mrs. Shuey was educated in the public schools of Alameda. They have four children: Bertha, now Mrs. Wm. Harrison, rancher in the Vinland District; Harry A., rancher near home, where he owns sixty acres in the Empire Colony; Grace, now Mrs. Arch Boucher, of Clovis, whose husband served in the Field Artillery, Ninety-first Division, U. S. A.; and Mary, wife of A. G. Wetmore of Kerman.

Mr. Shuey was at one time a member of the Board of Trustees of the Empire School District, and is a member of the California Associated Raisin Company. A descendant of one of the oldest families in the State, Mr. Shuey is maintaining the reputation of his forbears. He has seen his district develop, from barren sheep-ranges, sand hills and weed patches, to one of the most productive in the state and one of the best known in the world. He has seen prices so low that he could not make expenses, but he stuck to it and has been very successful.

**GEORGE BUELL OTIS.**—Historically interesting as a member of one of the oldest and most notable families in America, and himself locally distinguished as the last of the four original townsites men who laid out the city of Selma, George Buell Otis, when he breathed his last at twenty minutes after ten on April 30, 1918, both merited and enjoyed the hearty good-will as well as the highest esteem of everyone. To the last he retained his mental faculties; and having been the author himself of some reminiscences of "Early Days," published in July, 1911, and dealing with the pioneer events of Selma and the surrounding country, he never lost his interest in and advocacy of every responsible movement for the collection and publication of pioneer data and records. He lived on a farm in Santa Clara County when the Stockton and Fresno branch of the Southern Pacific Railroad was built through, and he never forgot the stir that the coming of the iron horse made among the expectant settlers in the sparsely populated district.

Born near Bolton, Vt., on September 16, 1844, George B. Otis lived in that state until 1856, when the family came to California and settled in Sonoma County. They crossed the Isthmus and landed in December of that year at San Francisco, and almost immediately pushed on inland to Sonoma County where the father, having a good deal of the spirit characteristic of the typical Yankee soon acquired land for himself.

It was during the centennial year that George B. Otis came to Fresno County, then a forbidding desert, and having looked over various districts, he took up the northern half of the northwest quarter of Section 8-16 S., Range 22 E., and settled upon it as his homestead. It was rough land at best, and a doubtful project; but he commenced the improvements and little by little worked the transformation for which he was widely known. There was no railroad depot at Selma then, and no switch between Kingsburg on the south and Fowler's switch on the north; and he was compelled to haul water twenty-two miles from King's River. It took courage in those days

to start anything new involving much labor and expense, for one hadn't the remotest idea as to where such a beginning or those making it would end. George Buell Otis, E. J. Whitson, Monroe Snyder, and E. H. Tucker had the honor of laying out the original townsite, although since then thirteen additions have been made by subsequent platters; and how the town started is a story of more than passing moment.

The establishing of the Selma Flouring Mill, by Samuel, John and William Frey, and the consequent necessity for a shipping point, were the primary causes for the building up of the new town of Selma, a name selected by Mr. Otis at the suggestion of the Freys. There had been some controversy regarding the best name for the proposed community, and it had finally narrowed down to Dalton, Weymouth, Sandwich and Selma; and on the mill owners' stating that "Selma" was a name often very fondly used in German Switzerland to denote a beautiful, amiable and sweet-tempered maiden, the gallant Mr. Otis threw his influence in the balance, and "Selma" was the appellation unanimously chosen by the committee and approved by the railroad company. Now there are a dozen post-offices by the same name in as many different states.

The first wells were not very deep, reaching down only about forty or fifty feet, but thanks to efforts of Mr. Otis and others, the water supply has been much increased and improved. The water table has been raised many feet since water from Kings River has been introduced, and now Selma has the cheapest water system on the Pacific Coast, the rate being only seventy-five cents per acre a year. In many ways, as might have been expected from one who was here at the beginning of things, Mr. Otis was identified with the development of the fast-growing town.

George Buell Otis was the son of Albert Hinsdale Otis, a native of Massachusetts and the only child of Joseph and Viola (Hinsdale) Otis, of English ancestry. Albert Hinsdale Otis was reared and educated in Massachusetts, and was graduated from the Wesleyan University, where he received the degree of Doctor of Divinity. His wife was a daughter of Jesse Jewell, one of Bolton's earliest settlers. In 1838, with his wife, he migrated west to Wisconsin and bought government land at Southport, near what is now Kenosha. He was a circuit-rider in the Methodist ministry; but as the missionary clergy of those days generally had to support themselves from other sources than the church, he followed millwrighting for years, and with success. He improved a farm in Wisconsin, and gave it up to his father, at the same time preparing another home for himself on an adjoining farm. Both sides of the family had interesting forebears. Five children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Albert Hinsdale Otis. One, a daughter Ruby, died in early childhood. Charles Wesley, the eldest, became a teacher; Sarah Anna married George P. Laird; Philo J. was a farmer, having in early manhood been a teacher; and George B. is the subject of this sketch. The father came to California in 1851, and located in Grass Valley. He assisted in putting up the first quartz mill in California, and for some time after that was engaged in mill building. On his way to California, he crossed the great plains; but in 1854 he went back to Wisconsin, this time traveling via the Isthmus of Panama. It was two years later when he brought his family to California and settled down to farming in Sonoma County. When he died, in 1865, he breathed his last on what is now a part of the site of the University of California. Mrs. Otis died in 1887, and both are interred in Petaluma.

After coming to California, George B. Otis took a six months' course at the University of the Pacific. In 1864 he went to Nevada and followed mining for a time, but not being altogether successful he returned to California—a choice he never regretted—and with his brother purchased 160 acres of land near Petaluma. Having later disposed of the ranch, in 1866 they drove a band of dairy stock to Salinas Valley and there leased a part of a Spanish



grant near Castroville. They added to their herd and continued dairying for some years with success.

It was at that time and place that Mr. Otis met the lady who became his wife. She was Elizabeth Roadhouse, a daughter of Joseph and Charlotte (Norris) Roadhouse, and she was born near Stockton on November 20, 1851, and was the first white girl born there. Four children were born to the happy couple. Albert Joseph is proprietor of the Los Angeles Fencing Company, and resides in that city; George Fredron is a well-known bean-grower of Marysville; Elizabeth married Jacob Boehler of Watsonville, and is now deceased; and Earl Norris is in the real estate business at Selma.

In 1872 the lease of the Otis brothers terminated and they removed to Santa Clara County. There they followed the dairy business, as previously, but four years later they dissolved partnership. It was then that George B. Otis removed to Fresno County, where in time he acquired several hundred acres of land, and also participated, as has been told, in the laying out of Selma. He erected a comfortable home, and he and his family became closely identified with the life of the town.

Mr. Otis was a Republican in national politics, deeply interested in the elevation of the ballot, but was disinclined to accept any public office, although often solicited to be a candidate. In his church affiliations he was an Episcopalian, with broad religious views and responsive sympathies. He had a desire for good schools and became an active spirit in working up a sentiment for the founding of the Selma Union High School District and the organization of the Selma High School. He was also one of the prime movers in the establishment of the Selma Carnegie Library, to which he donated largely both money and books. He laid out South Park Addition to Selma, opened and successfully conducted a real estate office, and was one of the pioneers in the packing of raisins, having built a packing house for his own vineyard and organized the Otis Fruit Packing Company, which he operated for several years. The motto of his life was well expressed in his admonition, "Be sincere in your undertakings and absolutely honest in all your transactions," and he lived up to this ideal to the letter. He was one of the six charter members of Selma Lodge, No. 309, I. O. O. F., where he had passed through all the chairs, and when his funeral took place from St. Luke's Episcopal Church on May 2, 1918, that fraternity conducted short services at the Odd Fellows' Cemetery. He was seventy-three years, seven months and fourteen days old when he died, and was counted one of the really distinguished citizens of Selma and of Fresno County.

**STEPHEN E. BENNETT.**—Representing some of the finest of Southern families, and the personification of all that is associated with the name of gentleman, as well as of that type of sturdy Californian rancher who is able to get down to hard work and sacrifice when it is necessary, and one who had, as his wife, a native daughter, interested, like himself, in California annals and especially in the early history of Millerton, was Stephen E. Bennett, who was born near West Point, in what is now called Clay County, Miss., on January 31, 1858, the son of Stephen Dudley Bennett, a native of Alabama, who had married Ann Dorsey Appling, who was born at Atlanta, Ga. Their marriage took place in Mississippi, after which the father served in the Confederate Army and shared all the hardships of campaigning. The parents had four children, the eldest of whom was Martha Corinne, now the widow of B. G. Plaskett. She lives near Salinas, with her ten children, and owns a ranch at Gordo. John M. resides at Madera, is married to a second wife, and has three children living. Sarah P. also lives at Madera, the wife of S. P. Hensley, and the mother of three children.

Stephen E. came to California in 1867 with his parents, when he was nine years old, having attended school awhile in Mississippi, and there felt the pinch of the terrible Civil War. The family settled at the junction of Fresno, Merced and Mariposa Counties; and there, while the father went to

ranching and stock-raising, improving and proving up a homestead of 160 acres, the mother taught school and was one of the first school-teachers in Fresno County. Stephen enjoyed some schooling here also, but he acquired much of his formal learning in the office of the Expositor when it was printed at Millerton. In 1870 he was apprenticed there under J. W. Ferguson and C. A. Heaton, now both deceased, but then editors and proprietors of what was the pioneer newspaper of the county. Ferguson was elected to the assembly and bought Heaton out; and then he moved the Expositor to Fresno. For eight months Stephen worked on the newspaper as typesetter, job-printer and reporter, while it was established at Millerton, and for another eight months he was with the paper after it had been removed to Fresno. His apprenticeship then being concluded, however, he embarked in the sheep business; and as he was single and able to give it his whole attention, he made money for six or eight years. Then he came to Selma and, in 1888, bought a farm; and about that time he was married.

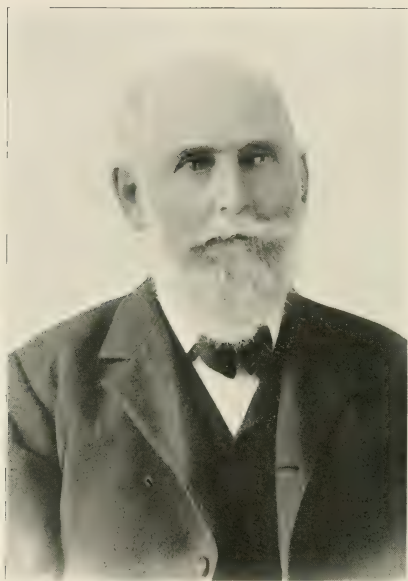
The lady who consented to share his joys and responsibilities was Miss Martha A. Mullins, a native of Mariposa County and the daughter of A. and Angeline (Castell) Mullins, born in Tennessee and Missouri respectively. Both came to California in the real pioneer days; the father crossing with ox teams in 1851, and the mother in 1852, and eventually marrying at Diamond Springs. At first Mr. Mullins engaged in mining, but later he became a stockman in Mariposa County, and there developed and owned a large stock-ranch. Mrs. Mullins died in 1881, in her forty-eighth year, when Martha A. was only sixteen, and left ten children: John married Frances Beevers, and was a laborer in Fresno, where he died, the father of ten children. May became the wife of J. T. Elam, now deceased, and lived in Mariposa County. Amasa, who married Mollie Appling and has made a success of the automobile business, resides at Madera. Martha Adeline is the wife of our subject. Burrell married Kate Elam, by whom he has had four children, and is a dairy rancher at Kerman. Emily is the wife of A. A. Parsley, a rancher, and is the mother of six children, at Los Banos. Janie resides with her two children in Selma, and is the wife of V. Reed, who is in business in Visalia. Lucy married J. B. Cook, a rancher west of Selma, and has four children. Lilly lives in Phoenix, Ariz., where she is married to C. A. Orr, who owns a garage, and she has one child. James is a rancher and teamster at Kerman, where he lives with his wife, formerly Belle Underwood, and her three children.

Mr. Bennett rented several farms, and also bought ranches and developed them. In 1891 he bought thirty acres which became his home place; he first purchased and improved ten acres, and then he added twenty acres more, until he had fourteen acres devoted to peaches, eight acres of raisin grapes and three acres planted to alfalfa, all nicely located one mile and a half east of Selma, on the Canal School Road. He was an active member of the California Associated Raisin Company, and of the Peach Growers, Inc.

Mr. Bennett was prominent in the activities of the Methodist Episcopal Church South, of which he was a steward. He was also a member of the Woodmen of the World, at Selma. Mrs. Bennett is a teacher in the Sunday School and a particularly active church worker. Three children came to share with them, from time to time, this religious and social life: Lorenzo, who married Emma Campbell, and has a ranch one mile west of Selma, and there they live with their four children—Steve, Jewell, Orville, and Verna. Earl, who married Maggie Kienitz, by whom he has had three children—Roberta, Eunice, and Earlita; and they are ranchers on the State Highway one mile north of Selma. Marion, single, is at home, and helps run the ranch.

Mr. Bennett died a victim of influenza, on November 18, 1918, and was buried in the Odd Fellows Cemetery south of Selma. Notwithstanding the contagious nature of his disease, his funeral was one of the largest held at Selma for years. Two truck-loads of floral offerings attested the love and esteem in which he was held.





*"Josiah Hall*

**COLONEL JOSIAH HALL.**—It is appropriate in this instance to mention the great service rendered the America of today, not only by the pioneer who broke new paths, but by the citizen who, having by the hardest of labor established a certain amount of prosperity and home comfort, left fireside, family and all that was dear, at the call of his country, justice and right, fought the good fight, and then, when war was no more, returned to the avocations of peace, taking up the usual responsibilities of life, side by side and in friendliest relations with those who were once enlisted in the ranks of the enemy. Foremost among such sterling citizens must be mentioned Col. Josiah Hall, a native of Westminster, Vt., and the son of Capt. Edward Hall who was born on Cape Cod, Mass., and who was taken as a child to Vermont, where he grew up and became a farmer, proud of the traditions of his old New England family, and always ambitious to have one of the best of farms anywhere to be found.

Colonel Hall was a graduate of Norwich University, Vermont, from which he received the degree of Bachelor of Arts. Finishing his studies, he taught school and also served on the Staff of the Governor as Major of the Second Regiment of Vermont Troops. In course of time he came West to Greenfield, Mo., and with his cousin, George McClure, he bought a herd of cattle in Missouri and Indian Territory, and drove them across the plains to California in the fifties. They themselves traveled on horseback and, reaching California, they disposed of the cattle in the Sacramento Valley. Afterward, Colonel Hall returned East by way of Panama and went back to Greenfield, Mo., where he remained until the clouds of war obscured the heavens. Then by wise precaution, he managed to get away from the state in safety.

On his return to his native Vermont, Mr. Hall enlisted as a private in the First Vermont Cavalry, and such was his preeminent ability that he was commissioned captain before he left the state. He was in active service and was promoted, from time to time, until he was commissioned colonel of his regiment. He was captured and imprisoned in both Libby and Andersonville prisons, and served a combined period of ten months. Then he was exchanged and returned to his regiment; and, fighting to the last, he was in the latest big battle of the war, at Appomattox, and afterwards took part in the Grand Review. On June 21, 1865, he was mustered out of service. His regiment was in seventy-eight battles; and at the reunion of the First Vermont Cavalry in November, 1917, at their headquarters in Norwich University, a large portrait of Colonel Hall was presented by his nephew, Dr. Edward Campbell, to Norwich University, and hung in Dewey Hall. The following verbatim "Report" of Colonel Hall constitutes an interesting document of the Civil War:

"Report of Col. Josiah Hall, First Vermont Cavalry, to Peter T. Washburn, Adjutant and Inspector General.

"On the 7th inst. (April, 1865), we passed through Prince Edwards, C. H., on our way to Appomattox Station, which we reached on the evening of the 8th. Here we met the enemy again, and after a most stubborn and hotly contested fight, he was driven from the field, leaving trains of cars, wagons, ambulances and artillery in our possession. The casualties of this day's work were one killed and five wounded. We went into camp just in rear of the battlefield and remained until morning, being relieved from picket duty by other divisions which came up after we had become masters of the field. On the 9th the fighting commenced by sunrise and, as the infantry had arrived during the night, we were soon in motion. Our brigade was in advance and my regiment in front, the Eighth New York Regiment having been placed on the skirmish line. We moved out on the trot, forcing the enemy's skirmish line back rapidly, leaving the

ground to be taken up by the Fifth Corps, which came up at the double quick. After passing the enemy's entire front, and running the gauntlet from the united fire of two batteries, we came around on their flank and rear, and in full sight of their supply trains. At this point General Custer ordered me to charge the train with my regiment. I immediately made the proper disposition of the command. The front battalion had already broken into the gallop, and the others were following at a fast trot, when a staff officer of General Custer came charging down and ordered me to halt the regiment, saying that General Lee had sent in a flag of truce, offering to surrender his army. The two rear battalions were immediately halted, but the front one had got so far that they captured the last post between us and the train before they could be halted. The regiment was at once formed and brought up into line of battle, while the preliminaries of the surrender were being gone through with. At about 5 P. M. General Custer rode along the lines and announced that the terms of the surrender had been agreed upon, and signed, and directed us to go into camp where we were. This was the last time the regiment was called upon to face the enemy and it was the source of much gratification to the regiment, as well as myself, to know that we were present to see the grand rebel army of Northern Virginia find the 'last ditch.'"

(Signed) "JOSIAH HALL, Colonel First Vermont Cavalry."

On November 29, 1865, Colonel Hall was married at Montague City, Mass., to Miss Delia Elizabeth Adams, who was born there, the daughter of Amos Adams, a native of New Salem, Mass. He was both a merchant and a farmer, and belonged to the family of Adams that is traceable at least as far back as the Seventeenth Century, to a Sir Knight, in Wales. Her mother, Sarah Ward Whitney before her marriage, was born in Orange, Mass., and died in Montague City. Mrs. Hall was educated at New Salem Academy, and after their marriage lived in Greenfield, Mass., where Mr. Hall reestablished himself as a farmer.

In 1875, however, still under the spell of golden California, he made his second trip to the Coast, and again brought out cattle. In keeping with the changed conditions, however, he shipped them this time on cars. In California he practiced surveying and was one of the engineers who laid out the Mussel Slough ditch. He also directed work on the San Joaquin ditch, but later took to farming and stock-raising. He thus saw Fresno grow and develop from almost the first houses here, and found much pleasure, when he returned to Massachusetts, in 1884, in telling his old neighbors of the California miracle. In March, 1887, he brought his family to Pasadena, where he engaged in farming.

In November of the following year the Colonel became a resident of Fresno County where, for a year, he was part of the Central Colony, next going to Parent Colony No. 1. For seven years he engaged in grain-raising, and then he bought a ranch of 200 acres ten miles west of Fresno, which he soon greatly improved, adding several buildings. He raised alfalfa and stock, and followed dairying, and assisted by his family, he made the farm a very valuable holding, and was active in its management up to the time of his death on March 12, 1912, in his seventy-seventh year. He died with the consciousness that he had rounded out a useful and honorable career not permitted every man. He remained most loyal to the Grand Army of the Republic, and he was equally staunch as a Republican.

Since the Colonel's death, Mrs. Hall, now seventy-three years of age, has resided with her children, who have continued to operate the farm. The two children are George Warren and Carrie Luella, both graduates of the Montague City High School, and both, in numerous ways, honoring the

honored family name. The family went through all the pioneer experiences and hardships of early days in Fresno County, but with characteristic optimism and great faith in the future they stuck to the new country of their adoption, winning success where others failed, and their industry has brought them, as it was sure to do, a handsome competency. Their 200-acre ranch is irrigated by the Church ditch and two electric pumping plants, and is devoted to growing alfalfa, dairying and stock-raising. They were the first in their section to install milking machines.

Miss Carrie Hall was for many years bookkeeper for the Hughes Hotel, being the first woman in the state to become a hotel accountant. Thereafter she was employed by other concerns, until she was made auditor at the Hotel Lankershim, in Los Angeles, and in that responsible position continued for about ten years, or until her father died, when she returned to the home farm, to be a comfort and a companion to her mother and brother. She is a woman of much business acumen, well-informed, and a good conversationalist.

In 1915, George Hall purchased a twenty-acre alfalfa ranch, nine miles west of Fresno on California Avenue; and there he raised high-grade Holsteins until selling out in 1918, his painstaking efforts and scientific methods producing excellent results. Mr. Hall is a stockholder in the Danish Creamery, and has been, since its organization, also a stockholder in the San Joaquin Valley Milk Producers Association.

**J. W. BEALL.**—A sturdy pioneer and his good wife, whose descent from two signers of the immortal Declaration of Independence gives them a unique association with some of the most interesting chapters of American history, are Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Beall, who reside in Laton and own a fine large ranch near Riverdale. Mr. Beall, who was a bosom friend of M. J. Church, Fresno County's pioneer ditch-builder, has for years been interested in irrigation and conservation, and has won an enviable distinction for his part in some of the greatest projects for the betterment of Central California.

Born in Ripley County, Ind., six miles east of Versailles, on September 14, 1849, Mr. Beall grew up in the days when there was no railway there. His father, John T. Beall, was born on the same farm, and the grandfather, Zephaniah Beall, took up the 160 acres of land from the Government. It was then covered with heavy timber, and he had to do a lot of chopping to get a clearing large enough for his house and yard. Aurora, Ind., was then the main trading-place and the principal steamboat-landing in that locality; and there our subject went as a boy, and saw for the first time a steamboat, long before he ever saw a railroad train. His mother was Elizabeth Hallowell Hancock, a direct descendant of old John Hancock, President of the Continental Congress and one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence. His father had married and died, at the age of seventy-four, on the land on which he was born; and there his wife outlived him five years. The parents had eleven children, and nine of them they reared to maturity. J. W. is the third in the order of birth, and second son that gladdened the good folks' hearts.

Educated mostly at the district schools, and then only for three or four months each winter, but later becoming a student at Moore's Hill College, J. W. Beall became a teacher himself, by hard private study, and from his twenty-second year taught school for several seasons. In August, 1874, however, his enterprising spirit had brought him to California, where he first stopped at San Francisco. Then he went for a couple of months to San Joaquin County, and after that for two months to Tulare County. There he took up and preempted 160 acres of land and lived for a couple of years. He saw Fresno for the first time in November of 1874, and returned here to live in 1876.

After a year at Fairview, where he was married, Mr. Beall came, in 1877, to the M. J. Church colony, then known as the Temperance Colony. He immediately identified himself with the most important interests there, and with



Judge Munn and M. J. Church served on the Board of Trustees for the district. Later he became a director in the M. J. Church Canal Company, and in that office, as in his school trusteeship, he worked to advance the permanent interests of the community. The school house was early constructed, and in a couple of years the colony had been so enlarged that the school became large, too. Through his progressive participation in irrigation work in Fresno, Mr. Beall formed personal relations not only with Mr. Church, but with the late George S. Manuel, and I. Teilman, the well-known irrigation engineer of Fresno.

Mr. Beall is particularly interested in the Murphy Slough Association, and at one time owned one-third of the stock and was a director in the association, and also owned 680 acres, right where Riverdale now stands. He sold out most of his interest, however, except the water-rights to 280 acres of land, which he owns and which is located six miles from Riverdale. He is now a director in the Conservation District which plans to build the projected Pine Flat Reservoir, which is the largest project of its kind ever undertaken in Fresno County, if not in the state. Mr. Beall is an experienced orchardist and vineyardist, as well as alfalfa-grower; he prefers to grow alfalfa and has put his entire 280 acres into alfalfa.

For fifteen years Mr. Beall farmed grain in Fresno County. He lived in the Church, or Temperance Colony, and rented land on the outside, putting from 100 to 200 acres each year into wheat and barley. But while yet in the grain growing business, he experimented with raisin vineyards. There was then no market, however, for raisins, which sold at from one to one and a half cents a pound. This made that industry unprofitable at the start. Nevertheless, he remained in the Temperance Colony until the great boom year of 1887. Two years before this, he went to Fresno and bought the Arlington Heights quarter section, and in three years he sold it again. In both places he farmed for several years. He bought the 160 acres in Arlington Heights for \$50 per acre, and sold the land at an advance of \$75 per acre over the purchase price. Since then Mr. Beall has both bought and sold many different pieces of land, and has been very successful in real estate deals. His method has been to buy land in large tracts and to sell in smaller parcels, after it had been improved. He bought, for example, 680 acres where the town of Riverdale now stands, and sold the same again in eighty-acre tracts, the buyers still further subdividing the property and disposing of it in lots. He bought the Mills College Tract of 2,000 acres, put water on it, and sold it to L. A. Nares, or rather the Summit Lake Investment Company, in which he was interested. For a year or over, he maintained a real estate office in Fresno, and bought and sold many tracts of suburban property.

The year 1893 brought him disaster but, happy to relate, no such misfortune that he could not in time recover. During the wide panic, he and many others went to the wall through the great financial crash; and instead of being worth about \$40,000, he was not only worth nothing, but was in debt besides. He started anew, and in time paid off all that he owed, even to one hundred cents on the dollar.

In January, 1877, Mr. Beall was married to Miss Martha A. Hutchings, a native of Iowa who came to California in 1861, having crossed the plains with her parents, traveling by ox team. They settled at Stockton, and there she grew up and attended school. Her parents had a large farm eight miles northeast of Stockton, and from there she came, a young lady, to Fresno County in 1868, settling in Fairview, east of the Temperance Colony. The parents were William and Eliza (Cameron) Hutchings, and among her direct forebears was George Wythe, another signer of the Declaration of Independence. The Camerons were old settlers at Harrisburg, Pa., and Mrs. Beall's grandfather, William Cameron, was an own cousin of Senator Cameron of Pennsylvania. The Hutchings were from Indiana, and Grandmother Hutchings was a Sawtelle, and her mother was a DeMaurice of French origin, and





*J. W. Sharer*



Nellie D. Sharer



among the early settlers at Old Vicennes, Ind. The Hutchings were of English blood. The Camerons were Scotch, and Grandmother Cameron was a St. John of England, descended from the good King John. Mrs. Beall has no recollections of Iowa, but she does remember the old ox team. These associations of Mr. and Mrs. Beall with the signers of the Declaration of Independence are of particular interest since John Hancock was the first to sign, as the famous document shows, and George Wythe the last.

Mr. and Mrs. Beall have reared three adopted children, although two others died while little. Mrs. E. P. Blanchard of Laton died in 1911 and left one son, Laurence Eduard Blanchard, whom they are now rearing. Mrs. Beall is very active in the Red Cross work and the Women's Christian Temperance Union, and did what she could to promote the liberty loans, as did also Mr. Beall. Both Mr. and Mrs. Beall have been consistent Christians, and they use neither coffee, hog-products, nor liquor; and they are strong advocates of temperance. Mr. Beall is an ardent Seventh Day Adventist, as was his partner, M. J. Church; while Mrs. Beall is a member of the United Brethren Church. She helped to build the church at Laguna. Mr. Beall and Mr. Church were on the building committee, bought the lots upon which their church is located, and deeded the property to that congregation.

**JOHN WILLIAM SHARER.**—An enterprising and progressive viticulturist, and an authority on the laying out of fine vineyards and kindred lands, and a business man who, having early in life declared himself for the walk of a consistent Christian, has endeavored in his spare time to promote the cause of holiness and has never swerved from his allegiance to the Christian Church, is John William Sharer, who was born near Pittsfield, Pike County, Ill., on January 23, 1869, the son of Peter and Elizabeth (Johnson) Sharer, natives respectively of Pennsylvania and Ohio. His father was a pioneer farmer in Pike County, and after the death of his wife, he retired from active work and spent his last days in Fresno County, where he died in 1906, at the home of his son, M. M. Sharer, and in his eighty-fourth year.

John William Sharer's schooling was limited, as he was compelled to lay aside his books when he was only sixteen years old; and he had both the advantage and the disadvantage of growing up in the country districts until he was eighteen years of age. Having a brother living in Fresno County, Cal., he came west in the "boom" year of 1887, and began to work for Steve Hamilton. In the middle of October he joined the threshing crew on Governor Edmiston's place, and put in there two seasons. He early worked for Charles H. Boucher, and also spent some three years in the employ of other people in and about Clovis; and, at the end of the first three years in Fresno, he made a visit home.

In 1890 or 1891, Mr. Sharer rented one-half of the Tarpey lands, which he farmed to grain. About the same time, he took hold of some ranch acreage in the Red Bank section which he ran for many years; then he secured the Elvira section, which he had for five years, and then he quit farming altogether. During the years 1890 to 1894, when the Enterprise Colony was coming to the fore, he and his brother set out the first piece of vineyard in the Colony, the place he now owns. He also farmed grain land up to 1899. This he did, that while improving his vineyard, he might keep up the running expenses. He found it profitable, besides, in the fall of the year, to haul lumber from the mountains for the building of many of the homes in and around Clovis.

In 1896 Mr. Sharer located on the home place, a tract of twenty acres, then only partly improved, but which his industry has expanded into 100 acres, while he has witnessed the growth of this entire section. He installed a pumping plant, and a first-class water system for irrigating the land. At the time when he came to this section of the county, there was no thought of using the land for any other purpose than that of grain farming and stock-raising, and for some time thereafter he could tell the name of each

family living between Lane's Bridge and Centerville. It was necessary to get the entire Garfield, Jefferson and Red Bank districts in order to have enough people for a Thanksgiving festival dinner. After a while, viticulture demanded a share of attention, and Mr. Sharer is proud of his part in vineyard development.

But as a man endowed with a natural bent for material progress, Mr. Sharer has come to have other interests besides those of the fields. He has invested, for example, in a steam laundry, and, in keeping with his usual standards, has gone in for the most up-to-date service that could be provided; and he has also come to own valuable business and home property, and is a director of the Scandinavian Mutual Fire Insurance Company. Mr. Sharer was also one of the organizers of the Clovis Farmers' Union, and a member of the original board of directors, and at the first meeting was elected president of the board. His company established the large warehouses at Clovis. Mr. Sharer and K. M. Hansen purchased machinery at San Jose, and the warehouse was equipped for both the seeding and packing of raisins; and within three years their efforts resulted in such success that when the California Associated Raisin Company was formed, their equipment was purchased and became Plant, No. 1.

Mr. Sharer was one of the original organizers of the Melvin Grape Growers' Association, formed in 1916, and was a member of the original board of directors, and was secretary from the start—a position he has held ever since, and to which he has given his best efforts and experience. The association built a packing-house at Melvin, 50x100 feet in size; in 1917 they added another floor space of 50x50 feet, and in 1918 they built two new packing-houses, each of the same dimensions, with skylights and most modern equipment at Glorietta and Bartels.

The success attained by this association was recognized by other communities, and being intensely interested in cooperative movements, Mr. Sharer as a director lent his aid, visiting different localities and explaining their plan and success, and recommending similar organizations. There are now various associations throughout the valley, all shipping through the California Fruit Exchange. Its growth can be estimated from the fact that the first year's shipment was only 120 cars, while in 1918 some 1,400 cars from these organizations were despatched through this exchange from this valley, and a conservative estimate for 1919 is over 2,100 cars. The local association at Melvin alone has saved its growers over \$35,000 in packing and selling within three years' time. When the Melvin Grape Growers Association became a member of the California Fruit Exchange, Mr. Sharer was elected the representative from his association, and at the stockholders meeting of the California Fruit Exchange in Sacramento, January, 1917, he was elected a member of the board of directors, and was again reelected, having served acceptably and well.

On October 17, 1894, Mr. Sharer was married to Miss Nellie Dawson, who was born near Arena, Wis., the daughter of John A. Dawson, also an early settler. Mr. and Mrs. Sharer have three children: Ralph Vernon, a graduate of the Clovis High School, who superintends his father's ranch, and who served seven months in the United States Naval Reserve; and Alice Gertrude, and Everett Eugene, all of whom are at home. With commendable pride, Mr. Sharer took his family to the World's Fair at St. Louis, in 1904, and while East he had various novel experiences. Some one asked him the question, "How much sugar do you Californians put into your raisins?" and another, "How do you get the sugar into the raisins?" and another question propounded was, "Can a man start in California without money and expect to pull through?"

When thirteen years of age, Mr. Sharer joined the Methodist Church, and finding no church of that denomination here, he joined the First Presbyterian Church of Clovis, in 1900, and he has since been an active member,



and of late an elder, while for ten years he was clerk of the session. In the spring of 1904, he went to Alberta, Canada; and while there the San Joaquin Presbytery elected him delegate to the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church held at Dallas, Texas, which he attended, and then took his family east to the St. Louis Exposition and visited relatives in that vicinity. In 1914, on the death of Judge Law in Merced, he was selected director of the San Joaquin Presbytery, and has been reelected each year since. In 1918 he was again elected a delegate from the San Joaquin Presbytery to the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church held in May, at Columbus, Ohio, and attended the session. On the same trip he visited his old home in Pike County, Ill., also in Missouri, Nebraska and Colorado, and then returned home, more than ever satisfied that he had cast his lot in the land of sunshine and flowers. As the result of this Christian experience in an everyday world, Mr. Sharer's advice is to be honest among one's fellowmen, and having thus met and disposed of the duty of each day, to leave the future to the God of all time.

Emphatically a man of energy, Mr. Sharer is never idle, and is one of the most enterprising and active of men in Fresno County, giving substantial encouragement to every plan for the promotion of the public welfare, for the upbuilding of its institutions and its development, thus aiding materially in bringing about the prosperity we all enjoy.

**W. J. KILBY.**—Fortunate in having personally witnessed all of the important discoveries of oil and other developments in Fresno County, Judge W. J. Kilby enjoys the distinction of being one of the best-posted men in Central California, and an authority on the section in which he has so long been active. He was born at Freeport, Maine, of old New England stock descended from the Cromwellian Puritans and including today, among others of note, the well-known writer, Quincy Kilby, also a native of Maine, and the historian of the Boston theater. These ancestors were in the Revolutionary War and the War of 1812, and both grandfathers on his mother's side were not only in the great struggle of 1776, but were with General Washington when he crossed the Delaware. Mr. Kilby's father was Charles S. Kilby, a builder, and his mother was Cynthia Moses before her marriage, and she also was born in Maine.

Having graduated from a high school in Maine, W. J. Kilby in 1885 came west to California and Fresno County and in April of that year arrived at the Pleasant Valley Stock Farm. The railroad then came only as far as Huron, but in 1888 it was extended to Coalinga, which was laid out on paper and sold off in lots. After being employed on the Pleasant Valley Ranch for a while, Mr. Kilby took a homestead preemption and timber claim on Los Gatos Creek, and engaged in stock-raising and farming, in which field he showed his natural ability.

In the early nineties Mr. Kilby was induced to run for the office of justice of the peace; and his peculiar fitness for that responsibility having been recognized, he was elected. Soon thereafter he moved into Coalinga, and about the same time was appointed postmaster. The post office and the court room of the justice were in the same building on Front Street, and this fact recalls an amusing anecdote told of the Judge. A constable brought in an Irishman who had committed some offence, and as the officer was in a hurry and wished to take him away on the train, there was nothing left for him to do but to bring him before the Justice, who was then very busy making up the out-going mail. The Judge heard the case, the offender pleaded guilty, and the postmaster-justice pronounced sentence of sixty days without stopping his postal duties; whereupon the Irishman, seeing the funny side of the incident, remarked that he had had all kinds of packages handed him through the post office, but never before had he been parceled out sixty days. Judge Kilby was reelected, and served two terms, and never was there a more efficient, more just and popular jurist on the justice's bench.

Judge Kilby still owns his old ranch and several other ranches in the county, for he has also engaged in real estate, handling for the most part his own property, and because of his judgment, honesty and good nature, giving satisfaction to all concerned, and so succeeding with each transaction. He has erected a number of residence and business buildings in Coalinga, including the Kilby Block on E Street, and he has also been in demand for insurance and as a notary public. Long a prominent Republican, Judge Kilby is still an influential man.

He was married at Freeport, Maine, on April 18, 1884, to Miss Helen Murtagh, of Boston, and they have had five children: Mollie is Mrs. G. M. Hughes of Coalinga; Ben W. is a merchant at Helm; Beatrice is Mrs. C. N. Ayres of Coalinga; Colon is a graduate of the Coalinga High School and is now at Redlands University, where he holds the quarter-mile record as a foot-racer of the Pacific Coast; and Neta is studying to be a nurse, in San Diego. Thus all the children of this distinguished citizen have been heard from.

**ANDREW ABBOTT.**—A perfect type of the attractive American, sturdy of body and a giant in intellect, and with little wonder, when one learns of his relation by blood to the family of Rowells, so eminently connected with the development and history of Fresno County, is Andrew Abbott, who owns a finely-improved ranch of eighty acres, on Adams Avenue, two and a half miles south of Del Rey. He came to California on January 18, 1879, and landed at Fresno with just eighteen dollars and twenty-five cents in his pocket. Since then he has faced such hard times, together with thousands of others caught in the vortex, that he was compelled to part with his farm-lands; but by a brilliant stroke he was successful in buying the property back, and in making of it what no one in the beginning thought it would ever prove to be.

He was born in the White Oak country, seven miles northwest of Bloomington, Ill., on his father's farm, for he was the son of Milo J. Abbott, who descended from English stock that traces its ancestry back to the Mayflower, and came from New Hampshire. He is a cousin of the late A. A. Rowell and also Dr. Rowell, whose lives are sketched elsewhere in this work, and a second cousin of Chester H. Rowell, the distinguished journalist and scholar. Having first seen the light on January 12, 1854, he was educated in the public schools of McLean County, Ill., and at the business college in Bloomington; and then he worked at home on the farm until he was twenty-one. Frank Rowell, his cousin, at that time offered him work on his farm; and he accepted, and he continued five years.

California made its irresistible appeal about that period, and on the sixth of January, 1879, he took the train for the far West. Twelve days later he walked about Fresno, or what there was of it then, for the town had scarcely begun to grow. He lost no time in finding something to do; and again he entered the service of a relative. His cousin, George B. Rowell, wanted him in the sheep business; and to sheep-raising he turned, getting more than a start, for, as was customary with him in all that he did, he learned the business thoroughly.

In 1883, Mr. Abbott was married to Miss Addie Barnes, a native of Chico, and a daughter of G. W. Barnes, and after the ceremony, he went with his bride to the Washington Colony, where he had acquired, the year before, a twenty-acre tract of land. It was at best a humble home; but assisted by his good wife, he planted it to vines and trees, and made there a domicile in which they were happy.

After a while, however, he sold that place and then bought the forty acres where he makes his present home, afterwards adding forty acres immediately adjoining on the west. All of this choice land he long since leveled and otherwise improved, and planted; and there he built, in 1908, a beautiful one-story cement bungalow, 33 by 60 feet in size. He is a member



*Andrew. Abbott,*



of the California Associated Raisin Company, and cooperates enthusiastically in its work for the advancement of California vineyarding.

Mrs. Abbott passed away on September 8, 1917, at the age of fifty-three, and to the sorrow of many. She left a daughter, Georgia, who is the wife of Anderson R. Miner, and lives in Fowler with her five children—George A., James H., Eleanor, Anderson R., Jr., and Mary. Mr. Abbott attends the First Presbyterian Church at Fowler, and for twenty years he has been a Knight of Pythias—first at Fowler, then at Selma. He still endeavors to practice the Golden Rule; and perhaps this is why Fate has so happily smiled upon him that the ranch he lost in the early nineties, and was enabled a few months afterward to buy back, he has been asked to part with for almost \$100,000.

**FRANK L. COOPER.**—A pioneer and a native son, who was always a hard-worker and for years held responsible positions, is Frank L. Cooper, a man having the steady ambition to lead a useful life and so coming through unscathed, though surrounded by the temptations of the bar and the gaming table. Now, well-preserved, he is a strong advocate of temperance and all that makes for decent living. He resides a mile northwest of the Laton Creamery, maintains a first-class dairy, and is one of the representative farmers and stockmen of Central California.

Born near Santa Rosa, in Sonoma County, on August 17, 1867, he is the son of B. F. Cooper, who came to California from New York State when he was eighteen years old, in 1859, traveling by way of the Isthmus. The same year he settled in Sonoma County, and there married Miss Mary Schultz, who died when Frank was only nine, leaving four children. These included two sisters, who died of scarlet fever when seven years old, and a brother, Fred D. Cooper, who is a farmer near Stratford, in Kings County. The father is now about seventy-six, and lives on California Avenue south of Rolinda and about ten miles out of Fresno. He resides with his third wife, but he had children only by Frank's mother. When he came from Sonoma County he settled in Alameda County, then went to Contra Costa County, and after that to San Luis Obispo County. Then he moved to Fresno, and then to Stanislaus County, where they lived seven years; and finally the family came back to Fresno County.

Frank Cooper came to the Laguna de Tache in the fall of 1890, and he helped James Downing move over from Kings City, Monterey County. Mr. Downing bought land at Burrel, then known as Elkhorn, and he also bought a forty-acre vineyard near Fresno. Frank thus rode over all of the Burrel ranch in the early romantic days, when the tules were thick and tall. They were so thick and tall, in fact, that a rider on horseback could not see about or ahead of him, and when the cattle strayed off and got lost, the only way for the cow-boy to do was to ride into the tules, make all the noise that he could, and thus scare the cows into coming out on higher ground.

In the summer of 1905 Mr. Cooper bought his present place, at first investing in forty acres, then thirteen and a half, then twenty. Like his father, he has farmed grain extensively at what is now Riverdale, and there he has had a chance to display his ability in the driving of horses. He has driven thirty-two horses with a combined harvester, and once he drove forty horses over the rough hills of San Luis Obispo County. He is a true native son, and has been out of the State only once in his life when he made a trip to Reno, Nev.

It was in September, 1890, that Mr. Cooper came to Fresno County, soon after beginning his three years' work for Cuthbert Burrel on his 2,000-acre ranch at Visalia. Mr. Burrel also owned the Burrel Ranch of 18,000 acres, another ranch, of 2,000 acres, at Visalia with a section at Riverdale, and the lumber yard at Visalia. He did a good deal of heavy hauling for Mr. Burrel. He drove eight horses and superintended the work of the other drivers, hauling lumber for the ranch houses, which were being built in the vicinity of

Burrel and Riverdale. He also hauled the lumber for the barn where H. M. Hancock now lives. During these years Mr. Cooper became a very trusted employe of Mr. Burrel, and almost assumed the relation of a son to him. Certainly he formed a strong attachment for the rancher, and will always recall him as one of the noblest of the old pioneers of the San Joaquin Valley.

Mr. Cooper has always been a stockman and is, therefore, thoroughly familiar with the problems of stock-raising and the varying markets. Now he has a good ranch of seventy-three and a half acres, and rents an adjoining pasture of about 200 acres. He and his good wife have worked hard, and they deserve all that represents their wealth. As has been stated, he is an expert driver, and guides forty horses when the occasion demands. He had 480 acres of the Burrel ranch under lease when he was married, and ran it several years when his father cooperated with him and farmed grain. He cut his father's grain, his own and sometimes the grain of others besides.

His associations with Mr. Burrel led him often to conjure up the historic past, once so full of early California glory. While Mr. Burrel was running the 2,000-acre ranch and lumber yard at Visalia, he was also engaged in building up and developing his 18,000 acres at Burrel and his section at Riverdale. In carrying on this work a great deal of lumber, machinery and other material had to be hauled to Riverdale and Burrel, most of which was brought from Visalia before the advent of the railroad. Great eight-horse wagons were used, and the drivers would usually stop at old Kingston, now no more, but which was then a very lively and a very rough and tough place. In the real early days gambling was constantly carried on, and scarcely a night would pass without some shooting affray or fight; and often thousands in gold would change hands on the turning of a card. Kingston was on the line of the main freight trail from Stockton to Visalia, and was therefore a much-frequented place. It was the last scene of Vasquez looting, and now there is little to remind the wayfarer that it was once the scene of a wild and woolly western business town.

While living at Visalia, Mr. Cooper was married to Mrs. May Norton, a daughter of Oscar Stanton of Fresno; and by her he has had four children: Fred S. was in the United States Navy, on a transport ship, and made ten trips across the Atlantic; Margery Lillian is the wife of Edward McKenzie of Corcoran, the transfer man, and they have one child; Elizabeth married Harrison Askew, Jr., and they reside in Laton, with their two children, where Mr. Askew is a baker; and Bernice is still at home. It was shortly after their marriage that Mr. Cooper rented the 480 acres of the Burrel ranch.

**FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF DEL REY.**—If there is one thing that Californians have a right to be proud of, sensitive as they always have been in matters of financial and commercial integrity, and conscious of the high standing of California and its credit in the outside money-world, it is that their banking institutions, both with respect to the character of the men behind them, and the sanely conservative way in which they are administered, are without doubt of such a grade, strength and vigor that they have long since come to set a pace for similar institutions in many of the much longer established and more populous commonwealths. And prominent among these live wires of trade, social life and political administration on the Pacific Coast must be rated one of the undoubted bulwarks of Fresno County, the First National Bank of Del Rey.

This well-equipped and fully-manned house of business was incorporated on July 20, 1917, under the banking laws of the State of California; and on the sixth of August it opened its doors and bade the public welcome.

Its officers, to whom the people looked for confidence and leadership, were as follows: President, H. S. Hulbert, the rancher two miles south of Del Rey; Vice-President, H. J. Hansen, also a rancher, two miles west of Del Rey; and A. A. Werner, Cashier and Secretary. Board of Directors: H. S. Hulbert, H. J. Hansen, A. A. Werner, George Meyers, rancher two and a half

miles southeast of Del Rey, and Ralph Mitchell, manager of the California Associated Raisin Company at Del Rey.

Prosperity has smiled upon this bank since it was first thrown open for transactions, as may be seen by its report of the Spring of 1918. Its total resources and liabilities were \$139,870.89, and of the latter the paid in capital stock was \$25,000, with nearly \$95,000 of individual deposits subject to check. State, county or municipal deposits aggregate \$4,500; there were \$2,525 worth of certificates of deposit other than for money borrowed; and over \$10,000 of time deposits, subject to reserve. Of the resources, on the other hand, there were loans and discounts totalling \$70,226.08, United States Bonds to the extent of \$5,000, Liberty Bonds amounting to \$1,000, \$5,000 worth of bonds and securities pledged as collateral for state or other deposits, postal excluded or bills payable, stock of the Federal Reserve Bank (fifty per cent. of the subscription) to the extent of \$850, furniture and fixtures valued at \$2,147.36, lawful reserve with Federal Reserve Bank of \$7,500, cash in the vault and net amounts due from the national banks aggregating \$48,147.45, the whole showing what even a town of the size of Del Rey, if it but have the Del Rey spirit, can do.

Already this bank has played its role in the development of the town and outlying districts; and it bids fair to be of more and more service to the community and the county in the bright days of the near future, dawning for Central California.

The bank will move into its new concrete structure about August, 1919. This new building is a model of its kind and is equipped with the modern appliances of banks in the larger cities, viz., electric wiring protection, safe deposit vaults and accommodation for the storage of private boxes.

The organization of the bank was due finally to the efforts of its president, Mr. Hulbert. Attempts had been made to establish an institution, but not until Mr. Hulbert and Mr. Werner put their shoulders to the wheel, was the organization completed. Mr. Hulbert is the leading spirit of Del Rey and is now erecting three substantial buildings, with a frontage of ninety-six feet. These buildings are to be occupied by entirely new concerns which will add much to the now constantly growing prospects of Del Rey.

**RT. REV. LOUIS CHILDS SANFORD, D.D.**—The Rt. Rev. Louis Childs Sanford, D.D., first bishop of the Episcopal Missionary District of San Joaquin, was born at Bristol, R. I., July 27, 1867. He was educated in the public schools of his home town and then entered Brown University, from which he was graduated in 1888, with the degree A.B. His desire had been to enter the ministry of the Episcopal Church and his studies were directed along those lines. He was graduated from the Episcopal Theological School of Cambridge, Mass., in 1892, and received the degree S.T.B. In 1913 Brown University conferred on him the degree of Doctor of Divinity. After graduating from the theological school at Cambridge he came to California and was appointed to the pastorate of the Mission Church at Selma, Fresno County. He also served the congregation of Fowler, and it was through his ministrations that the present edifice was erected in that town. From 1898 until 1900 he was rector of the Episcopal Church at Salinas, Monterey County, and for the next seven years he was stationed in San Francisco as rector of St. John's Episcopal Church. The years 1908-1910 he served as secretary of the Eighth Missionary Department of the Episcopal Church, which included all of the United States west of the Rocky Mountains. His circle of friends increased; and many congratulations were received upon his election, in October, 1910, at the general convention held in Cincinnati, Ohio, to the bishopric of the Episcopal Missionary District of San Joaquin. He was consecrated in St. John's Church, San Francisco, on January 25, 1911, and at once assumed the duties of his office with Fresno as his home.

The Missionary District of San Joaquin was constituted in October,



1910, it being the fourth division of the Diocese of California. Rev. Louis Childs Sanford was nominated for bishop and was elected without opposition. The district comprises fourteen counties in Central California; viz., Fresno, Madera, Merced, Stanislaus, San Joaquin, Kings, Tulare, Kern, Calaveras, Tuolumne, Mariposa, Alpine, Inyo and Mono. The primary convocation of the district was held in St. James Episcopal Church in Fresno on May 9, 1911, with an attendance of eleven clergy and twenty-five lay delegates, representing twelve parishes and missions. Rev. L. A. Wood was elected secretary and registrar, and the first council of advice consisted of Revs. H. S. Hanson, G. R. E. MacDonald, H. C. B. Gill and B. L. Barney. The bishop announced the selection of Fresno as the see city of the district. St. James Episcopal Parish Church became the Pro-Cathedral of the district in December, 1911. The bishop nominated Rev. G. R. E. MacDonald first dean of the Pro-Cathedral, and he was installed on May 12, 1912. The activity of the bishop and his superb leadership on all occasions, together with the loyal support of the clergy and laity of his district, are evident in every department of church work and church life. Under his able leadership the debt of the church has been liquidated and, as the country of the district has been more thickly populated, new churches and missions have been established, among which we mention the Mission of the Holy Spirit, erected at the corner of Van Ness and McKinley Avenues, with Rev. F. G. Williams, vicar in charge. The ground upon which St. James Pro-Cathedral stands consists of six lots fronting 150 feet on Fresno Street and 150 feet on N Street, all very valuable property.

Bishop Sanford was united in marriage with Ellison Vernon, a native of London, England, and they have three children: Edward, born on December 17, 1902; Mary, born on March 27, 1906; and Royal, born on March 7, 1910. Rt. Rev. Sanford, aside from his duties as bishop, is very active in civic and kindred work. He is treasurer of Fresno Chapter of the Red Cross, as well as active in all war and relief work. Fraternally, he is a member of the Zeta Psi.

**JOSEPH MARTIN GRAHAM.**—Among the successful and public-spirited dairymen of Solano and Fresno Counties was Joseph Martin Graham, who was liked by all who knew him and who attained his prosperity, partly, as he himself used to say, because of the wise counsel and unfailing sympathy of his excellent wife, who has survived him. She both understood and attended to his wants and comfort, and since his death she has shown much natural ability in her management of the interests left to her care.

Mr. Graham was born in the north of Ireland, of Scotch descent, in 1861, and as an infant came with his parents to New York City, after which he was reared at Port Byron in New York state. His father, William Graham, had married Mary J. Martin; and about 1875 they came west to Solano County and located at Benicia, when they engaged in the dairy business, continuing in that field of activity until they died. There were five children, four girls and a boy; and Joseph was the second oldest. While working in San Francisco, he attended the night school, thus paying for his education; and being quick in learning, he soon obtained a good schooling. He was naturally a good mathematician, was a wide reader, and had the blessing of a good memory.

On September 26, 1888, he was married in San Francisco to Miss Nellie Agnes Drum, who was born at Mokelumne Hill, in Calaveras County, the daughter of Patrick Drum, a native of Ireland who came to New Jersey, with his parents, where he was reared to manhood. When the gold excitement in California drew thousands west he came with the tide across the plains and mined at Mokelumne Hill; and later in California he married Bridget Brady, a pioneer. He followed mining for many years and then settled at Antioch, where he was a farmer and dairyman until he died. Mrs. Drum died in Dixon, Cal., the mother of two boys and two girls. A brother,





*J. M. Graham*



Mrs. Nellie C. Graham



Henry, who died when he was nineteen, and Mrs. Graham were twins. She received her education in San Francisco in old St. Mary's Academy, which was conducted by the Sisters of Mercy on Rincon Hill, and there completed the course with honors.

After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Graham engaged in dairying, and soon they bought a ranch one and a half miles south of Cordelia in Solano County. It was known as the old Page ranch, but after they bought it, it was always and is to this day called the Graham ranch. He became an extensive dairyman, and at one time he had four different dairies in operation and milked no less than four hundred cows. In those early days they panned all the milk and skimmed it by hand. They used horse-power in making butter and cheese, and their brand of "G. Butter" became famous. Mr. Graham ran four dairies and shipped the milk to San Francisco, sending as many as forty-two ten-gallon cans a day. They had a ranch of 640 acres, finely adapted for dairy purposes, and it attracted attention as a model farm.

The oldest son, Joe, of this worthy couple died of appendicitis, and on a trip to Fresno to dispel his sorrow, Mr. Graham bought an eighty-acre vineyard west of Fresno. Three years later they rented their ranch at Cordelia and in October, 1909, he moved their dairy herd to Fresno County. He always rented his eighty-acre vineyard on California Avenue to others. Bringing his dairy-herd, he leased his present ranch from D. C. Sample and continued dairying. The vineyard still belongs to the estate. In 1912, Mr. Graham bought the place they had been renting, comprising 160 acres on Belmont Avenue, ten miles west of Fresno; and there he continued successfully in business until he died, on August 11, 1916.

Mr. Graham was a trustee of the Houghton school district, and was much interested in the cause of education. He was a member of the Knights of Pythias, and in national politics was a Republican. He supported generously all movements for local uplift. Since Mr. Graham's death, Mrs. Graham has continued the business and is meeting with deserved success. She has a herd of sixty milch cows and uses the Empire Milking Machine. They have an electric pumping-plant for irrigating their broad fields of alfalfa and use a gas engine for power-milking and another for their domestic water plant. Mrs. Graham is a member of the San Joaquin Valley Milk Producers' Association, and is a stockholder in the Danish Creamery Association. She also belongs to the California Associated Raisin Company.

Ten children were given Mr. and Mrs. Graham, and seven were privileged to grow up: Eunice was the wife of Maurice Burns who died at Benicia on October 12, 1918, and Mrs. Burns and her one child, Raymond Lee, now reside with Mrs. Graham; Joseph William's death has already been referred to; Eloise C. manages the Graham Dairy; Edna is a graduate of the Kerman Union High School; Nellie is also a graduate of Kerman Union High as well as Heald's Business College, Fresno; Cyrus and Howard are operating the ranch for their mother. The children are all very helpful and thoughtful for their mother, being ambitious to succeed and always busy and dependable, assisting her in their respective ways in the management of her large affairs. Mrs. Graham, like her esteemed husband, is a friend of popular education, and serves as trustee of the Houghton school district.

**JOHN MARION CARTWRIGHT.**—Among the representatives of historic families, who have contributed largely toward the development of our American commonwealth, is J. M. Cartwright, a progressive businessman and public-spirited citizen, who has become the leading man of affairs at Malaga, where he manufactures the widely-known Cartwright Pruning Shears that now meets over ninety percent. of the requirements of the Pacific Coast trade. He is the seventh in order of birth in a family of eight children—five sons and two daughters—and was born at Willows, then in Colusa, but now in Glenn County, March 16, 1874; and there he lived until the winter of 1885.

When John Cartwright, the father, in the middle eighties, bought forty acres from the Briggs' estate, and began farming two miles southwest of Malaga, his enterprise affected the residence of J. M. and helped to shape the later course of his life. The town had just then been laid out, subdivided and sold; and having learned the blacksmith's trade at his birthplace, near Charleston in Coles County, Ill., the prospect of development there attracted the artisan. This fact as to the father's handiwork is all the more interesting, because the Cartwright family—so distinguished through such members as George Cartwright, the English traveler who explored and wrote about Labrador; John Cartwright, the English author who advocated peace with the American Colonies; Peter Cartwright, the apostle of Methodism; Sir Richard John Cartwright, the Canadian statesman; and Dr. Samuel Cartwright, General Jackson's surgeon,—received its name from the occupation of the founders, and a branch of the family is still conducting a wagon-making factory in England.

J. M.'s grandfather was Reddick Cartwright, a pioneer of Coles County who came there from North Carolina, was a second cousin of Peter Cartwright, the famous circuit rider just referred to, and was said to have been a man of great physical strength, as was his son, John Cartwright, our subject's father. The latter was one of a family of twenty-three children. He was also distinguished for his moral and mental qualities, and these found expression in his work as a minister of the Baptist Church, which ordained him in Boone County, Iowa, whither the Cartwrights had removed. He had learned the blacksmith trade and wheelwright trade in Illinois, as has been said, and was such a first-class workman and mechanic that, arriving in California, he was able to help himself and his family much better than the average pioneer.

The elder Cartwright first settled at Butte City in Colusa County, and in time became a large wheat-raiser, having as high as 3,000 acres. It was when he came to Fresno, in 1885, however, and set out a vineyard, and realized his wants in a somewhat primitive community, that he was led to take a step even momentous in the history of his family. He needed some pruning shears, and finding none adapted to the local requirements, he set about to make a pair in his own little blacksmith shop on the home farm. They proved to be better than anything on the market, and neighboring ranchers having borrowed and used them, ordered some for themselves. The result was that Mr. Cartwright made thirty pair the second year, and two hundred pair the third year; and from that time the output has been greater and greater each succeeding year. For the past thirty-three years the Cartwrights have manufactured these shears, and now over 200,000 are in use.

Mr. Cartwright makes three sizes of the shears, one being a tree-shear with handles twenty-two inches long and twenty-nine inches over all, while the over-all length of the others is twenty-six and twenty-one inches respectively. They are used for pruning grape-vines. The Cartwright pruning shears are recognized as the best on the market today; and while retailing for three dollars a pair, they form ninety percent. of the shears for this purpose now sold on the Pacific Coast.

John Cartwright, the father, died here aged sixty-seven years, but the mother, whose maiden name was Martha Ashby, lived to be eighty, and was the last of a family of eighteen children. She was born in Coles County, Ill., and grew up with Mr. Cartwright.

J. M. Cartwright attended the Fresno County public schools and also the high school at Fresno, and grew up to work in his father's shop at Malaga. At the age of twenty-five he was married to Miss Maud E. Wilkinson, the daughter of James Wilkinson, late of Le Grand, Merced County, where her father died in 1918, aged sixty-three years. She was born in Missouri and reared in Fresno County. Mr. and Mrs. Cartwright have two children, Vera Mae and John Marion, Jr. The valuable years of our subject's life, therefore,



have been spent near Malaga, and there or in that vicinity has he accomplished most.

Among his enterprises is the improvement of a forty-acre vineyard at Clovis, which he has since sold, for even some of the lessons learned at forging for years in his father's shop served him in other fields. When his father died, John Marion succeeded him as the head of the business, buying out his brother's interest; although the old name of the firm, J. Cartwright & Sons is still retained. In 1910, Mr. Cartwright built his brick factory at Malaga; and since 1914 electricity has been the power used. He employs from five to six workmen and continues to turn out a strictly hand-made pruning shear, of oil-tempered steel, "the best that is." The same year in which he constructed his shop, he built his residence on Front Street, immediately south.

Mr. Cartwright is a friend of education and has served nine years on the Malaga school board. Politically he is a Democrat, and fraternally belongs to Fresno Parlor, No. 25, N. S. G. W., and Central California Lodge, No. 343, I. O. O. F., at Fresno.

**MAJOR M. SIDES.**—Honored and conspicuous as one of Selma's oldest living pioneers, it is easy to comprehend why Major M. Sides has become Selma's foremost financier and equally distinguished as a highly representative citizen. He was born seven miles southeast of Perryville, Perry County, Mo., on January 27, 1838, and grew up on a farm in Missouri where his father, Elihu Sides, died when the lad was only six years old. The father had come to Missouri when he was a young man, a member of a family that came from England and was settled here before the American Revolution. Elihu Sides was a native of North Carolina, and married Miss Daisy Welker. She died at the old homestead in Missouri, about 1875, aged seventy years or more, and her native state was Missouri. At the death of her husband, Mrs. Sides was left to provide for six children: Almina, the eldest, is the widow of Lawson Miller, and resides in Chicago. Marshall married and lived in Missouri, where he farmed the old Sides' place; he was taken with pneumonia and died, at the age of sixty, leaving a widow and a son. Marion, (christened Newton Marion Sides) is the subject of our review. Belfina became the wife of Frank Nance; she lived, married and died in Perry County, Mo., dwelling on a farm, and left two children. Veries, the fifth in order of birth, served in Company M of the Missouri State Militia for three years, and then reenlisted; he married in Missouri, and has four children, and he is now in the Soldiers' Home at Sawtelle. Harry is a farmer in Perry County, Mo., is married and has several children.

Growing up on the little sixty-acre farm that the father left, Marion had to live economically. He stayed at home until he was twenty-one, to help his mother, having in the meantime a chance to go to school for only three or four winters and for three or four months of each season, and hardly was he ready to push out for himself when the Civil War came on. He at once enlisted in Company M of the Missouri State Militia, where Captain Lee Whybark appointed him sergeant; and having served for three years, he entered Company D of the Forty-eighth Missouri Volunteer Infantry, and there arose to the position of Quartermaster of the regiment, was duly commissioned Major and has since borne that title. He was mustered out in Chicago, and honorably discharged in April, 1865, at the close of the war.

After the long, hard service in the field, Major Sides went home to Perry County, and there returned to the plow, farming in Missouri for ten years. He next moved to Dent County, and married the girl with whom he had become acquainted during the war, while he was encamped in that county. After their marriage they lived awhile in Missouri; and being taken up by his neighbors, Major Sides was elected to the legislature from Dent County, and reelected, serving two terms.

Stimulated by what he read in the newspapers as to the completion of the Central Pacific and Union Pacific railways, and about the Golden State

in general, Major Sides sold his farm and came to California with his wife and two children. He first went to Petaluma, Sonoma County, and from there came down to Kingsburg, Fresno County, to look around; and so favorably was he impressed with the southern end of Fresno County that he wrote his wife to join him with the children. When he arrived in Fresno County, about December 20, 1875, there was no Selma, and even Fresno City had only about three hundred people, and there were scarcely fifteen to twenty families at Kingsburg. He therefore came up toward what is now Selma, and took up a soldier's homestead of 160 acres, two and a half miles north of the present town site. The Southern Pacific Railroad graded its lands at that time, and he bought a half section the second year, which later became the home of T. B. Mathews.

Major Sides was among the first to foresee the necessity for irrigation, and that the settlers must have water if they were to do much with their land. He accordingly helped to build the Centerville and Kingsburg Ditch. He took one share in the ditch and he worked off the payments with his span of horses, doing the excavating himself. Meanwhile, when he was gone all the week, and returned only Saturday nights, he left his wife and family in the little cabin on the homestead. But he was healthy, happy and hopeful, and little by little "grew up with the country." He saw the switch built at Selma, and he has seen every building go up in the town. He has also welcomed everybody and everything, including the packing houses of Libby, McNeill & Libby, and the organization of the raisin and other associations.

As is elsewhere told in the more detailed story of the First National Bank of Selma, Major Sides helped organize the first bank here, namely a state bank called the Bank of Selma, which later became the First National Bank, and for some time he has been the head of the First National. Besides being a director in the Selma Savings Bank, he is also a stockholder in the First National Bank of Fresno; the First National Bank of Kingsburg; the First National Bank of Fowler; the First National Bank of Caruthers, and the First National Bank of Sanger. However, he has been mainly engaged in farming and horticulture. For eight or ten years he was a grain-farmer; and when the ditches were built, he became a pioneer horticulturist, having planted some of the first peaches as well as the first grapes. He has thus improved several ranches, bringing each to a high state of perfection, planting and cultivating in all over 500 acres.

Major Sides was twice married. His first wife was Miss Casander Mathews, a native of Dent County, Mo., the daughter of Mrs. Birchie Mathews, a widow, and the mother of T. B. Mathews, sketched elsewhere in this work. Mrs. Sides died in 1893, the mother of two children: Ira, who died when he was twenty-one years old; and Effie, who married C. F. Walker, and had one child, which also died. True to his first wife's dying request, he deeded 120 acres of land to her brothers and sisters, that they might be properly provided for. By his second marriage, Major Sides became the husband of Miss Ollie M. Davies, a native of Tennessee, in which state she was brought up, being educated at the Lebanon College for Girls. She came to Selma about twenty-five years ago, and the following year was married. Two sons blessed their union, the elder being Douglass R. Sides, a graduate of the Selma High School and the University of California, and the younger, Thomas Marion, who is a graduate of the Mt. Tamalpais Military Academy and will go to the State University in the fall of 1919. Douglass, who was in the base hospital service abroad for eighteen months, returned from France in May, 1919, safe and sound, and was honorably discharged.

Major Sides was brought up in the Methodist Episcopal Church South, but Mrs. Sides and her family were Presbyterians, and in that church she is a member of the Ladies' Aid Society, and also an active Red Cross worker. The Major helped to erect the first building occupied by the Presbyterian congregation of Selma, a small and unpretentious house of worship, in Cali-





*Chris Jorgensen*

fornia style, on the site of the present magnificent brick edifice, costing \$30,000, at the corner of Selma and Mill Streets, which is the third church home put up on that spot. He also helped to build the second church building, which was a good-sized frame structure, and for twenty years he has served on the board of trustees. He built his fine residence at 1333 East Street, Selma, in 1904, and there, round about, he has twenty acres, ten on each side of the road. A safe, conservative and excellent business man, and a most patriotic citizen, Major Sides has repeatedly been urged, since coming to California, to accept public office, and as repeatedly he has declined the honor; yet, in the light of his actual record as soldier and private citizen commissioned with important affairs, where could a Californian he found more imbued with the conviction that public office is a public trust, and that honor lies in service to fellowmen?

**CHRIS JORGENSEN.**—After many years of faithful public service in Fresno County, Chris Jorgensen has been reelected time and again to the responsible office of supervisor, while his associates have honored him for the past ten years by selecting him as chairman of the board. So long has been his identification with this county, and so intimate his associations with local development that, viewing the remarkable transformation wrought within his memory, he may well exclaim, "All of which I saw, and part of which I was." Great, however, as has been his activity in general, it is as supervisor that the people of his home county most appreciate Chris Jorgensen, who has served them in that office for more than fourteen years, being chosen by a large majority at each election. His mind and heart have been engrossed in the well-being of the county, and such has been his success in the solution of many difficult problems, that his fellow citizens more and more have reposed their confidence in him.

Born at Middelfard, Fyen, Denmark, on May 18, 1859, Chris was the son of Jorgen and Nora Jorgensen, who passed their entire life in Denmark. His father was a cabinetmaker engaged in the manufacturing of furniture. There were five children in the family, and, besides himself, three sisters now reside in Fresno County, while a brother still lives at the old home. Mr. Jorgensen received a thorough education in the excellent Danish common and high schools, supplemented by a course in the Agricultural College. An aunt having come to Fresno County about 1876, and hearing through her of the resources and unrivalled opportunities in California, he determined to live under the Stars and Stripes. In 1880, therefore, he crossed the ocean and moved westward as far as Atlantic, Iowa, where he was employed at farming until 1881, and then he came on to Fresno County. For a while he worked in the Central Colony, and thereafter located in West Park, where he purchased a ranch. While improving it, he was also engaged in grain-farming, and for nine years he ran a large outfit, with the usual vicissitudes of the grain-producer in those days. During these years he also used his teams in preparing lands and setting out vineyards, thus gaining valuable experience and becoming an authority on viticulture.

When the American Vineyard Company was organized, Mr. Jorgensen became their superintendent and attended to the preparation of their lands; they began in a small way, and he set out their first vineyard. The company branched out and from time to time increased their holdings, until it owned and operated over 600 acres. He became a stockholder and director, and finally was selected associate manager. He built their first packing-house on the West Park ranch, and in it installed one of the first raisin-stemmers, which was run by hand power. Afterwards they built packing-houses on their other ranches, which were equipped with modern machinery. At the end of twenty-one years of invaluable service as superintendent and associate manager, Mr. Jorgensen resigned from the direction of the American Vineyard Company, in March, 1914.

During his years of planning with the other members of the board, Mr. Jorgensen has seen much permanent improvements and building accomplished. These include the County Almshouse, the rebuilding of the County Orphanage, the erection of an annex to the County Hospital, and the remodeling of the old hospital. The Fair Grounds have also been greatly improved and beautified. Large cement bridges have been built over the San Joaquin and Kings Rivers and the Fish Slough, and there has been much building of new roads and improving of old ones. In 1919 the supervisors united on a bond issue of \$4,800,000, which was voted, and with this additional money they improved the 315 miles of roads in the county.

Mr. Jorgensen was one of the original stockholders of the Union National Bank of Fresno, and he is still a member of its board of directors. He is a director in the Fresno Savings Bank, and has been for many years president of the Scandinavian Mutual Fire Insurance Company. He was also interested in the organization of the Danish Creamery Association; he is a member of the California Associated Raisin Company, has been a supporter of all the raisin associations from the first, and has been a director of the California Peach Growers, Inc., from the time of its organization in May, 1915.

At Fresno, Mr. Jorgensen was married to Miss Hannah Larsen, also a native of Fyen, Denmark, who came to Fresno in 1883, and they have had three children: Chris P., a rancher and viticulturist in this district; Boletta, a graduate of the San Jose State Normal and a teacher here until her death in April, 1918; and Fannie, at home with her parents.

Mr. Jorgensen was made a Mason in Las Palmas Lodge, No. 266, F. & A. M., and he is a member of the Fresno Consistory, No. 8, Scottish Rite bodies. He belongs to Islam Temple, A. A. O. N. M. S., San Francisco, and he is a member of the Danish Brotherhood. Still in the prime of life, with apparently many years of usefulness before him, Mr. Jorgensen already enjoys a prestige and confidence accorded to but few.

**CHRISTIAN BACHTOLD.**—Interesting both as a pioneer of the eventful "boom" eighties, and as the Nestor of Selma's men of commerce, having been in business continuously here longer than anyone else, Christian Bachtold enjoys the esteem and good will of all who know him, and especially of all who have had business dealings with him. He was born at Schaffhausen, the beautiful "Niagara of Switzerland," on January 20, 1853, and there received his elementary education. When about thirteen he was confirmed in the Evangelist Reformed Church of Switzerland, in the faith of Zwingli, and at sixteen he was apprenticed to a miller, taking a position in the large merchant flour mill at Stulingen, in Baden, just across the line of Switzerland, where he worked for three years. He still possesses the certificate of his proficiency as a journeyman miller, issued to him at the end of his apprenticeship, which he prizes highly, as he also has the passport issued to him by the Swiss Republic, permitting him to leave his beloved fatherland, in order to come to another Republic that was to become to him quite as dear.

For a year he worked as a journeyman miller in Alsace-Lorraine and Belgium, and then he sailed from Antwerp for New York, by way of Liverpool, arriving at the old Castle Garden on May 1, 1873. He had a brother at Syracuse, N. Y., and having made his way to that city, he engaged as a miller with the Jacob Amos Flouring Mills in Syracuse, with which concern he remained for a couple of years. Then he came west by rail to the Coast, arriving in San Francisco, in December, 1875.

Having answered an advertisement of George McNear, at Petaluma, he engaged with him as his first miller in his large steam mill at Petaluma, and after two years of successful employment, he arranged to go out to Winnemucca, Nev. This engagement was effected through John Frey, whom he met at San Francisco, and who promised him the position of head miller in the Charles Kemler mill at Winnemucca. For eight years he remained at Winnemucca, and then he returned to San Francisco. There Jacob Hauptli

induced him to come to Selma in January, 1886, to see the mill property which he had bought at sheriff's sale, and to buy the same for himself; and on the fifth of April he took possession.

The Selma mill certainly had a history. It was built by Samuel, Jacob and William Frey, fellow countrymen of Mr. Bachtold's, completed in 1880 and fitted with machinery hauled from Bakersfield. It was originally built as a water-mill, water being provided by the Centerville and Kingsburg Canal; and later the Freys' put in a seventy-five horsepower steam engine, so that the establishment was a four-burr steam and water-mill when Mr. Bachtold bought it. The Freys became financially embarrassed and were closed out by the sheriff. As already stated, Mr. Bachtold took charge in the spring of 1886; and ten years later, in December, fire destroyed the old mill, after its owner had changed it to a roller mill, and changed the name to the Selma Flouring Mills. It was partly insured, but Mr. Bachtold lost \$12,000 by the conflagration.

In ninety days, however, he had the present mill running, and this new establishment also goes by the name of the Selma Flouring Mills. It has a capacity of seventy barrels of wheat flour daily, and there is a full equipment for crushing barley and grinding corn meal. This means really a capacity of three and a half tons of wheat per day, of twelve hours, and this is manufactured into the Charter Oak Flour, and Magnolia brands, justly famous throughout the San Joaquin Valley for their purity and high quality. Approximately 15,000 sacks of barley are also worked up in a year, and this is prepared for feed by rolling, steaming and crushing. Mr. Bachtold, in addition, buys about 150 tons of corn per year, which he makes into corn meal and feed. To meet California conditions, he has made a special study of all kinds of stock and poultry foods, and he prepares a number of special brands, such as the Imperial Chicken Food, and the Imperial Egg Food. He also carries a full line of mill stuffs, while the grain and corn he uses are largely grown in Fresno, Madera and Kings Counties. In 1908, Mr. Bachtold equipped his mill with electricity, but he retains a seventy-five horsepower steam engine in reserve.

In 1888, Mr. Bachtold was married to Mrs. Libbie Hartman, nee Hursh, a native of Indiana, who had three children by her first husband, all of whom are now living in San Francisco. One child, John C. Bachtold, a partner with his father in the Selma Flouring Mills and acting as the outside man, resulted from the second union. He was married, in turn, in Selma, to Miss Ada Snyder, a daughter of C. C. Snyder, and a granddaughter of Selma's well-known pioneer of the same name, whose life-story is elsewhere given in this work. He stood high as a Mason, and was one of the four original townsites men of Selma. They are the parents of two children, Dorris and Max.

These descendants of Mr. Bachtold recall the matter of his progenitors. His father was Hans Kasper, who married Verena Meier; and they both were born, married, lived and died in Switzerland. His father was a tool-smith, who made all kinds of tools and razors. Our subject, therefore, is a fine mixture of the old Roman and German blood. He was brought up, on account of his particular environment in that corner of Switzerland, to use the German language, but he also became proficient in French and in English. Most of his parents and grandparents have lived to become between eighty and ninety years old. It "runs in the family" to have large heads, full chests, square shoulders and powerful hands and arms.

In 1904 Mr. Bachtold bought and rebuilt his residence in the block northeast of the mill. On February 5, 1897, his fellow townsmen presented him with a fine regulator clock, which still adorns the office of this mill. It is inscribed: "Presented to C. Bachtold by his friends of Selma, February 3, 1897." His friends surprised him, took possession of the mill, and old and young danced there until the small hours of the morning.



Mr. Bachtold was very active in encouraging the establishing of a fire company in Selma, and encouraged the old fire commission, a quasi-public organization for fighting fires in the early days. The town of Selma was incorporated on November 15, 1893, and Mr. Bachtold was elected to serve on its first board of trustees. He was repeatedly reelected, and served eight years in all. In 1897 he was elected President of the Board, practically Mayor of the town, and for years he served to the entire satisfaction of everyone, and with great credit to himself. During the time that he was on the city council, and largely through his efforts, the property of the old fire commission was taken over by the city of Selma, which ever since has maintained a very efficient fire department. There was considerable wrangling about prices of the old fire apparatus, and it was largely through his good judgment that an amicable adjustment of differences was made, and the affairs of the old fire commission were finally settled. As mayor, Mr. Bachtold kept strict tab on all the city's business, and he allowed no graft or dishonesty on the part of the city officers.

Mr. Bachtold served for many years as vice-president of the Old State Bank of Selma, which was the forerunner of the present First National Bank, and, together with T. B. Mathews and Major M. Sides, he was among its early stockholders. He is now a stockholder in the Selma National Bank, and is valued in all his transactions for his honesty and integrity. In national affairs, Mr. Bachtold is a Republican, of Progressive tendencies, and was a great admirer of the late Col. Theodore Roosevelt and a staunch friend of Senator Hiram Johnson. He has clear views and decided opinions on political matters pertaining to nation, state, county and city, and at times he has made some enemies by the firm stand he has taken. But even those who have opposed his political views are ready to admit his honesty and sincerity. All in all, Mr. Bachtold is easily one of Selma's most efficient, most valuable and most highly respected citizens.

Mr. Bachtold is an honored member of the Selma Lodge of the Knights of Pythias. He is also a prominent Mason, and a member of the Selma Blue Lodge and the Royal Arch Chapter in Selma. He is best known, however, as an Odd Fellow. He is Past Grand of the Selma Lodge of the I. O. O. F., and helped organize Encampment No. 76, at Selma, of which he has repeatedly been Chief Patriarch. He is the District Deputy of District No. 45, which includes Madera and Fresno Counties.

**DANIEL BROWN, JR.**—One of the substantial and prominent men of Fresno is Daniel Brown, Jr., formerly the president of the old Fresno National Bank. A native son of the state, he was born in Petaluma, Sonoma County, in 1863, a son of Daniel Brown, who was born in Tipperary, Ireland, and who came to the United States in an early day and eventually came to California via the Isthmus of Panama, arriving in 1851, when the excitement over the discovery of gold was at its height. He engaged in the mercantile business in San Francisco and in 1856 he started in the banking business in Petaluma, whither he had moved a short time before, becoming vice-president of the Wickersham Banking Company, and later president of the same and also vice-president of the Savings Bank of Santa Rosa. He was well and favorably known as one of the pioneers of Sonoma County and for the fifty years that he made it his home, he was identified with almost every project that had for its aim the development of the county. He died in 1902, active up to the last, in the business that had been guided by his masterful mind for so many years. He was one of the prominent Democrats of the county and served on the state and county central committees at various times. His wife, formerly Annie Ferguson, survived him. She had seven children, of whom Daniel Jr., is the second in order of birth.

Daniel Brown, Jr., was reared in Petaluma and received his preliminary education in the public schools of that city, after which he entered the University of California, then the Hastings Law College, from which he was





*A. Kreyenbagen*



*Elizabeth Kuyenhagen*



graduated in 1884 with the degree of LL.B. He was admitted to the bar of the state and practiced his profession about a year. He then secured a position in the cashier's office in the United States Mint at San Francisco, where he remained until coming to Fresno in 1890. He was here engaged in the livery business for six years, having a stable on I Street. In 1900 he accepted a position as assistant cashier of the Fresno National Bank, in which he had been a director for several years. In 1902 he became cashier and held that position until the death of the president, Mr. Patterson, when Mr. Brown was made president of the institution, a position he occupied until the bank was purchased by the Bank of Italy. He devoted many years to the upbuilding of this bank, which was one of the most substantial organizations in the San Joaquin Valley. When the bank was re-organized as the Fresno Branch of the Bank of Italy, Mr. Brown became a director and chairman of the advisory board, the position he now occupies. He is also a director of the Fresno Building and Investment Company and the Central Land and Trust Company, besides being interested in several other financial affairs, all of which have the hearty cooperation of Mr. Brown, whose whole time is given over to the management of the interests in which so many others have become interested, and that have done much towards the development of the varied interests of both city and county. Mr. Brown is a charter member of the Sequoia Club, University Club, Sunnyside Country Club of Fresno, and the Bohemian Club of San Francisco. Politically he supports the policies of the Democratic party and has served on the county central committee for years. He is public-spirited, successful, and among the most enterprising citizens of Fresno, in which city he wields a strong influence for the good of the community.

**ADOLPH KREYENHAGEN.**—A ranchman who started life with the inestimable heritage of superior parentage, and who has, as might have been expected, attained to a success that has enabled him not only to do well by himself and his immediate circle, but to serve the state, in which he is a loyal citizen, and to advance California husbandry on a large scale, is Adolph Kreyenhagen, who was born near Gilroy, in Santa Clara County, on August 9, 1864, the son of Gustaf and Julia (Ilering) Kreyenhagen, both of them natives of Germany. The father enjoyed all the benefits of a higher education in his native land, and when he sought greater freedom and opportunity in the United States in 1846, he became a professor of Latin, Greek and mathematics in St. Louis, Mo. Four children were born to the worthy couple there, but three died in the city of their birth; the other, Emil, is now living near Coalinga.

In 1854, aroused by the wonderful stories of mining adventure coming from the Pacific Coast, the father hurried across the Isthmus with thousands of others to California, and for a time conducted a mercantile establishment in San Francisco. Then he located on a ranch near Gilroy and at the same time he also operated the Peach Tree Ranch in Monterey County and engaged in sheep-raising, but he had hardly begun to prosper when he lost nearly all the sheep he had in the floods. This was in 1865. Then he removed to Los Banos, in Merced County, and there ran not only a store, but a hotel and a stage station. The place was then a large center for freighters who were hauling supplies from San Francisco to Visalia and Bakersfield through the valley before the time of the railroads; and it was almost impossible that one who rendered the proper service should not do well. Mr. Kreyenhagen was just the man for such a place, although he was also capable, as we shall see, of better things; and in thus maintaining his several establishments, he contributed his share toward the rapid development of that part of the state.

In 1875, Mr. Kreyenhagen located in Fresno County, at Posa Chene, now called Kirk Station, east of what is now Coalinga. Once more he opened a general store and hotel, and went into the sheep and cattle business as well;

he built a sheep-shearing station and some seasons handled as many as 150,000 sheep in the public corral. In 1887 he retired, and three years later, the favorite of a large circle of friends, he breathed his last. Among other notable holdings, the Fresno Hot Springs was owned and managed by Mr. Kreyenhagen, and this famous resort is still the property of the estate's heirs. His widow survived him until August 2, 1906, passing away at Fresno Hot Springs.

Adolph Kreyenhagen was reared in this valley from 1865, coming to Fresno County in 1874, and receiving his education in the public schools, St. Mary's College in San Francisco and at Heald's Business College in the same city. From the time he was a boy he rode the range and learned the stock business and after his schooldays were over devoted his entire time to it. Associated with his three brothers, Emil, Hugo and Charles, they have engaged in cattle-raising and for the purpose purchased and leased large tracts of land. They incorporated as Kreyenhagens, Incorporated. They own 10,000 acres of land and lease about 37,000 acres more. The three ranches they own are known by their Spanish names, Las Canoas, Zapato Cheno and Las Polvaderas, and they are located southeast of Coalinga. Kreyenhagens, Inc., is one of the largest cattle-growers and landowners in the county. Their brand being the bar C, is a C with a bar through the center. The brothers are also interested in the Hays Cattle Company of Kirkland, Ariz. For two years they also owned and managed the Crescent Meat Market of Coalinga. In early days, in fact, they did teaming and hauled freight between Posa Chene and Gilroy, and between the former and Banta Station, using an eight or ten horse and mule team for the purpose, usually taking ten days to make a round trip. While their main business is cattle-raising, they generally sow about 2,000 acres to grain each year.

Adolph Kreyenhagen is a stockholder in the A. P. May Company in Coalinga. He was one of the organizers of the Bank of Coalinga, and a director until the consolidation with the First National Bank, continuing as a stockholder in that substantial institution.

Mr. Kreyenhagen was married in Fresno, June 26, 1888, to Miss Elizabeth Crump, born on Fancher Creek, Fresno County, the daughter of John G. and Nancy Ann (Cox) Crump, natives of Virginia and Missouri, respectively. Her father crossed the plains in 1850 and was a miner in Calaveras County. In 1861 he came to Fresno County and married Nancy Ann Cox, who crossed the plains with her parents in 1849. In 1872 he located on the West Side, becoming a cattle-grower and landowner in Warthan Canyon and was a man of influence and prominence. Her parents passed away at their home. Mrs. Kreyenhagen was reared and educated in this county, residing with her parents until her marriage to Mr. Kreyenhagen. They have three children: Edna is a graduate of the University of California and was formerly a teacher in the Coalinga Union High School. She is now the wife of Elmer M. Leinzen of San Francisco. Theodore was educated in Hanford High and Oakland Polytechnic College and resides on the home ranch where he is of invaluable help to his father. He is also a director and secretary of Kreyenhagens, Inc., as well as a stockholder in the Hays Cattle Company. Viola is still attending the Coalinga High School.

When Mr. Kreyenhagen came to Posa Chene there were only a half-dozen white families living here. The rest were Mexicans living mostly in the mountains. The country was given over to stockmen's camps at the few watering places. Mr. Kreyenhagen's father was the first to begin raising grain on the West Side. Adolph Kreyenhagen now sees the many opportunities that they had of obtaining valuable lands and water rights, yet the early settlers did not grasp them as it was impossible to foresee the future possibilities. In early days the Kreyenhagens sold 1,080 acres for \$12 an acre—Sections 25-36-30-24—that are now producing oil and are among the most



valuable in the Coalinga oil fields, being worth millions. Mr. Kreyenhagen in 1895 planted the first fig orchard on the Zapato Cheno Ranch, the first figs set out on the West Side. They have grown to gigantic size and produce abundantly. He also set out a family orchard and finds that apricots, Bartlett pears and plums do excellently, but the figs take the lead. Thus his experimenting in fruits will undoubtedly some day also bring horticulture to the front on the West Side. Mr. Kreyenhagen is enterprising, a believer in building up the community, ever ready to assist others who have been less fortunate, but always in an unostentatious manner. In fraternal matters he is a Modern Woodman. Mrs. Kreyenhagen comes of a splendid family and is a very refined woman, always encouraging her husband in his ambitions, and both hold an estimable place in the hearts of the people of Coalinga, where they are among the leading citizens.

**REV. F. FELICIAN FRITZLER.**—As pastor of the Wartburg Evangelical Lutheran Church, Rev. F. Felician Fritzler is faithfully carrying on the work to which he has been called. Of German parentage, he was born in Southeastern Russia, and was educated in that country in the grade schools and a school which corresponds to our high school, only that it includes two years of university work. After finishing his education, he taught in the public and high schools of his native land for nine and one-half years, in "Norka" Russia. Seeking greater opportunities in the new world, Rev. Mr. Fritzler arrived in New York, June 24, 1911, and from there went to Atchison, Kans., where he entered the Theological Seminary, in the fall of 1911. He completed the course in the spring of 1914, and the following fall entered the University of Nebraska, at Lincoln, and graduated from that institution in June, 1915, with the degree of A. B. After his graduation, Rev. Mr. Fritzler taught German in his Alma Mater for one year, during which he completed his course for the Master's Degree. He was ordained a minister on October 24, 1915, at Iowa City. While teaching at the state university he organized a "Zoar" Evangelical Lutheran Church at Havelock, Nebr., erected a church, and secured its incorporation.

On October 4, 1916, Rev. Mr. Fritzler took his present charge, and since that date has worked unceasingly for the welfare of his church and congregation. A highly educated man, with a fluent command of English, he is meeting with deserved success in his labors and is held in high esteem by his church members and by the community in general. The Wartburg Evangelical Lutheran Church was first organized and incorporated in 1904, the Rev. Lutz Horn being its first resident pastor. His successor was Rev. H. S. Feix, who came in 1905 and erected the church building; and he was followed by Rev. W. J. Roehmer, who remained as pastor four years, and was succeeded by Rev. John Gutleben, after whose removal, the pulpit was filled by William Brandes until Rev. Mr. Fritzler took the charge. The church building has been remodeled and improved under the direction of the present pastor. There are 250 communicants, a Ladies' Aid Society of forty-two members, and a Sunday School of 174 members.

**LOUIS PETERSEN.**—A model self-made man who has contributed much to the development of Central California, both commercially and in artistic matters, is Louis Petersen, the pioneer painting contractor of Fresno, who was born at Seland, Denmark, February 27, 1856. In his native land he learned the trade of painter and followed it until coming to America in 1881. For a couple of years he worked at his trade in Chicago, and then he located in South Dakota, where he took up a quarter section of government land, proved up on the same, and remained there for four and a half years. This was just long enough for him to lose all that he had put into the place, and he came to California in the great "boom" year, broken in pocketbook, if not in spirit.

He was bound to succeed, however, and so started again to work at his trade; at first in San Diego, and then in Ventura County. Two years later,

in 1889, he arrived in Fresno, and in 1890 he bought ten acres of raw land near Selma, which he improved with vines and sold at a good profit about twelve years later.

In 1903 Mr. Petersen started in business for himself as a contract painter; and in that field, where he maintains his leadership, he is still active. He has painted the Brix Block and residence, the Einstein residence, the Lynch Block, the Teilman residence, the Milo Rowell block, and the Kern-Kay Hotel, as well as many others. He is a member of the Painters Union of Fresno, and at one time was treasurer of the Danish Brotherhood.

Fortune has smiled upon Louis Petersen, to the great satisfaction of his many friends, and he has been able luckily to subdivide part of an acre he bought at 137 Seventh Street, his home place, and to dispose of the same in choice building lots. He also owns other real estate, including a flat building on O Street, and takes great pride in maintaining the same in such "apple-pie order" as adds to the local wealth and artistic standards of the neighborhood.

**CHARLES TEAGUE.**—A prominent and unusually successful operator of California land, who has handled the largest properties in Fresno County and, while advancing his own interests, has aided thousands in oppressed foreign lands to acquire a title to homesites in the Golden State, is Charles Teague, who has sold a larger acreage to absentees than any other operator in Fresno County. He pursued the policy of offering the best to people who were not on the ground to make their own investigations. Even with this conservative policy, homeseekers are often discouraged by hearing disparaging statements relative to conditions in Fresno after their arrival—statements emanating from local people who do not appreciate local advantages—which is most discouraging to new arrivals. These new arrivals, however, have grown wealthy on lands the wisecrackers condemned. It is stated that ninety percent. of the land sold by Mr. Teague was marketed for less than sixty dollars an acre. Much of this property has sold, after being planted to vineyard and orchard, for more than a thousand dollars an acre, and there is not an acre that has not greatly advanced in value. Mr. Teague has always had the greatest faith in Central California, and contends that the opportunities are as good in Fresno now as at any previous time.

Mr. Teague is a native of Devonshire, England, where he was born in March, 1869. His father was William T. Teague, who came to San Francisco in 1871, bringing his family with him. The lad attended the San Francisco schools until 1881, when he came to Fresno. By 1890 he had acquired land for himself, and ever since then he has been buying and selling California acreage. In 1892 he organized the Shephard-Teague Land Company, and in 1912 he brought into existence the Teague Investment Company, of which he is president and manager. He is also interested in and manager of several other large land companies.

Through his efforts, mainly, the First National Bank of Clovis was organized in 1912, and he was its president for several years, until he could no longer devote his time to the institution. He organized the Producers' Oil Company, the first company to develop oil in commercial quantities in the Midway field; and in the spring of 1913, when the fate of the Associated Raisin Company was in the balance, the future of that concern was assured largely through Mr. Teague's public-spiritedness and sacrifice. According to the Fresno Republican of that period, it was Mr. Teague's energetic action that saved the day. He was the first subscriber for stock, opening the offering with a subscription of \$2,500; "and then," says the report, "came what had been expected and feared—the dropping out of the stockholders until no more takers were heard. One of the most critical moments in the meeting had come, and Charles Teague proved himself equal to the occasion. 'I will take \$500, if nine others will do likewise,' shouted Mr. Teague from





*Wm. Rennie*

his seat. Immediately there was a rush of takers, which filled his order. Finding that assuming the leadership brought results, Teague came back with the proposition that he would take another \$250 worth of stock if nine others would take like amounts. Again his challenge was accepted, and another \$2,500 was added to the list and twenty-five more squares erased from the blackboard." When the subscriptions were closed, it was found that Mr. Teague was third on the list, having pledged himself altogether for the sum of \$4,250 in order to steady the Associated Raisin Company.

Mr. Teague has disposed to advantage of the most extensive properties in Fresno County, and has interested an immense amount of capital to invest in this section. He has ever been as eager to assist families without means to settle here, giving such attractive and favorable terms as would enable them to pay for their lands out of a portion of their crops. Many of the settlers in this community, assisted by Mr. Teague, have thus become among the most prosperous ranchmen in Fresno County.

As an illustration of Mr. Teague's practical public spirit it may be mentioned that after the outbreak of the World's War in 1914, when a committee was formed in San Francisco to offer the Belgians land in California, Mr. Teague immediately designated 500 acres of his Fresno County holdings to be subdivided for them, and stated that he would not accept any money on the land until it had produced a crop, and then only would he take annual payments. He also agreed to give the refugees employment until their lands were productive, to guarantee their grocery bills, and finally to have an impartial body of appraisers fix the value of the land, and the moneys due him. Before and since then, Mr. Teague has colonized 60,000 acres in Fresno County, and has brought in families from all over the United States and Europe.

Charles Teague was married to Marguerite E. Butters, the ceremony taking place on August 14, 1913. The bride is a daughter of the late Henry A. Butters, of San Francisco, the capitalist of South African fame. Mr. Teague is one of the organizers of the Sunnyside Country Club of Fresno.

**WILLIAM RENNIE.**—Full of opportunity for travel and, it is fair to assume, of good, old-fashioned adventure, with more than a suggestion of the romantic, was the early career of the subject of this very interesting sketch, a native of "bonnie Scotland" and the son of William and Elizabeth (Rennie) Rennie of Stirlingshire, and members of the clan made famous through John Rennie, the British engineer and architect. William Rennie was a coal operator and coke and iron manufacturer in Stirlingshire, and he had offices in Glasgow, in which city, so favorably situated on the bustling and beautiful banks of the Clyde, he resided with his family. His brilliant career, however, was cut short by death when he was only thirty-nine years of age, so that the three of the five children who grew to maturity were all too soon deprived of an invaluable leader.

The second eldest in the family, William was reared in the country so dear to every Scottish heart, and in old but progressive Glasgow, a city as live with the spirit of modern times as it is full of the traditions of the past, he was educated. Arriving at the age of fourteen, he entered the Loretto School near Edinburgh, and at eighteen left the class-room to spend a year in travel over the Continent.

Attaining his majority enriched through such advantages, William went to New Zealand, a long trip to most Americans, but rather a matter-of-fact experience for a Britisher; and for six busy years he was with the New Zealand-Australian Land Company. After a while, a longing to see the old folks at home led him to start back, and in 1886 he got as far as San Francisco, but he did not reach his ancestral hearth until eighteen years later. He arrived on the Pacific Coast just at the beginning of the great "boom" in California, and from San Francisco he went to Napa County where, with his

brother James, he took up the dry-wine manufacture. The firm was known as Rennie Bros., and their headquarters were at St. Helena. Thus, when he first reached the State, he got into the wine business, and he has been identified with it for thirty fruitful years, during which time he did much to raise the standards governing that industry. He bought property in St. Helena, Napa County, set out his vineyard, and constantly adding improvements, kept it until 1904 when he sold it. Besides building the finely-planned and equipped winery at St. Helena, he was also instrumental in putting up the first stone bridge—of gray stone blocks—constructed in Napa County.

When Mr. Rennie came to Fresno County in 1900, he took charge of the Barton Vineyard which included 960 acres of land situated about two and a half miles northeast of the court house, succeeding Colonel Trevalyan who had been superintendent of the place for fourteen or fifteen years. Wine, raisin and table grapes were grown, and there was plenty to do. The Barton Vineyard, in fact, was one of the first vineyards to be set out in that section; there were 150 acres given to raisin grapes, 100 to table grapes, and 500 to wine grapes; 100 acres were also devoted to grain and buildings; 4,500 tons of grapes a year were turned into wine, making about 325,000 gallons of the favorite beverage; while for ten years, from 1905 to 1915, the average crush was 11,800 tons, aggregating almost one million gallons of wine, and from 100,000 to 250,000 gallons of commercial brandy a year. In 1915, however, fire destroyed a part of the winery, causing a loss of \$190,000, including coo-perage, wine-making machinery and buildings, and 800,000 gallons of wine.

Mr. Rennie also owns other acreage devoted to horticulture and viticulture, and he is interested in quicksilver mining in Napa County. He was a director in the Central Bank of California at Fresno, and both because of striking personality and high, unswerving standards in all of his business methods, and his long career as a man of affairs, he is still looked to as a pillar of financial strength and a leader whose experience and judgment are of real value in commercial undertakings. He is a staunch Republican and Protectionist, and not only supports every movement for the betterment of the locality, but takes an active part in national politics and the advancement of American political and commercial interests.

Modest by nature, yet liberal-hearted, Mr. Rennie finds pleasure in doing and giving, but all his benefactions are wrought in an unostentatious manner, so that often the right hand does not know what the left has accomplished. Particularly may he be proud of his Masonic record, for he was made a Mason in one night, by special dispensation of the Grand Lodge of Scotland, at the Robert Burns Lodge at Dumfries. He was also a member of the Knight Templars and affiliated with the Napa Commandery.

Two children, a daughter and a son, are the joy of Mr. and Mrs. Rennie's home. Miss Elizabeth leads in social movements, while William Rennie is at present serving in the United States Army, and was recently for thirteen months over-seas. He belonged to the American Expeditionary Forces that have effected so much for the military glory of the nation; and, just before the armistice was signed, he passed all the requisite examinations as a candidate for officer.

**CHARLES G. BONNER.**—In the life of this successful citizen of Fresno are illustrated the results of perseverance and energy, coupled with judicious management and strict integrity. He is a citizen of whom any community might well be proud, for men possessing the fundamental characteristics of which Charles G. Bonner is heir have ever been regarded as bulwarks of their communities. A native son of the Golden State, he was born in San Francisco, February 4, 1869, the youngest child and only son of Charles and Rosa (Gore) Bonner. Charles Bonner was born in Canada and was a descendant of an old and honored family of New York State. At the age of sixteen he came to California, via Panama, and upon his arrival

went to the mines and in time he became an expert mining man. He went to Nevada and became superintendent of the Gould Curry mine at Virginia City. He died in San Francisco in 1871. His wife was born in Cambridge, Mass., and was a granddaughter of ex-Governor Gore of Massachusetts. She came to California in an early day, where she grew up and was married to Mr. Bonner. She passed away in San Francisco.

Charles G. Bonner was educated in the schools of San Francisco and in the University of California, which he entered in 1885 and from which he was graduated four years later with the degree of B.S. It was that same year that he came to Fresno County and purchased an interest in a tract of some 640 acres of land, from his stepfather Mr. Frank Locan. Of this tract 400 acres was set to vines and trees, and on the balance stock and alfalfa were raised. In 1892 the property was incorporated as the Bonner Vineyard, with Mr. Bonner as president, the existing partnership with Mr. Locan having been dissolved. From a modest beginning the Bonner Vineyard became a business of large proportions. Mr. Bonner began buying and shipping raisins and as the business expanded he erected a packing house suitably equipped to fill his demands, the machinery being operated by steam power.

In 1899 Mr. Bonner formed an association with James Madison, then of San Francisco, in the packing and shipping of fruit, the firm being known as Madison and Bonner, under which title it was incorporated in 1903, with Mr. Bonner as secretary and manager. The company own five acres at Locan's spur where the packing plant is located. In 1911 Mr. Bonner succeeded to the ownership of the business, the Bonner Packing Company being among the largest of its kind in the county and having a large volume of business. The same year the entire plant was destroyed by fire and the following year Mr. Bonner rebuilt and today owns one of the best equipped plants in the entire valley. The business extends throughout the United States and Canada.

The first marriage of Charles G. Bonner took place in Boston, in 1893, when Louise Tripp, a native of Fairhaven, Mass., became his wife. She died in San Francisco in 1895 leaving one daughter, Beatrice Louise. The second marriage was celebrated in 1903 in San Francisco, Marie Wolters, born in Sierra County, becoming his wife. Her father J. C. Wolters, was one of the founders of the Wolters Colony in Fresno County. Two children have blessed this union, Doris and Charles G., Jr. Mr. Bonner is a member of Fresno Lodge No. 439, B. P. O. Elks; holds membership in the Chamber of Commerce of Fresno; is a charter member of the University and Sequoia Clubs, also the Sunnyside Country Club; and belongs to the Commercial Club. He is a staunch Republican, a booster for Fresno County and a man who has made and retained friends wherever he has been.

During the World War he served on the Exemption Board in Fresno, District No. 2.

**ROBERT D. CHITTENDEN.**—An enthusiastic promotor of good roads and kindred advancements, and a student with wide experience of public transportation, is Robert D. Chittenden, the enterprising President of the California Road and Street Improvement Company. His parents, now both deceased, were J. W. and Mary C. Chittenden, farmer folk of the sturdy, honest sort so helpful to our expanding country; and it is probably as a farmer's lad, in the days when American country roads were none the best, that he first had his attention directed to the great gain in store for the agriculturist if he would but solve the problem of a quicker, perhaps shorter and, therefore, more economical route between his outlying farm and the city market.

Born in Indiana February 30, 1870, Robert was educated in the public schools of the East. When he came out to the West, in November, 1887, he



engaged in the fruit business and he helped install and operate the first raisin seeding outfit in this country. In 1903 he was elected on the Democratic ticket to the office of public administrator, for a term of four years, and from 1907 to 1911 he was sheriff of Fresno County. Mr. Chittenden's next move was to experiment with street paving and road construction, and in the years intervening, his company has come to do much work in California. This manifestation of enterprise has been responded to by state and county authorities, and Mr. Chittenden has frequently employed large forces of men.

In 1907, Mr. Chittenden and Corynne L. Jones were united in matrimony, the ceremony being solemnized at Fresno; and today two children—Russell and Catherine—brighten the Chittenden home. The family worship as Protestants.

He is a staunch advocate of good roads everywhere, and believes there should be at least one good road built into the high Sierras, in order to give the people an opportunity to enjoy the fine summer climate to be found there, and enable them to maintain summer homes in the mountains.

**H. MADSEN.**—One of its original settlers, H. Madsen located in Central California Colony, where the first canal system of importance was constructed and the real beginnings were made in the small-farm development of the county. Water had been brought from Kings River far out upon the plains, but the project was largely experimental in character. The story of the vicissitudes of these early day farmers, who were ignorant of what to plant and were greatly handicapped in marketing the crops they raised, makes one of the most interesting chapters of the history of Fresno County.

Mr. Madsen came to Central Colony with his family from Alameda County in 1877. A few others had preceded him a year. All about Fresno was still a treeless plain. His faith was never shaken, he explains, because of the remarkable production that resulted from irrigation of the soil of the plains. Among other difficulties there were contests with riparian claimants to the water of Kings River; and convinced that orange culture was just what the Colony was suited for, a considerable area was planted to young trees brought from Southern California, only to encounter severe frosts that came the following winter and all that remained of this enthusiasm was the name of Orange Center, which had been given the school district; and there were other disheartening failures, but the joy of pioneering knew no discouragement. Grapes, deciduous fruits and alfalfa, it was finally demonstrated, were what Central Colony was adapted for, and soon it blossomed and flourished into a most beautiful and productive spot. The success of this Colony proved what irrigation would do, and exploitation of the plains for other than sheep-raising then began in earnest.

It was Mr. Madsen and the other Central Colony pioneers who led the way in the intensive cultivation of lands, which has been the basis of Fresno's upbuilding and prosperity. To these courageous early settlers considerable measure of the credit is due for Fresno's emergence from a frontier city and county into one of the great productive centers of California.

In 1906, Mr. Madsen sold his Central Colony holdings and located in the Fairview district, five miles north of Sanger. He is a native of Denmark and was one of the first to locate in Fresno County, of the great number of people from that country who have chosen this section for their homes.

**FRANK M. LANE.**—Identified with the educational interests of Fresno for more than a quarter of a century, during which time he has taught in the principal schools of the city, Frank M. Lane has made his influence felt for the good of the rising generations. He is a native son, born on Chowchilla Creek, Mariposa County, November 3, 1864, a son of "Col." Joseph Parker Lane, who was born in North Carolina, a son of John Lane, who





*A. Macken*



*Hanne Madsen*



removed to Tennessee. His mother was a niece of Nathaniel Macon, United States Senator from North Carolina.

Joseph Parker Lane was educated in Knoxville, Tenn., then took up the study of law and was admitted to the bar in Tennessee, and when twenty-two years of age he went to San Antonio, Tex., where he practiced his profession.

In 1849 he came to California, riding mule back the entire distance to Los Angeles, thence to Stockton, where he engaged in trading and packing to the mines in the mountains. In 1850, together with N. Fairbanks, he opened a wholesale liquor business on Main Street, Stockton. By his comrades, and members of the train who had chosen him commander of their company, he was given the title of "Colonel," which he bore until his death.

In Stockton, "Colonel" Lane married Ann Mary Barnett, born in Tennessee, November 6, 1851, a daughter of Bird B. Barnett, who was a large planter and tobacco grower. Her mother was Martha (Walker) Barnett, a native of South Carolina. The Barnett family came to California in 1850, crossing the plains via Salt Lake, and arriving in California, Mr. Barnett opened a hotel in Stockton. In 1855 Joseph P. Lane moved to Monterey County where he farmed and raised stock for several years. During this time he served as justice of the peace, and two terms as county supervisor. He then engaged in the cattle business in Mariposa County till 1868, then was in the sheep business for two years in that county. He sold out and settled at Lane's Bridge, ten miles north of the present site of Fresno and during his busy life accumulated some seven thousand acres of land. He was accidentally killed on December 16, 1878. Mrs. Lane carried on the business until 1897, when she removed to Fresno and lived until her death, on March 7, 1907. She had five children: Joseph A.; Mary, Mrs. Liddell; Edward; William H.; and Frank M. Politically, Joseph P. Lane was a Democrat and ready at all times to give his support towards the upbuilding of California, particularly Fresno County.

Frank M. Lane received his education by private instruction and at the San Jose State Normal, graduating from the latter institution in the class of May, 1888. He at once began his professional career as a teacher and has continued ever since. For twenty-six years he has been interested in advancing the Fresno schools and during that period he has taught in the principal schools in the city, at this writing he is principal of the Washington Grammar school. During the quarter of a century that Mr. Lane has been teaching in Fresno he has done much toward advancing the high moral standing of the schools.

Frank M. Lane was united in marriage in December, 1892, with Miss Mamie Balthis, born in Stockton; a lady of culture and refinement who died September 7, 1914, mourned by a wide circle of friends. Professor Lane's second marriage took place in Fresno, June 29, 1918, when he was wedded to Miss Mary L. Hines, a native of Tennessee, who came to Fresno with her parents in 1890. She graduated from the Fresno high school and at the time of her marriage she was a teacher in the Fresno city schools.

Professor Lane has ever taken an active interest in agriculture, especially in grain and alfalfa raising, in which he is an expert. He has been interested in developing lands in Fresno County ever since his graduation, and has improved several farms, among which may be mentioned the F. M. Lane ranch, near Lane's Bridge. It consists of ninety acres, seventy acres of which he has leveled and checked and has also installed a pumping plant, pumping water from the river to irrigate seventy acres of alfalfa. Mr. Lane was one of the first to install a pumping plant, for alfalfa. He raises six tons per acre per year, in six cuttings. He also owns a valuable grain farm of two hundred forty acres, one and one-fourth miles east of the ninety acre place which he operates under a system of dry-farming. Mr. Lane well remembers when

there was not a house where the city of Fresno now stands, and rightly feels that he has materially aided in the development of one of the most important cities in the state. He has been a member of the Chamber of Commerce for twenty-two years, and is a prominent member and an ex-president of Fresno Parlor, No. 24, Native Sons of the Golden West. He was one of the organizers and is now president of the Grammar School Principals of Central California. For the past two years he has served on the State Council of Education as a representative from Central California. Politically Mr. Lane is a Democrat and a staunch supporter of President Wilson in his conduct of the World War.

**GEORGE F. WILLIAMSON.**—One of the sturdiest, most experienced, aggressive and progressive of pioneers who have contributed so much to make California the real Golden State, and a pioneer who has long been blessed with a companion who is a genuine native daughter, was the late George F. Williamson, who died at his country home near Riverdale, July 11, 1919. He was a successful farmer and a good business man, capable of driving his twenty-four horses when need be, and the proprietor and the manager of a very fine ranch, such as gladdened the eye to see.

Mr. Williamson had been in California since he was five or six years old, having landed in San Francisco on January 24, 1854, after a very eventful trip by water and the Nicaragua route. His father was Philander L. Williamson, and he had already crossed the great plains once in 1849-50. He had made good as a gold-miner, and had returned to the East. He was born and reared in Tompkins County, New York, and moved to Michigan with his parents. There he married Ann F. Inwood, a native of England, who came to Michigan with her parents, both of whom were born in England. They settled in Romeo, Macomb County, near Albion and not far from Detroit; and as the father was a blacksmith and machinist, and a good one, he was never in want of plenty of profitable work. The mother lived with William French, the editor of the Detroit Tribune, and was brought up in that family. William French later came out to California, and he and Philander Williamson conducted a hotel just above Sacramento. Mr. and Mrs. Williamson were married in Michigan, just before coming out to California, and Mr. Williamson had a large blacksmith shop in Detroit, equipped with several trip hammers, and he installed a number of steam engines in various parts of that city. Originally, his family was of Scotch blood, but he was American "way back," his forefathers being here in Colonial times. He was, in fact, a descendant from Colonel Samuel Williamson, a Colonel in the Revolutionary War. Tradition says that three Williamson brothers came to America from Great Britain, and that the descendants of one of these brothers settled in Tennessee, while those of the second settled in Michigan, and those of the third in the Far West.

Philander Williamson was married in the latter forties, and George F. was born at Albion, Mich., on April 23, 1849. In that town Mr. Williamson left his wife and child and, as a typical, doughty, and far-seeing '49er, he crossed the plains to California. Here he staked his luck in mining for gold; and having been one of the fortunate chaps who struck vein after vein, he returned to his home by way of Panama, in 1852. After he had been in Albion long enough to get his bearings again, he took his wife and child and moved to a place near Gaine's Mills, Va., attracted there by an offer to install the machinery in the new flour mill. At that time he was still subscribing to the New York Tribune, which proved a red flag to the Southern bull; and finding that the people around him, with their strong pro-slavery views, were more and more unsympathetic and uncongenial, he resolved, on finishing the work at the mill, to leave that neighborhood and to come to California with his family. The student of American history who recalls the Battle of Gaine's Mills, in the latter part of June, 1862, and the fierceness with which the Confederates fought here, will understand the unreasonable, bitter preju-



dice entertained in the South against anyone who would commit such an unpardonable offence as to have in his possession a copy of the "Whig" New York Tribune.

With his wife and only child, George, therefore, Philander Williamson sailed from New York on January 1, 1854, and on the very first lap of the journey, on the Atlantic, they all came within an ace of going down in a storm. George has a vivid recollection of that terrible gale, and often today, when the elements rage, he imagines that he is living over again this trying experience. His father went up to Sacramento and ten miles beyond, where he ran a hotel; but later he came back to Stockton, and that pleasant town continued to be his home and headquarters. He built up a large machine shop, and created a good business; he was highly respected, and he prospered. His good wife died, however, and left four children. George F. was the oldest in the family; Dean S., who died in 1894, came next and was the father of two children; Charles lives at Martinez; and there was Letta, now Mrs. Long, at Lodi.

George attended the public schools at Stockton, but his education was limited, owing to an affection of the eyes. Whooping cough and measles weakened them, and for a long time he could not study books. Therefore, while yet a mere youth, he went to work in his father's blacksmith shop in Stockton. The glow of the fire again hurt his eyes, and, threatened with blindness, he began to work around by the month on ranches, principally at dairying and in caring for stock. Through this experience, he became a good horseman.

While at Lathrop, he was married to Miss Sarah Ann Ballard, the attractive daughter of Simeon M. and Amy E. (Dye) Ballard, well-known representatives of a family that came originally from Wales, but which had been several generations in America,—in the East before coming to California. On the mother's side, the forefathers were German. Her father was a gold miner in Tuolumne County, although he was married back in Missouri. He had been born in Kentucky, while her mother was born in Ohio. He crossed the plains with his wife in 1852, and for a while settled near Sonora, on Shaw's Flat, in Tuolumne County; and in 1860 they moved to San Joaquin County, where they engaged in dairy-farming. Eleven children were born to these worthy parents, six girls and five boys: John B. died suddenly on March 26, 1918; and the others were Mary F., Sarah Ann (now Mrs. Williamson), James Leander, Thomas, Martha, Simeon M., Verdir D., Eliza E., Alice V., and Noah W., who died December 13, 1918, at Coalinga. The remarkable vitality of the family is shown by parents and children. The father died in 1890, aged seventy-nine years and seven months; and the mother passed away six years later, having attained to sixty-five years and five months.

George Williamson and his good wife went to live near Stockton, where he worked on a large dairy-farm. In 1881 they moved to Oakdale, Stanislaus County, but three years later they settled in Fresno County, south of Caruthers.

In 1892 they came to Riverdale, and rented and dairied; and seventeen years later, they bought their present place. It is a fine dairy ranch of eighty acres, and has two fine barns and large yards. Their house was unfortunately burned on April 16, 1912; they then built a large modern bungalow, with all up-to-date appointments and conveniences.

Mr. and Mrs. Williamson are the parents of eight children: Simeon Edgar, whose biography and portrait appear elsewhere in this volume, married Alice Hatch, and they had six children; Amy A., who was married in 1902 to Donald Esrey, died in 1913 and left three children—Amy L., Donald S. and Douglas W.; Jesse F., a rancher southwest of Riverdale, married Theresa Taylor, and they have five children—Claude, Lloyd, Ruth, Pauline and James; George Freeman died in 1882, aged sixteen months; Leslie A. is

at home, unmarried, as is also Ethel; while Raymond C. and Gordon F. both served in the army. Raymond C. was in the Twelfth Infantry, and did clerical work in a statistical bureau of the War Department, before the war he was manager of the Riverdale Mercantile Company. Gordon F. served in the cavalry at Camp Joseph Johnson in Florida; before entering the service, he was employed by the Oakland Meat Company, and now he breaks horses for the government. He is a Rough Rider in the true sense of the word, being an expert "broncho buster," and has given exhibitions at fairs and carnivals. He gave an exhibition at Salinas in June, 1918, and another at the district fair at Fresno, the same year. Owing to his excellent daredevil work at Salinas he received the title of "The Pride of Salinas."

George F. Williamson made four trips back to the East. The first was in 1859, when he went to New York by way of Panama, and returned in 1861 by the same route. He later made three different trips overland to Texas, traveling in 1869 by the Southern Route through Arizona, and returning that season by the same route. In 1870 he went to Texas with another band of horses, and that time he took the Northern or Salt Lake Route. And in 1871 he went to the Lone Star State again, and once more journeyed by way of Salt Lake.

An honored pioneer, he was followed to his grave on the 14th day of July, 1919, by a large concourse of friends and neighbors, and his remains were interred in the Washington Cemetery. Few men have had more or better friends.

**FRANK COLEMAN.**—Though not a native son, Frank Coleman has lived most of his life within the state, having been brought here in pioneer days by his parents. He was born in Jersey City, N. J., April 19, 1857, while his mother was there on a visit. His parents, Patrick and Ann (Grogan) Coleman, were both natives of Ireland and had settled in Rochester, N. Y. upon arriving in the United States and there they lived and prospered until in 1864, when the father brought the family to California, via the Isthmus of Panama, and settled in Contra Costa County near San Pablo, and later located near Martinez, where he followed farming and dairying. Both he and his wife died in Martinez. Frank Coleman was educated in the schools of Alameda and Contra Costa Counties, and worked on his father's dairy ranch. He was later in the employ of Bray Bros. Company, and Blum Company, owners of grain warehouses in Martinez, as foreman of their warehouses.

In 1888 Mr. Coleman went to San Francisco and secured employment on the Market Street cable railway as gripman, remaining in that position four years. He was sent to Fresno, in 1893, to recover from an attack of lagrippe, and has been a resident here since that date. Soon after his arrival he found employment with the Madary Planing Mill Company, as driver of a lumber wagon. For the past fourteen years he has been foreman of the yard and tallyman, in all having put in twenty-six years with the company, a record for steady application in which any man might well take pride. Mr. Coleman is a member of the Moose and in politics is a Progressive.

The marriage of Mr. Coleman united him with Mrs. Nancy Pitts, whose maiden name was Gift. She was born in Memphis, Tenn., and came with her parents across the Isthmus to California in 1856, and was raised and educated in Contra Costa County. She has two sons and a daughter by a former marriage, William F. Pitts, and Robert Pitts. William F., the eldest, was born in Antioch, Contra Costa County, September 18, 1871, and attended the public schools of Martinez. He later took up the study of telegraphy and was operator for the Western Union Company in San Francisco. In 1892 he was sent by that company to Fresno, and later became telegraph operator for the Associated Press in the office of the Fresno Republican. In 1900 he left Fresno and became salesman for the Pacific Paint Company of





*Sam Hamer*

San Francisco, later becoming sales manager for the Standard Paint Company of Chicago. In 1915 he returned to California and became business manager of the Burbank Seed and Nursery Company of San Francisco. At present he is traveling salesman for the Cutter Laboratory of Berkeley, Cal. Fraternally he is a member of the Knights of Columbus; the B. P. O. Elks; the Woodmen of the World; and the Native Sons of the Golden West. His marriage united him with Winnie Hodnett, a native of San Francisco, and they have two sons, W. F. Jr., and James H. Both boys are graduates of the Morgan Potts Military Academy of Chicago, with a captain's rank, and are now in the service of the U. S. Army. W. F. is lieutenant in Battery A, One hundred and Forty-fourth Field Artillery, (The Grizzlies); James H. is in the Aviation Corps, U. S. A.

**HANS HANSEN.**—A pioneer of the Mount Olive district, Fresno County, and one who has made a decided success of his life work, is found in the person of Hans Hansen, who has always been ready and willing to lend a helping hand to those less fortunate than himself and to give valuable advice as well as encouragement to the homeseeker and home-maker. A native of Denmark, he was born at Bornholm, March 6, 1845, a son of Hans and Ingburg (Kofoad) Hansen. They were parents of eight children and Hans is the only member of the family now living. He was educated in the public schools of his native land and was reared to hard work from a lad, so that when he struck out in the world for himself he was able to handle almost any kind of a job where strength was a requirement.

In 1872, Mr. Hansen came from his home place to the United States and for two years worked in Iroquois and La Salle counties, in Illinois. His one desire was to come to California and when he had made enough money to defray his expenses he immediately made what he considers the best move he ever made during his life. He came to Fresno County and the first two years he chopped wood, then he bought a team and did a general teaming business; in fact, for fifteen years he was busily engaged in that occupation and fortunately made money. He hauled the brick for the first school house, and for part of the court house, in Merced County, and from there he went to Bakersfield and hauled the brick for the first court house in Kern County. So well did he do the work he set out to do that his services were always in demand and he was kept unusually busy.

Mr. Hansen bought his first land, 320 acres in the Wahtoke district, in 1901. For a good many years he was a large grain farmer, right in the location where he now makes his home. He also raised cattle and hogs in the foothills of the mountains, where he had about 6,000 acres of range land. He continued as a stockman for about nine years. He is now (1919) raising grain, fruit and alfalfa. He owned forty acres of good land in Tulare County which he sold at a good profit. He now has eighty acres that he intends to put in vines and trees, also another eighty nearby that he is developing for a home place.

When Mr. Hansen settled in this section of Fresno County there were but three houses between his place and Reedley, and the latter was just started and he little thought that it would grow to its present size in so short a time. Ever since he has been in the county he has helped to promote all enterprises for the building-up of his section of the county and for the betterment of social and moral conditions. He is a booster for all cooperative associations among the ranchers and fruit-growers, believing them to be the salvation of the producers. He has fostered every movement of the raisin-growers and now is a stockholder in the California Associated Raisin Company and the California Peach Growers, Inc. A friend of education, he helped organize the Mount Olive School district, and served for nine years as a trustee. When the time came for starting a bank in Reedley, Mr. Hansen came to the front and helped organize the Reedley National Bank, in which

he is a stockholder; also helped organize the Farmers' and Merchants Bank, now the First National in Reedley. In politics he supports the Republican candidates but he has never aspired to any office.

Mr. Hansen is a practical rancher, using the most up-to-date machinery and implements to carry on his operations. He reads the best literature on the live topics of the day relating to viticulture and horticulture and his advice is very often sought in these matters, for his experiences have been varied and in all his operations he has met with good results. He spent the summer of 1889 in Europe, visiting his old home and other places of interest on the Continent, but was glad to return to the land of sunshine and gold, and the county of the raisin and the peach. Mr. Hansen is a young-old man, easily taken for one-half his age. He makes and retains his friends, and when Hans Hansen says a thing is so it is considered to be so, for he is a man whose word is as good as his bond. He looks back upon a life well-spent and forward to the future without fear, for he has done his part in the making of this commonwealth.

**GEORGE L. WARLOW.**—A highly-honored member of the legal profession was the late George L. Warlow, a native of Bloomington, Ill., where he was born on July 1, 1849. His father was Jonathan B. Warlow, while his mother before her marriage was Catherine B. Hay. George attended the public schools of his locality until he had thoroughly prepared for college, and then he went to the Northwestern University at Indianapolis, Ind., where he remained until 1872. In that year he matriculated at Eureka College, in Eureka, Ill., from which he graduated with honors in 1874. Having a first-class general collegiate training, Mr. Warlow put it to the test by teaching school, in Bloomington, Ill., where he had charge of classes for a year.

Resolved upon prosecuting a professional career, he then entered the law office of Stevenson & Ewing, and read law under the late Adlai Ewing Stevenson, later Vice-President of the United States, and then again sought the lecture-room, this time registering in the Bloomington Law School of the Wesleyan University, at Bloomington, Ill., from which he was graduated in the Centennial Year. That same year he continued the study of law in the office of the well-known firm of Bloomfield, Pollock & Campbell, where his facilities were exceptionally good; and in July, 1876, he was admitted to the bar.

Mr. Warlow then went to Virginia, Cass County, Ill., and formed a partnership for the practice of law with State Senator A. A. Leeper, under the firm name of Warlow & Leeper; and this partnership was continued until 1889. Few men were better or more favorably known there at that time, and he served with general satisfaction as Master of Chancery at Virginia.

In 1889 Mr. Warlow first came to Fresno; and here, until 1914 he practiced for himself with flattering success. Then he took into partnership his son Chester, and the firm,—now so widely and favorably known—became Warlow & Warlow.

While residing at Virginia, in Illinois, Mr. Warlow was married, on September 23, 1880, to Ella Knowles, by whom he had four children. Trenna died in Fresno, at the age of ten, of the black diphtheria; George, when seven years old, also died here a week after, of the same malady—Trenna's case being the first known in the community. Zoe died in Virginia, Ill., an infant. All four children were born at that place.

George L. Warlow died on October 17, 1918, and was buried privately at Mountain View Cemetery. He left his widow and son, Chester, as his only heirs. He also left a will making his son, (who had been associated with him in practice and was already a rising attorney,) his executor. At the time of his father's death, however, Chester was in the United States Air Service at Kelley Field, San Antonio, Texas, and it was impossible for him

to act; so an uncle, W. T. Knowles, well known to Fresno and the oil interests at Coalinga, was duly appointed administrator with the will annexed.

Chester H. Warlow, the youngest of the four children, was born on June 3, 1889 and was only six months old when he came to Fresno with his parents. He attended the grammar schools and then went to the Kemper Military Academy at Boonville, Mo., one of the best military schools of its size in the country, from which he was graduated in 1906. He then entered the Leland Stanford University and took the prelegal course and was graduated in 1911 with the degree of A.B.; and in the fall of that year he matriculated at the Harvard Law School, at Cambridge, Mass. For a year there he specialized in law, and the following year returned to Leland Stanford and completed the Stanford Law School course. When he graduated, as a member of the Class of '13, he received the degree of Doctor of Law.

Returning to Fresno, Mr. Warlow entered the law office of his father, and father and son formed the partnership of Warlow & Warlow. At the opening of the World War, Chester volunteered in the regular army, and was sent to Kelley Field, Texas; and later on he was assigned to the One Hundred Fifth Aero Squadron there, where he attained to the rank of First Lieutenant. He was honorably discharged on December 24, 1918, and arrived home on the following New Year's Day. The first of February he opened his law office at 812 Griffith-McKenzie Building, and since then has been busy at the commencement of his independent career in which, it is safe to say, he will ably and conscientiously maintain the enviable traditions of his honored father.

**MRS. MYRA SHIMMINS.**—A place among the women who have left their impress on the development of Fresno County should be accorded Mrs. Myra Shimmins, a native daughter of California, born in Yorktown, Tuolumne County, and a resident of Fresno for the past twenty-eight years. She is a descendant of pioneers of the state from both sides of the family. Her father, Samuel Platt, a native of Maine, came to California in early days, and was a miner in Tuolumne County, having discovered one of the successful and productive mines there, known as the Platt and Gilsón Mine. He lived all his time in Tuolumne County, and died there. Mrs. Shimmins' maternal grandfather was Fred Klein; he came around the Horn to California in '49, and arrived in San Francisco when it was a city of tents, with all the excitement and lawlessness of a new frontier town. He went to Tuolumne County, established a store at Yorktown, planted a vineyard and orchard, and died there.

After the death of Samuel Platt, his widow moved the family to a ranch in the county. Later the family removed to the Livermore Valley, and there Myra Platt married William F. Shimmins, a native of Wisconsin, who had come to California in 1885, and located in Livermore Valley. He was a railroad man, and later was baggage man in the Southern Pacific depot, at Los Angeles. In 1890 Mr. and Mrs. Shimmins moved to Fresno, and here Mr. Shimmins was in the employ of the San Joaquin Light and Power Company for many years. His death occurred in February, 1915. Four children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Shimmins: William F., a sergeant in the United States Army; Mrs. Ida A. Perry, of Chicago; Mrs. Hazel R. Paul, of Hanford; and Olen L., who has charge of his mother's florist shop in Fresno.

Always fond of flowers, and a great lover of the beauties of nature, Mrs. Shimmins decided to put this talent to practical use, and in 1902 started a florist shop in a small way, locating at 1145 I Street. With a natural incentive for the work from the beginning, she soon built up a fine business, and now occupies one of the stores in the Griffith-McKenzie Building, on J Street. In 1900 Mrs. Shimmins bought two and one-half acres in the Sierra Park tract, on Belmont Avenue, near Van Ness. This property she let re-



main idle for a few years, then subdivided the land, and it is now all built up with fine homes. She was a pioneer in that district and the first to build a home there, the land being originally in orchards and vineyard.

Mrs. Shimmings recalls her early days in Fresno, when irrigating ditches ran through the heart of the city and all the important corners in the business district were occupied by blacksmith shops. The courthouse park was as popular then as now, and the mothers took their children to the park in summer to enjoy the shade and flowers. Mrs. Shimmings has cheerfully done her share in building up the city to its present prosperous condition, has shown much business acumen and public spirit, and withal has been an excellent mother, giving her children a good education and fitting them for the battle of life.

**LEWIS O. STEPHENS.**—As a native son of California, this well-known member of a well-known pioneer family has had ample opportunity not only to witness the growth of the state, but to contribute to it a large share himself. His father, Joseph J. Stephens, left his home in Missouri in 1854 and crossed the plains to seek his fortune in the land of golden opportunity. By dint of hard work and close economy, in two years he was able to return to Missouri to claim his bride, Elizabeth Davis. A year later, accompanied by his wife, he again made the slow journey across the plains. Arriving in Yolo County, he engaged in stock-raising near Madison, and was well known in this section for many years as a progressive, honorable citizen. He established his family in a home in Woodland, where he and his wife enjoyed the fruits of their early labor through a long and useful life, until death claimed them.

Such were the parents of L. O. Stephens, and from whom he received the early training which prepared him to take a prominent place among his fellow citizens. Born in Yolo County on May 31, 1859, he was one of a family of eight children and he was educated in the public schools, then took a course in Hesperian College at Woodland. As a young man he spent a number of years working with his father. Later, he devoted some time to the study of architecture, and for two years he operated a farm on his own account. Finally he decided to enter the commercial world and engaged in the furniture and undertaking business in his home town, Woodland, where he continued until his removal to Fresno in January, 1891. Here a partnership was formed with W. A. Bean, under the firm name of Stephens & Bean, since which time, until the summer of 1919, when Mr. Bean retired from the firm, a successful business has been conducted by this enterprising firm. They started in business at 1141 I Street, and remained there until they erected, in 1912, one of the finest buildings of its kind, and with every modern convenience, to be found in the entire west, and they have always enjoyed a well-deserved patronage. When Mr. Bean retired from the firm the ownership and management was taken over by L. O. Stephens and his son, J. D. Stephens, and at that time, June 1, 1919, there was a complete reorganization on the profit-sharing basis, all profits being shared with employees. This was the first firm in Central California that was known to take this progressive and popular step.

In 1886, Mr. Stephens was married in Missouri to Miss Bettie Bean, daughter of the late Daniel Orr Bean, who died in August, 1919, aged eighty-six years. Of this fortunate marriage one son, J. D. Stephens, was born. After attaining his majority he became a member of the firm of Stephens & Bean. Mrs. Stephens was born in Paris, Monroe County, Mo., and was educated in the public schools of that place, finishing at the Music Institute of Professor Dana, near Chicago, Ill. In Fresno, Mrs. Stephens has always been active in the First Christian Church, and also in the Women's Club work, and with three other ladies organized the first kindergarten work in Fresno City.





*L. O. Stephens*



Mrs. L. Q. Stephens



L. O. Stephens adheres to Democratic principles, and was elected Mayor of Fresno for a term of four years, 1901-1905. In several different capacities he has faithfully served the city and county, as well as holding the office of County Coroner for two terms while residing in Woodland, Yolo County. He has not only filled the office of Coroner for Fresno County four years, but was elected a member of the Board of Education, and under Mayor Rowell he served on the police commission for four years, and also served in the same capacity under Mayor Snow. All of these varied duties were performed with tact and ability, and he holds an enviable place in the esteem of the people of Fresno City and County.

Mr. Stephens attends the First Christian Church. Fraternally he is a Mason, holding membership in Fresno Lodge; Trigo Chapter; Fresno Commandery; Islam Temple; and the Eastern Star; he also is an Odd Fellow, Knight of Pythias, Fraternal Brotherhood, Woodmen of the World, Modern Woodmen of America, Independent Order of Foresters, and Fresno Parlor Native Sons. He is a member of the Commercial Club, Chamber of Commerce and the California Associated Raisin Company. In 1906 he was requested to conduct the Raisin Growers' campaign and reorganize the association, which he did, and he has the satisfaction of seeing the successful completion of his work, with the association in a flourishing condition.

**DAVID S. EWING.**—Among the professional men who occupy positions of prominence in the esteem of the citizens of Fresno County, David S. Ewing has proven his worth as an attorney and has won popularity throughout the San Joaquin Valley. He was born in Fulton, Callaway County, Mo., October 24, 1866, a son of Henry Neal Ewing, a native of that same locality. The grandfather, James Ewing, was born in Kentucky and migrated to Missouri in 1820, following in the footsteps of his father who moved westward from Virginia into Kentucky. The Ewings are of Scotch-Irish ancestry and inherited the sturdy traits which have made of these people some of our most desirable citizens.

Henry Neal Ewing was reared in Missouri and educated at Yale University, after which, in 1849, he crossed the plains to California with ox teams, and upon his arrival engaged in mining for several years, after which he returned to Missouri. He again crossed the plains, and once more returned to Missouri during the Civil War. In 1874 he moved to Kansas City, where for six years he was engaged in business, then, in 1880, he brought his family to California, locating in Fresno. He was the third colonist of Fresno Colony, where he purchased a farm, set out a vineyard and a forty-acre orchard, and made many other valuable and permanent improvements. In 1887 he sold this property and moved into Fresno, where he died in 1890. His wife was formerly Carrie Martin, born near Fulton, Mo., the daughter of William Martin, a Virginian who was a pioneer of Missouri, settling on property adjoining that of James Ewing. He was of French and German ancestry. Mrs. Ewing died in Kansas City, in 1878, leaving a family of six sons and two daughters, David S. being the second son.

David S. Ewing was reared to manhood in Fulton, Kansas City, Fresno and on the paternal ranch in Fresno County. In 1883 he was employed in the surveying corps on the survey of the upper San Joaquin canal, where he remained for about two and one-half years. In 1887 he attended the Pacific Business College in San Francisco, and upon returning to Fresno, he was employed in the office of the city tax collector, and the following year became deputy county school superintendent under B. A. Hawkins. In 1890 and 1891 he served as chief deputy in the county tax collector's office. In all his official positions Mr. Ewing acquitted himself honorably. From early boyhood he had an eager desire to study law, and was not content even with the good positions he so easily secured. At every opportunity he read law from the books he could obtain and in 1893 he was admitted to the bar to practice in the superior courts of California, and entered upon the practice of

his profession. He formed a partnership with O. L. Everts, under the firm name of Everts and Ewing, and together they built up a good general practice. This partnership still exists and is the oldest legal firm in the county. In 1895 Mr. Ewing entered the University of Michigan as a senior in the law department, being graduated therefrom in 1896, with the degree of LL. B., and again taking up his practice with his partner in Fresno.

David S. Ewing was united in marriage, in Fresno, on May 1, 1898, with Grace Maul, a native of Illinois. She was the daughter of Frank Maul, a native of Germany and a prominent merchant of Kewanee, Ill. He eventually retired to Fresno, Cal. Mrs. Ewing is a graduate of the Kewanee high school. To Mr. and Mrs. Ewing, August 15, 1901, were born two daughters, Blanche and Mildred, both of whom are students in the Fresno high school. In his fraternal relations Mr. Ewing is a member, and Past Exalted Ruler of Fresno Lodge, No. 439, B. P. O. Elks; a member and past officer of Manzanita Camp, No. 160, W. O. W. He is a Scottish and York Rite Mason and a member of Islam Temple, A. A. O. N. M. S. of San Francisco. Socially he is prominent, holding membership in the following clubs: Sequoia, Commercial, University, Sunnyside, Country and Elks, of Fresno; Sierra Madre Club of Los Angeles; and the Bakersfield Club. He is a member of the Fresno Chamber of Commerce and the Fresno County Bar Association. Since 1897 Mr. Ewing has been directly interested with the oil industry of Fresno and Kern Counties and is a member of the executive committee of the Independent Oil Producers Agency, since 1912. The selection of Mr. Ewing, by the Democratic State Central Committee at their committee meeting in San Francisco in September, 1918, as chairman, is but another tribute to his standing throughout the state in political circles. As a progressive citizen Mr. Ewing has been associated with the development of California, particularly the San Joaquin Valley and Fresno County, for many years and is always ready and willing to lend his aid to all worthy projects for its upbuilding. He is well and favorably known throughout the entire San Joaquin Valley.

**HONORABLE ALVA E. SNOW.**—In the person of Alva E. Snow, Fresno has a citizen of sterling integrity and worth, a lawyer of skill and ability, who, as district attorney for four years rendered excellent service to the county, and whose administration as mayor of the city was marked as one of the most progressive the city had experienced. He comes from distinguished ancestors, being a descendant of the Pilgrims who came to American shores in the Mayflower. This immigrant ancestor was Nicholas Snow, who came from England and married at Plymouth, Mass., prior to June 1, 1627, Constance Hopkins, who came over with her father, Stephen Hopkins, on the Mayflower in 1620. Nicholas Snow died in Eastham, Mass., November 25, 1676. His descendants were for many years active in the management of public affairs of Plymouth County, Mass., which was the birthplace of Alva E. Snow and his father, the late Harvey Snow. Capt. Prince Snow, grandfather of Alva E., was born, lived and died in Plymouth County. He was a seafaring man and to some extent was also engaged in farming pursuits.

Succeeding to the occupation to which he was reared, Harvey Snow was a New England farmer, and was engaged in mercantile pursuits at Mattapoisett, Plymouth County, where he reared his family. He died at the age of sixty-five years. He was held in high esteem as a citizen, serving as selectman and as school trustee; he was liberal in religious beliefs, and a member of the Universalist Church. His wife, whose maiden name was Bridget Marron, was born in County Mayo, Ireland, makes her home with her son Alva E., in Fresno. He is the oldest and the only one living, of the children born to his parents.

Alva E. Snow was born at Mattapoisett, Plymouth County, Mass., October 13, 1860, was reared in that county and educated in the public schools, and at Taber Academy at Marion, Mass., then at Tufts College, from which



he was graduated in 1887, with the degree of A. B. He then entered Harvard Law School and was later admitted to the bar in Massachusetts in 1889. Coming at once to California, he stopped for fifteen months in San Francisco, where he was with the law firm of Herman & Soto. He located in Fresno on January 1, 1891, practiced his profession two years and then served two years as deputy district attorney, under Firman Church. As the nominee on the Republican ticket, Mr. Snow was elected to the office of district attorney of Fresno County in 1894, serving for four years, and having the distinction of being the first Republican district attorney of Fresno County. As deputy district attorney, Mr. Snow succeeded in convicting the train robber, Chris Evans, securing life imprisonment; he also conducted the prosecution of Sanders, the noted forger. He was successful, as district attorney, having conducted several cases of importance, and established an enviable reputation as an able prosecutor. In 1909 Mr. Snow was elected to the city council and in 1912 was appointed mayor. In 1913 he was elected to that office for a term of four years and ably filled the position, reflecting great credit to himself, his constituents and to the city. During the term many necessary improvements were made in the city government, new methods instituted and new problems worked out, in all departments the administration was one of progress. After his term expired, Mr. Snow resumed his law practice, which has grown to be of large proportions.

On December 12, 1891, Alva E. Snow was united in marriage with Miss Dora P. Colson, born and reared in Plymouth County, Mass., where her father, Owen D. Colson, was a prosperous merchant. In 1903 Mr. and Mrs. Snow visited their old New England home county, afterwards made a trip to England and the continent, traveling throughout Europe. Mr. Snow was made a Mason in Marion, Mass., but is now a member of Fresno Lodge, No. 274, F. & A. M.; of Fresno Lodge B. P. O. Elks; and is a member of the County Bar Association. He is a member of the Congregational Church. Socially he is a member of the University Club, of Fresno and in politics he is an unswerving Republican.

**JUDGE SAMUEL A. HOLMES.**—How much California owes to the best blood of the South, and especially, perhaps, what inestimable contribution has been made to the California Bar by the commonwealths of the so-called Southern States, may be seen in the splendid career of the late Judge Samuel A. Holmes, who was a native of North Carolina, born at Wilmington, in 1830. He was educated in the same State, first at the well-known academy at Chapel Hill, and then in the University of North Carolina, from whose law department he was graduated with special honors.

For some years after being admitted to the bar, Attorney Holmes practiced in North Carolina, and also served as a member of the State legislature, leaving an enviable record for painstaking fidelity to his constituents. Then he farmed a large plantation in Alabama; but the Civil War breaking out, he was impelled to uphold the cause of his native section, and so he entered and served in the Confederate ranks. After the War, like so many others he returned to the cultivation of the soil in Mississippi; and always believing in doing as best he could whatever he undertook to do at all, he made such a success of his plantation that it became, so to speak, a model for the community.

In 1868, Mr. Holmes came to California by way of the Isthmus and joined the Alabama settlement near Madera, where he farmed successfully for several years. He became a Director of the Stockton Asylum for the Insane, and was also honored by election to the Constitutional Convention. The Convention having provided for this district of the Superior Court, Mr. Holmes was appointed the first Superior Judge here; and in 1880 he was elected to the same office. So well did he satisfy the public, while fulfilling his obligations to the State and meeting his own high sense of honor and

ethics, that again in 1890 the voters of the district chose him for Judge. His courtliness, of the old-school type, together with his known integrity captivated everyone, and he was filling the high office when, in December, 1894, he died.

Judge Holmes had married Miss Mary Strudwick, a native of Mobile, Ala., and the daughter of an extensive planter, the ceremony taking place in 1851, and from their union were born Owen and John, both of whom are now dead; Mrs. W. J. Pickett, and W. A. Holmes. W. A. Holmes was the Southern Pacific City Passenger Agent at Fresno, and in August, 1918, he was appointed the chief clerk of the Fresno office of the United States Railroad Administration. The family belongs, therefore, to that group of early and prominent pioneers of which Fresno County is and always will be very proud.

**CHARLES A. MARSHALL** and **EDWIN C. MARSHALL**.—Eye witnesses of the many changes that have taken place in Fresno County since the Marshall family came to California, has been the lot of Charles A. and Edwin C. Marshall, pioneer ranchers of the Centerville district. They recall the time when the present fertile and productive fields were but wind-swept desert wastes covered with cacti. They are descendants of an old Kentucky family and sons of Louis and Mary (Force) Marshall, natives of the Blue Grass State, and where the former died. Three brothers, Charles A., Edwin C., and Albert R. Marshall came to this state and located in Fresno County in 1886. They bought thirty-five acres of land at Centerville and embarked in the nursery business for some time, when they disposed of it and set their ranch to trees and vines. Their good mother joined her sons in 1889, made her home on their ranch and enjoyed the comforts of California life until her death in 1910. Louis and Mary Marshall have the following surviving children: Mrs. Mary Wiley, of Whittier; Mrs. Jennie Clopton, of Los Angeles; Charles A., of Fresno; Albert R., of Santa Ana; Edwin C., of Centerville; and Mrs. Josie Fernald, of San Francisco.

Charles A. Marshall was born in Ballard County, Ky., April 25, 1866, received his education in the public schools of his native state and was reared there until the age of twenty when he came with his brothers to Fresno County and ever since that date his interests have been closely interwoven with the history of the growth of the county. He lived on the ranch and assisted in its development for many years and in 1917 he was united in marriage with Mrs. Caroline (Dickson) Dodd, who was born in Humboldt County, Cal. Mr. and Mrs. Marshall reside in Fresno and enter heartily into the social life of their community.

Edwin C. Marshall was born in Kentucky on May 10, 1870, and was educated in the schools with his brother and with him came to make a home in the Golden West. He has lived on the ranch at Centerville ever since the property was acquired by the brothers. He served as horticultural commissioner of Fresno County for a few years. Edwin C. Marshall was united in marriage with Mary Lockhart, a native of Missouri and they dispense a charming hospitality at the Marshall ranch.

The Marshall ranch at Centerville is a very productive property, the deep, rich fertile soil producing banner crops each year. In 1918 the yield of fifteen acres planted to Emperor and Malaga grapes was 127 tons of Emperors and 29 tons of Malagas, and the 1917 crop was of still larger proportions. This land was developed from its raw state. Two irrigating systems have been installed, with an extra pumping plant for the orange grove.

In 1914 in order to stabilize the market prices and build up the fruit business Charles A. Marshall began shipping green fruit to points in the east, on a strictly commission basis. In the above year he became associated with B. W. Shepherd, as buyer of green fruits in the Sanger district, shipping to the well-known commission firm of Sgoble and Day, New York City. In this



*C. A. Marshall.*



business Mr. Marshall has been very successful. He is very public-spirited and heartily cooperates in promoting those movements that have for their aim the upbuilding of city, county and state, and is recognized as a man of unquestioned integrity.

**JOHN J. KERN.**—Among Fresno's worthy citizens of foreign birth is John J. Kern, proprietor of the liquor store at 2033 Mariposa Street. His store is one of the landmarks of Fresno, as he has been in the liquor business in this building continuously for more than twenty years. He recalls shooting rabbits in the early days on the present site of the city of Fresno. His earliest recollections are in connection with the Fatherland, for he was born in the Kingdom of Bavaria, Southern Germany, April 8, 1854. John J. Kern was educated in the common schools of Germany and in early life learned the brewing business, which he followed in his native country until 1880, when he came to America. The first six years, after his advent in the New World, were spent in a Buffalo brewery and on a farm in the country. In 1886 he came to the Pacific Coast and worked for the National Brewing Company in San Francisco until 1895, when he located in Fresno and opened a liquor store at his present stand.

In 1881 Mr. Kern entered the matrimonial state, choosing as his life companion a daughter of the old Fatherland, Elizabeth Kaufer. Five children were born to them: Ida, is now Mrs. Moisen of Patton; Emma L. is Mrs. Delk of Fresno and is the mother of one daughter; Harry L., who served in the United States Expeditionary Forces in Europe; two daughters died in childhood and are buried in San Francisco. Mr. Kern owns one hundred sixty acres of unimproved land west of Fresno and several town lots. Fraternally he is affiliated with the Foresters of America, the Owls, Sons of Herman, and is also a member of the Chamber of Commerce.

**A. D. EWING.**—Among the many native Missourians who have contributed to the development of the city and country adjacent to Fresno there are few names better known than that of A. D. Ewing, county treasurer of Fresno. He is the son of Henry N. and Carrie (Martin) Ewing, and was born in Callaway County, Mo., February 14, 1861, just prior to the opening scenes of the great drama of the Civil War. The elder Ewing followed the occupation of farming until he came to California in 1882, when he purchased forty acres of land and engaged in fruit raising, following the occupation for six years; afterwards engaging with Mr. Bartlett in the dray and transfer business, continuing in this business until his death in 1892. His wife died in 1879, three years prior to his coming to California.

At fifteen years of age Mr. A. D. Ewing had the misfortune to lose his right arm in a railroad accident. Notwithstanding this handicap he has made a success of life, standing shoulder to shoulder with his compeers as a man of ability. He received a public school education, and coming to California in 1883 engaged in fruit raising. After completing a course in business college in San Francisco in 1886-87, he returned to Fresno and in 1888-89 was elected the first tax collector in Fresno County. He was united in marriage June 2, 1890, with Miss Mollie Munday, of Kansas City. The union has been childless. Finishing his term of office he joined his brother, D. S. Ewing, in improving forty acres of land, continuing in this occupation until 1893 when he accepted a position to do clerical work in the auditor's and assessor's office, acting in that capacity until 1899, in which year he was appointed deputy county clerk, serving under George W. Cartwright for four years, afterwards serving for eight years under W. O. Miles and another four years under D. M. Barnwell also acting as clerk of the court. In August, 1914, he received the exclusive nomination for county treasurer for a term of four years and in 1918 was renominated for said office without opposition and in November, 1918, was elected. He is an active member of the Christian Church, serving as an officer in that church for eighteen years, ten years

of which he was the treasurer. He is also a director of the Young Men's Christian Association. In politics he is a Democrat. He has passed the chairs of the Lodge and Encampment of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and for over eleven years was the financial secretary of Fresno Lodge, No. 186, I. O. O. F. He is a member of the Woodmen of the World and also belongs to the Brotherhood of American Yeomen, acting in the capacity of secretary for that organization for a period of ten years. During his long term of efficient service in office he has won an enviable reputation for probity and has made many warm friends.

**JUAN CAMINO.**—Pastoral occupations are imbued with a charm peculiarly their own, and this is particularly true of this occupation when it is in combination with the old world life found in the country of Northern Spain. Juan Camino, one of Fresno County's early settlers and sheep men, was born in the northern part of that picturesque country, coming as a Christmas gift to his parents, December 25, 1857. Brought up and educated on the farm he herded sheep for his father, a sheep raiser, until 1881, when he came to America and arrived in Fresno with a small amount of money. He continued the occupation of sheep herding in Fresno County until 1885, when he bought a few sheep with money he had saved and engaged in business with his brother Domingo. The flock increased until at one time they owned 7,000 sheep and some cattle. They ranged the sheep all over the county, also drove them into Mono and Inyo Counties for feed. Domingo sold his interest to his brother and returned to his native country, Juan continuing in the sheep raising business until 1904, when he sold out and retired from active business life. A self-made man, Mr. Camino has acquired considerable property interests in Fresno County. He is the owner of 1,500 acres of grazing land near Coalinga, also a five-acre peach orchard north of Fresno, as well as houses and lots in Fresno.

In 1895 he was married to Grace Etchegoin, a native of France, who has borne him an interesting family of four children, namely: Marie, Raymond, Micaela and Mary Jane. Mr. Camino is a well known and influential member of the Catholic Church.

**C. S. HARDWICKE.**—Mr. Hardwicke is of English descent, having been born in Rotherham, Yorkshire, England, on August 26, 1869. He spent his youth in his native country, attending the Tonbridge and Oundle High Schools. His parents are Eugene and Martha (Saunders) Hardwicke, and to them were born five children, of whom four are living.

In 1886, at the age of seventeen years, C. S. Hardwicke came to Fresno County, stopping at the Washington Colony. He was a young man of means; yet he was ready to do his bit and went right to work the day after arriving, and that spirit has stayed with him ever since and is one of the telling characteristics in his make-up today. In 1891, five years after his arrival in Fresno County, he bought his first piece of land. Misfortune lurked just around the corner for him, and in the early nineties, like so many others, the panic struck him and he lost his place with all the improvements he had worked so hard to make. The place he lost would now easily bring \$12,000, and he lost it on a debt of \$700. Discouraged somewhat, but not vanquished, Mr. Hardwicke went to Orosi, in Tulare County, where he developed another vineyard. Here he was married to Miss Margaret Forseman, a member of a pioneer family at Wildflower. They had two children, Constance and Kenneth. Mrs. Hardwicke died in 1913.

In 1906 Mr. Hardwicke sold out in Tulare County and, returning to Fresno County, bought the place he now owns. He has forty acres two miles south of Fresno on Jensen Avenue, just off of Elm. There are ten acres in bearing Emperors and eight acres of young Emperors, four acres of Cornichons, seven acres of Sultanas, five acres of Thompson seedless, five acres of Muscats, and one acre of naval oranges. He has experimented with all the

grapes and is satisfied in his own mind that the emperors are the most profitable. He has remodeled his home and built barns and other needed buildings, and was one of the first in this section to put in the now justly celebrated "Kewanee" Water System. His native energy, directed by intelligence, has enabled him to possess one of the most productive vineyards in Fresno County. As has been seen, he specializes in table grapes.

Mr. Hardwicke is a good friend to education and progress, and for many years has served as trustee of the Fresno Colony school district, which maintains one of the best schools in the country districts in Fresno County, and much of the credit for the excellence of the school is due to him. He is a stockholder in the Raisin Association, is progressive and wide-awake, and may be counted upon to lend a hand when any forward movement looking to the advancement of Fresno County is begun.

**TAYLOR M. ELAM.**—A master of his environment and the formidable obstacles that once confronted him and, for the time being, brought disaster, and therefore the skilful mariner successfully directing his own destiny, is Taylor M. Elam, who has twice made a fortune, and whose many friends rejoice in his present prosperity. He was born near Knoxville, Tenn., December 5, 1849, the son of Joel Elam, a native of Old Virginia.

In that commonwealth the father married Sarah Callac, who was also born there, and they moved to Kentucky, then to Tennessee, and after that to Texas. The father's health urged him, however, to migrate still farther, and in April, 1853, he started for California, with his wife and five children, but when five weeks out, he died on the plains. His widow and the children continued the journey in the ox-team train, and were seven months en route ere they reached Los Angeles. Then they went to Redwood City, where the mother took up land, but it proved to be a grant, and after two years she had to give up all she had acquired. Then she located at San Juan, bought a farm and once again started to make a home, but this also proved a grant, and she lost what she had invested. Coming to the Sonora Mines at Shaw's Flat, she ran a small hotel and eating-house. Later she moved to Stockton and farmed with the aid of her children, and then she moved to Modesto, Stanislaus County. They were the second family into Paradise, then Mariposa County, and soon after they located at Pea Ridge, where they remained about twenty-five years. Some of the children married there, and Mrs. Elam resided with her children, till she died at the age of sixty-four, the mother of five sons and daughters: John Henry, a dairyman four miles from Kerman; Fannie, who is Mrs. Smither of Mariposa County; Taylor, the subject of this review; Tabitha, who married Neal Robinson, and who died at Raymond; J. Thomas, residing on Effie Street, in Fresno.

Brought up in California, Taylor M. remembers the trip across the plains and his early life on the farm in Mariposa County, where he had his introduction to the stock business. He attended the public school, learned to ride the range, rope, brand and care for cattle, and for twenty-two years was in the saddle every day. In 1878 he was married at Fresno to Miss Lucy Wainwright, a native of Kentucky who came across the plains to California with her parents. Prior to his marriage, Mr. Elam and his brothers were, in the stock business together, but when he became a benedict, they divided up their interests. In 1884 he came to Fresno and engaged in the livery business, and ran the Front Street Livery Stable, and also operated a stage from Fresno to Easton and White's Bridge for seven years, when he sold out and ran a stage to Fine Gold, now Madera County. He also engaged in the dray and express business, and quit to take up real estate, in which field he met with success.

He bought lands and lots, subdivided and sold, owning and disposing of both the Gladys and the Irvington additions; and by improving wisely, he realized well on what he had sold prior to two years of panic. That cold



blanket to business and prosperity, however, nearly cleaned him out in 1889, and he went to Merced County to work on a ranch and recuperate. He drove a ten-mule team at one dollar a day and farmed, and made strenuous efforts to get another start; he saved money and bought the Last Chance Mine on Whitlock Creek in Mariposa County. He operated it vigorously and met with success; so that in two years he cleaned up \$6,000.

He and J. Thomas, his brother, then went in for dairying and were the first to engage in that business on the Kearney ranch, where they conducted a fine dairy for three years, but not finding their arrangements with Kearney satisfactory, they gave it up and bought bank-lands, four miles south of Kerman, where they continued dairying. They leveled and checked, and were the first to sow alfalfa in that vicinity. They sold cream and also rented 900 acres for range purposes, and they are still renting 700 acres there. They own the fifty-five acres on North Avenue, fifteen miles from Fresno, and four miles from Kerman, where they built a residence and barns. In 1918 the brothers bought forty acres on Kearney Avenue, thirteen miles west of Fresno, which is devoted to the growing of alfalfa. They put in a pumping-plant and have fifty cows in their dairy. They also raise cattle, horses and hogs.

Two children blessed the union of Mr. and Mrs. Elam: Frank lives in Sacramento; while Gladys, who is a graduate of the Chico State Normal, is teaching at Berkeley. The family attends the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mr. Elam is an Independent Democrat in national politics. He is a stockholder in the Danish Creamery Association.

**JOHN GERNER.**—Owner of an eighty-acre ranch on Jensen Avenue, eight miles from Fresno, John Gerner had been a resident of this section since 1891 and was associated with the building-up of the agricultural and horticultural interests of this part of Fresno County. He was born in Washington County, Wis., July 14, 1856, a son of Christian and Johanna (Seidermann) Gerner, natives of Germany, but married in Wisconsin. The father was a wagonmaker by trade but followed farming after reaching the United States. Both he and his good wife died in Wisconsin. They became the parents of nine children, seven of whom are still living. John was the second child and oldest son and the only one to live in Fresno County.

The elder Gerner appreciated the advantages of an education and the son was sent to the district school during the year until he was old enough to assist on the farm, after which he attended the winter terms. John learned to care for stock, helped operate their farm when the work was done by ox teams and he began to plow at the age of ten. As the dairy interests became more important in their section the lad became familiar with it and they furnished milk to the creameries there. In time he became owner of 100 acres in Washington County, which he improved and farmed until he came to California, in 1888.

During his residence in his native state John Gerner was married to Mary Bager, by whom he had three children: Robert, born in 1881, was killed by the kick of a horse in 1894; Arthur E., who was born in Wisconsin July 23, 1883, raised on the California ranch, educated in the public school, now owner of 130 acres improved to vines and trees, besides his interest in the home place, and who is a trustee and for years clerk of Highland school district, and who belongs to the Peach Growers, Inc., and who married Edna Orich and has three children—John, Allen and Carl; and Anson J., the third son, is a civil engineer by profession, a graduate of the University of California, who spent six years in the Government reclamation service in Utah, and who was in the engineer officer's training school at Camp Humphreys, Va., and who will operate the home place in partnership with his brother, and who married Sophia Hazelton.





*Edwin Gower*

John Gerner decided he would come to California where he felt greater opportunities awaited him, and accordingly he sold out and arrived at San Bernardino, where he remained one year, then went to Los Angeles. He was looking over the country in search of a suitable ranch and made his first visit to Fresno County in 1891. He liked the looks of the country, saw the possibilities of irrigation, and made the purchase of eighty acres. This was a part of a large grain-field from which a heavy yield of wheat had been harvested. He moved his family to a rented house in Fresno until he could prepare a suitable home for them on his ranch, which he did in December, 1891. Part of his ranch had been used for a sheep fold and this contributed to the fertility of the soil. He began to set out a vineyard in the spring of 1892, and now there are fifty-five acres of muscats, and fifteen acres of malagas, and the balance is used for farm buildings, pasture, and a family orchard. When he settled on the ranch there was no road into Sanger, and the nearest neighbor was one and a half miles away. Mrs. Gerner died at this home in 1915.

Mr. Gerner's second wife was Mrs. Harriett L. Darling, widow of A. P. Darling. Mr. and Mrs. Gerner met an accidental death by being struck by a Southern Pacific train at the Minnewawa vineyard, on April 29, 1919, and the funeral, one of the largest in Fresno, was held at the home on May 6, 1919. Mr. Gerner was a progressive worker and thinker, always ready to cooperate in all forward movements for the good of the county and community. He helped to build the highways and to organize the Highland school district.

**EDWIN GOWER, SR.**—Prominent among the scientific farmers of California who, in winning their own prosperity, have furthered the development and permanent welfare of the state, is Edwin Gower, the well-known rancher and nurseryman living four miles northeast of Fowler. He owns 160 acres in a state of high cultivation, ten acres of which is given to a nursery, while the balance is set out with vines and trees.

Mr. Gower was born at Gold Hill, Nev., in an emigrant wagon, on September 14, 1860, the son of Sewall Gower, who was a native of Maumee City, Lucas County, Ohio. His grandfather was Robert Gower, a surveyor by profession, who was the surveyor of Lucas County, and who is said to have first plotted out the city of Toledo. An uncle, A. G. Gower, studied civil engineering under Roebling, the celebrated Prussian-American who built the Brooklyn Bridge; and this uncle engineered the building of the first suspension bridge across the Ohio River at Cincinnati.

The Gowers trace their family history back to Wales, and in the brilliant years of their forebears they were memorialized by no less a person than Sir Walter Scott. A distinguished member of the family also is the Rt. Hon. Lord Ronald Sutherland Gower, the gifted sculptor and author. This branch of the Gower family, in extending to the New World, first settled in Colonial times, in what is now the state of Maine, and thus became connected with the early history of that state. As a result of these Maine associations, the Gowers became intimate friends of the Nortons, the family from which Lillian Nordica, the famous opera singer, sprang; and her first husband was F. A. Gower, our subject's third cousin, an electrician who was lost in a balloon ascension in 1887. Mr. Gower's paternal grandfather moved to Cedar County, Iowa, in 1838, and there established Gower's Ferry across the Cedar River. He was a member of the first constitutional commission and convention that drafted the first constitution for the state of Iowa; and Edwin's uncle, James H. Gower, was a member of the convention that drafted the second constitution for Iowa.

Sewall Gower was a mere child when he came to Iowa. He was one of the early graduates of Knox College, in Illinois. While still in Iowa he was married to Miss Cornelia E. De Voe, a native of Auburn, N. Y., and a member of an old New York State family, among whom was Thomas Farrington

De Voe, the author. In 1860 he and his young wife started with a mule team to cross the great plains from Iowa City. They stopped for a while at Gold Hill, Nevada Territory, and there the subject of our sketch was born. During the delay, Sewall Gower prospected, and it was he who brought in the first gold ever found at Gold Hill. That fall he moved on to California and pulled rein at Stockton, where he taught school for two years, settling on a farm, which he later bought, in the San Joaquin Valley. He had been admitted to the bar at Iowa City, but had never practiced the legal profession.

From Stockton Mr. and Mrs. Sewall Gower moved to Santa Cruz, and there they passed the last ten years of their lives. They had four children, and Edwin, of whom we write, was the eldest. Mary became the wife of A. C. Blayne, the rancher living south of Fowler, and she died and left three children. Rosamond is the wife of Jeremiah Turner, now retired and living at Santa Cruz. Bordell, who married Cyrus Bolly, resides at Oakland.

Edwin Gower grew up at Stockton until his fourteenth year, when he went back to Cedar County, Iowa, where he remained until he was nineteen. He grew up on farms, and his father gave him the older Gower homestead with Gower's Ferry. In his nineteenth year he returned to Stockton, but after two more years in California he went back again to Cedar County. There he married his sweetheart, Miss Cora C. Perkins, and for a couple of years thereafter stayed in the vicinity of her home. Then he sold the Gower ranch and once more came West to Stockton. In 1887 he moved south to Fresno County and bought his place of 160 acres, and since that time much of his increasing prosperity has been coincidental with the development of the county in which he has become such an active and important leader.

Mr. Gower has specialized in olives, walnuts, almonds, nectarines, and Zante Corinth grapes, having eight acres of the latter. He got his first cuttings from the United States Government, and now (1919) he has the largest producing Zante Corinth grape (commonly called the Zante currant) vineyard in Fresno County. Since taking up this choice edible from the Ionian island of Zante, he has cooperated with the Government and has been instrumental in introducing many novelties such as pistachio nuts from Turkey, queen olives, fifteen varieties of walnuts, and twenty different varieties of grapes. Among these are the Marville de Malaga, probably the best shipping grapes, and heavy producers of good quality; of these he has ten acres of four-year-old vines. Of the queen olive (Sevillians, as they are ordinarily known) he has in bearing ten acres of trees thirty years old. He has discovered and grown the Gower Nectarine, one of the earliest shipping varieties. In order to test out a theory, Mr. Gower began girdling some of his grapevines. This has resulted in a better and earlier grade of fruit. His example has been followed by many others, even by the United States Government experts.

For some years Mr. Gower was a partner with George C. Roeding, the president and manager of the Fancher Creek Nurseries in Fresno, whose interesting life-review is elsewhere printed in this volume under the title of Roeding & Gower, the pioneer olive-packing firm. Mr. Gower is now the owner and proprietor of the "Bois d'Arc" nursery, which is on a part of his 160-acre farm and includes ten acres of his ranch. In his walnut culture, Mr. Gower has specialized in Franquettes, which he introduced into Fresno County. He was the first to encourage the ranchers of the San Joaquin Valley to plant the seed of the California black walnuts, and to graft the Franquettes on their stocks.

In national politics Mr. Gower is a consistent Democrat, and has been an active member of the Democratic Central Committee. He has cast partisanship to the winds, however, in deciding local civic questions. Especially active in promoting popular education, he is a trustee of the high school board at Fowler, helped to organize the school, and has served in its interests continuously since the establishment of that well-conducted institution. He now

proposes a new high school building, to cost \$150,000. He belongs to the Magnolia Grammar School district, and has been a member of the board for the past twenty-five years.

Mr. and Mrs. Gower are the parents of nine children. Cornelia E., now deceased, married Frank F. Freman and left a son, Giles Freman; Emma, unmarried, resides at Oakland; Violet married Clark Hastie, a prosperous rancher who lives at Fowler; Rosamond is the wife of William Coleburg, who is a river transportation man at Stockton; Millicent is the wife of John H. Graff; Sewall is a druggist, who has just returned from the army, and who married Miss Ruth James, of Fowler, and resides at that place; Edwin, Jr., owns an adjoining ranch of 160 acres and married Grace Raphendahl, of Fowler; Gertrude lives at Oakland; and Cora N. is also in that city, where she is head nurse at the Merritt Hospital.

Mr. Gower is powerful physically. Good-natured, generous-hearted, and gifted with an extensive knowledge of horticulture and the nursery, he is at all times interesting as a conversationalist. He is a member and Past Noble Grand of the Odd Fellows Lodge at Fowler, and member of the Grand Lodge.

**LAWRENCE VOUGHT.**—California, in the earlier days, appealed most to the young men, those who were not afraid of hardships nor unwilling to work, and these have made the State what it is today. Among those who have thus stamped themselves a part of this great commonwealth, is Lawrence Vought, who, though encountering hardships, has courageously overcome them, and today he enjoys the fruits of his labor.

Mr. Vought was born in Decatur, Van Buren County, Mich., June 5, 1865. His father, Samuel, was born in Michigan, and was a farmer. During the Civil War he served his country in a Michigan Regiment, having six brothers also in the war, all but one of whom returned. He died in Michigan at the age of sixty-five years. His mother was Phoebe Goble, born in Indiana. Her family was from Kentucky. There were five children, three girls and two boys, of whom Lawrence was the oldest. The mother died in Michigan.

Mr. Vought was reared on a farm, and early laid the foundation for that industry and knowledge which have enabled him to achieve the success he has gained. He received his education in the public schools, assisting his father on the farm until the spring of 1888, when he came to the Coast, going first to Washington, and later in the same year to Visalia, Cal., where he engaged in farm work for two years. In 1890 he came to Fresno. This was comparatively a small place in that day. He went to work and saved his money, which enabled him to lease some land on Fish Slough, where he followed farming for twelve years. But prices were low when he got a crop, and this, with the dry years and the floods, made it impossible to get ahead, so at the end of this time he quit there, coming out about even. He then made a trip to Michigan but returned to California and was employed as a driver for a harvester that fall.

In 1903, Mr. Vought bought forty-five acres on McKinley and Rolinda Avenues, which he improved and planted to alfalfa, remaining there until 1907, when he sold to Mr. Houghton. He then purchased his present place of sixty acres on Rolinda Boulevard, McKinley and Belmont, ten and a half miles west of Fresno. He set out twenty acres to wine grapes and the balance he sowed to alfalfa. The grapes were a failure, so he dug them all up, putting the whole ranch in alfalfa. He then engaged in dairying, and now has twenty-five of the finest Holstein milkers in that region; there is a sanitary dairy barn and the milkhouse has a cooling arrangement; he also has two pumping plants with two twelve-horsepower engines with four- and six-inch pumps.

In September, 1907, Mr. Vought was married in Hanford, Cal., to Mrs. Renvig (Bryan) Glass, who was born in Florida. She was the daughter of H. P. and Rebecca (Myers) Bryan. She was orphaned at six years of age, and there were six brothers and sisters besides herself. She came to California with two brothers and three sisters, having been sent for by her grandparents,

Mr. and Mrs. Darius Myers, and lived at Malaga, where she was reared and educated. She was married first to Jeff Glass, a blacksmith who died in Madera. To this union there were two children, Francis H. and Ione R. Mr. and Mrs. Vought are the parents of one child, Samuel.

In politics Mr. Vought is a Republican, and takes great interest in public affairs. He is a member of the San Joaquin Valley Milk Producers Association, and is a stockholder in the Danish Creamery. He is one of the old-timers in this section, and he and his wife are well known for their liberality and kindness.

**DUNCAN WALLACE, A.B., B.D., A.M.**—What California owes to the scholarly and conscientious members of the clerical profession who have helped evolve the crude commonwealth into the great Golden State, is well illustrated in the life and work of the Reverend Duncan Wallace, who came to California nearly two decades ago and has since then shown himself to be, in his interest in varied human affairs, and in his sensible enjoyment of the present life, both a man of and above the world. He was born in Six Mile, Bibb County, Ala., on January 20, 1868, the son of John Lee Wallace, a native of the highlands of Scotland. His grandfather, Duncan Wallace, brought his family to Gallatin, Tenn., when John Lee was eight years old; and there he busied himself as a farmer. Later, the family located on Cahaba River, in Bibb County; and there, prominent as a planter, the senior Wallace lived and died, mourned especially by the members of the Presbyterian communion, to which he belonged. John Lee Wallace served in the Civil War in the Sixth Alabama Cavalry, being a sergeant under General Bedford Forrest; and he was afterwards a farmer and a planter, making a specialty of cotton, and raising grain and stock. He married Mary Elizabeth Pratt, who had been born in that vicinity, and the daughter of Hopkins Pratt, a native of Georgia who was later a planter in Alabama. Both Mr. and Mrs. Wallace are now dead. He was twice married. By the first marriage, he had one son; and by the second, two daughters and four sons, all of whom are still living.

Duncan Wallace was the oldest child of the second union, and was educated at the public schools, and at Six Mile Academy, whose course he completed in 1888. He then entered Cumberland University, from which he was graduated in 1892 with the degree of A. B. From the undergraduate department he went into the theological at Cumberland, and at Lebanon, Tenn., in 1894, was graduated with the degree of B. D. He then entered the Union Theological Seminary in New York where he remained for a year, and from which he was graduated in 1895. After that he took a postgraduate course, first in Columbia University and then in the University of the City of New York, and he received from the latter institution the coveted degree of A. M.

By 1888, Mr. Wallace had joined the Alabama Presbytery and was received as a candidate for the ministry; and in 1892 he was licensed to preach. In August, 1895, he was ordained at Oak Grove, Ala., and then he came directly north to Walla Walla, Wash., as a pastor of the First Presbyterian Church there. He continued in that field five years and a month; and having a desire to come to California, he accepted a call to Fresno and resigned his Washington pastorate. On October 1, 1900, therefore, the Reverend Wallace became pastor of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church at the corner of N and Tulare Streets, at that time housed in a small frame building. In 1905 the congregation built the large brick church on the same location at a cost of \$18,000.

After a most successful pastorate of fourteen years, the Reverend Wallace resigned and accepted a call to become the pastor of the Belmont Avenue Presbyterian Church, but at the end of two years and three months he resigned to take the pastorate, in 1917, of the United Presbyterian Church in the Barstow Colony, where his ministrations met, under God's blessing, with the same satisfactory results.







Jessie Montgomery L. V. Montgomery

Meantime, Mr. Wallace had become interested in both viticulture and horticulture, and for the purpose of experimenting, he bought ten acres on Tulare Avenue, east of Fresno. Soon after the introduction of the street-car to that neighborhood increased his land-values, and he also found it too small; so he sold the holding at a good profit, and then bought his present ranch of eighty acres on McKinley Avenue, twelve miles northwest of Fresno. He reveled it, improved the ranch with a residence and other buildings, set out thirty acres of Thompson seedless grapes, and planted the rest to alfalfa and grain. As a ranchman interested in the development of Central California's resources and industries, Mr. Wallace is a member of the California Associated Raisin Company and of the California Alfalfa Growers Association.

In October, 1900, the Reverend Wallace was married at Portland, Ore., to Miss Eva Westfall, a native of Echo, Ore., and the daughter of a well-known Oregon pioneer. Her grandfather was also a pioneer in Oregon. Five children blessed the union, all of whom are at home: Westfall, Duncan, Norman, and the twins, Hugh and Beryl.

When active in the work of the ministry, Reverend Wallace was Moderator of the Presbytery and for five years the Presbytery's Stated Clerk, an office from which he eventually resigned, but not before he saw the San Joaquin Valley Presbytery grow from twelve to sixty-five members. He was made a Mason in Walla Walla Lodge No. 7, F. & A. M., and he is now a member of the Las Palmas Lodge No. 247, F. & A. M., Fresno. As a sportsman, Mr. Wallace is fond of both hunting and fishing. He has killed many deer and even brown bear (in Granite Canyon) together with four other Coast bears, and when he takes his rod and reel he is fairly sure of a catch.

**LITCHFIELD Y. MONTGOMERY.**—A rancher who has been very successful in breeding full-blooded cattle and hogs, coming to own a couple of valuable farm properties, and yet a citizen who has found time to serve his fellow men in the responsible office of supervisor, is Litchfield Y. Montgomery, who resides in the Alta Vista restricted district in the city of Fresno, and is also the proprietor of 240 acres two and a half miles from Riverdale and a forty-acre fruit ranch near Hanford. He was born eleven miles west of Maryville, Blount County, Tenn., on May 17, 1857, the son of a farmer who owned 444 acres and followed general farming. It is said that his paternal grandfather, W. G. Montgomery, built the first brick house in Blount County—a pioneer farmer of Irish-Presbyterian stock. Litchfield's mother had been Mary Jane Burton before her marriage, born in Virginia, and when a babe she was taken to Tennessee by her parents. The parents of both Mr. and Mrs. Montgomery, as well as his grandparents, died in Tennessee.

Eleven children made up the family, and eight are still living, three having died in childhood. Of the eight, four are in California. Litchfield, of this review; John, a stockman and a farmer near Hanford; Margaret, the wife of J. W. Goodnight, a carpenter and a rancher who resides in Fresno; and Elbert R., a rancher near Hanford. Of the other four, Samuel C., who was the oldest, is a rancher in the northeastern part of Texas; while William G., a clothing salesman, resides at Knoxville, Tenn.; Miss Elizabeth M. Montgomery lives at Greenback, Tenn.; and George W. is a farmer on the old Montgomery place. The latter's son and a grandson reside on a part of the place that his Grandfather Montgomery entered from the government, making five generations of Montgomerys on the same land since the title was held by Uncle Sam.

Litchfield grew up on his father's farm, attended the schools in Eastern Tennessee, and for a term and a half studied at Maryville College. He has faint recollections of the Civil War and heard the windows shake from the concussion of the cannon at the Battle of Concord, eighteen miles from his home. When twenty-one, he went to Louisiana and spent two years on cotton, rice and sugar plantations. And from there, in January, 1881, he came to California.

He first settled at Grangeville, then in Tulare and now in Kings County, and worked out for wages. At Grangeville he was married to Miss Jennie G. Latham, daughter of Charles and Frances (Wemple) Latham, the former a native of the region near Ottawa, LaSalle County, Ill., and the latter from the vicinity of Lakewood, N. Y. Her parents were married in Sutter County, Cal., in 1868, six years after Mr. Latham crossed the great plains with wagons and horses, and seven years after Miss Wemple came across the prairies with her parents. After their marriage, they settled in Sutter County and there farmed, and then they moved to the vicinity of Grangeville, where the father died aged seventy-four years. The widow is still living, at the age of sixty-five, the mother of six children, all of whom are also living: Jennie, who is Mrs. Montgomery; George E., a rancher at Lemoore; Charles F., a farmer near Hanford; Mollie, the wife of O. W. Railsback, a farmer near Grangeville; Grace, the wife of Leonard Cardwell, a clerk in a store in Hanford; and Harold, a farmer at Grangeville. Mrs. Montgomery grew up in Colusa County, where her father lived and farmed five years before coming here.

After they were married, Mr. and Mrs. Montgomery came to the vicinity of Riverdale, and for five years farmed there. Then Mr. Montgomery bought eighty acres of land north of Hanford, of which he still retains forty acres. But prior to that he purchased 140 acres, the first part of the ranch of 240 acres two and a half miles southeast of Riverdale, which his sons Cloyd and Russell are now renting. There he breeds full-blooded Poland-China hogs and Holstein cattle.

Mr. Montgomery served as supervisor of Kings County, and during his incumbency the old Fair Grounds at Hanford was purchased and a county hospital erected on a part of the grounds, and the County Fair also was permanently established. Mr. Montgomery is still a director of the Kings County Fair Association. He is also a director of the Riverside Ditch Company, and is president of the Western Water Users Company, which he helped to organize in 1914 and has defended valiantly in court, winning out for the rights of the water-users. The valuable water-rights of the residents on the Laguna de Tache Grant were being encroached upon by the Fresno Canal and Irrigation Company, and through Mr. Montgomery's plucky fight, he obtained a ruling that was satisfactory to himself and co-plaintiffs. He made complaint before the Railroad Commission; the case was hotly contested, but the subject and his company won out.

In the fall of 1917, Mr. and Mrs. Montgomery moved up to Fresno, and now they are enjoying life in their beautiful two-story stucco residence in the Alta Vista district. They have three children: Cloyd B., who married Mary Shellaberger of Hanford, and who by her had one child, Leland Niles, who took the first prize at the "Better Babies" exhibit at the Kings County Fair in 1916 and also in 1917, and the grand sweepstakes over all the Better Babies at the Kings County Fair at Hanford. Russell L., who enlisted in 1917 in the One Hundred Forty-third United States Field Artillery at San Francisco, signing up on December 14, and was honorably discharged in the same city on January 5, 1919, after training at Camp Kearney at San Diego, from there being sent to New York, and in August, 1918, sailing for Europe, and after being in England three months he crossed the English Channel on the old S. S. Harvard and was landed in France on September 1st and was standing guard near Bordeaux, when on November 11, 1918, he personally received the telegram announcing the signing of the armistice, bringing the same to his commanding officer. Creed L. Montgomery, who is a graduate from the Fresno High School, Class of 1919.

Mr. and Mrs. Montgomery are members of the Kings River Methodist Episcopal Church, situated near their ranch of 240 acres, which they helped to organize and build. He is a trustee in the California Peach Growers, Inc., and also a stockholder in the California Associated Raisin Company.

**MRS. DOTTIE ALICE BROWN.**—Since the death of her husband, the late Charles J. Brown, who was one of the largest and most successful ranchers in his section of Fresno County, Mrs. Dottie A. Brown, has had the management of the large estate, and by her wise and capable operation of her large ranches, with the aid of her sons, she has proved herself to be an excellent business woman and efficient manager.

Mrs. Dottie A. Brown is a native daughter of California, having been born near Modesto, Stanislaus County, a daughter of Jacob W. and Rebecca E. (Weaver) Browne. Her father, Jacob W. Browne, is one of the oldest settlers of the San Joaquin Valley, and a native of Philadelphia, Pa., where he was born on April 7, 1851, a son of Isaac E. Browne, who was a native of New York, but later took up his residence in the Quaker City, where he worked at the trade of a machinist. Grandfather Isaac Browne migrated with his family to Illinois, settling at Winchester, Scott County, and after remaining there for seven years moved to Benton County, Mo., locating near Versailles, where he engaged in farming and in which place he passed away.

Jacob W. Browne, the father of the subject of this sketch, was reared in Illinois and Missouri and at the age of nineteen he took up his residence with an uncle, Dr. Horace A. Browne, who lived in Mercer County, Mo., and who, in addition to practicing medicine, conducted a drug store. Jacob Browne was employed in this store for two years, and about this time, 1871, he was united in marriage at Princeton, Mo., with Rebecca E. Weaver, a native of Clark County, Mo. Soon after his marriage, Mr. Browne migrated westward, stopping first in Wyoming and in 1873 settling in California, his first home being located near Modesto, Stanislaus County, where he engaged in grain-raising. In 1878, on account of his father's health, he returned to Missouri to visit him, and was persuaded by him to buy a farm and remain. He stayed for five years, during which time his father died, and afterwards he returned to California, locating in Fresno, in 1884. He purchased 340 acres of land in the Garfield district and engaged in raising grain, in which business he was very successful and continued in it until he retired. Jacob W. Browne and his estimable wife are still living, surrounded by the comforts of life, in their splendid home place on Clay Avenue, Fresno. Seven of their children grew to maturity: Dottie A., Mrs. Charles J. Brown; Daisy, the wife of Ray G. Johnson, of Fresno; R. Lee, who owns a part of the old home place where he raises figs; Ella, Mrs. G. T. Ellithorpe, of Fresno; V. E., residing in Fresno; J. Wise, a viticulturist, who owns a portion of the old home place; Amanda, the wife of Rufus Jones, of Selma.

Mrs. Dottie A. Brown received her early education in the public schools of Missouri, and after her father returned to California, she attended the public school of Garfield district, Fresno County. On May 22, 1895, she was united in marriage with Charles J. Brown, who was a native son of California, having been born near Millerton, Fresno County, on May 21, 1870, a son of Samuel Brown, a native of Maine. When a young man Samuel Brown came to San Francisco by the way of Cape Horn and after his arrival he located in Contra Costa County where he engaged in the stock business, later settling on Little Dry Creek, Fresno County, where he engaged in the sheep business and afterwards in the cattle business, but was engaged in farming at the time of his death, in 1895.

Charles J. Brown made his own way in the world after reaching his sixteenth year, and was very successful; although still a young man when he passed away, he had accumulated a large estate and was considered one of the leading agriculturists of the county. He operated at one time 2,500 acres of the Helm ranch and was so successful in his business ventures that he bought 175 acres of the Helm ranch and also purchased 1,125 acres of the old Birkhead ranch, situated in the Pollasky district on Little Dry Creek, but he made his home on his place in the Garfield district. The home place, which consists of 175 acres, is devoted principally to the culture of figs, of the Cali-

myrna variety, although forty acres are planted to vines. The large ranch containing 1,125 acres, situated in the Pollasky district, is devoted to grain and stock, but it is the intention to devote a portion of it to raising figs.

Charles J. Brown's successful career was cut short by his passing away in 1907, at the age of thirty-seven. He was mourned by his many friends, having been highly esteemed as a citizen, active in the county's best interests. Mr. and Mrs. Charles J. Brown were blessed with four children: Floyd C.; Stanley F.; Lawrence B.; and Edward Wise, all of whom are at home and assist their mother in the operation of her ranch.

Mrs. Dottie Brown is a member of the Clovis Women's Club, and of the Fresno Parlor of the Native Daughters of the Golden West, and she also belongs to the California Associated Raisin Company, and California Peach Growers, Inc., and is active in the Clovis local of the Fresno County Farm Bureau. She attends the Christian Church.

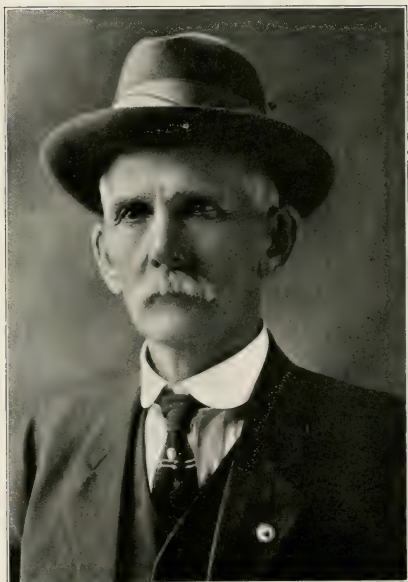
**HENRY STEPHEN HULBERT.**—A splendid type of the self-made man, and as fine an example of the true American, is Henry Stephen Hulbert, president of the First National Bank of Del Rey, and an extensive and successful raisin and peach grower who, as a pioneer of Selma, has been intimately connected with the growth and development of this part of the San Joaquin Valley. He came here in 1879, and has ever since been an active factor in the development of Fresno County and the neighboring territory of Central California. He was born at Victor, Ontario County, N. Y., the son of Mark Hulbert, a hard-working farmer, who was a native of Massachusetts and first saw the light near Barrington, on the Housatonic River, in a district long the seat of the Hulbert family. Grandfather Hulbert came from Massachusetts to New York with his family in 1831, and on the way drove a bull team on the tow-path of the Erie Canal. Mark Hulbert was then twelve years old; and he grew up in Ontario County, N. Y., and lived and died on a farm of eighty acres, part of which the grandfather took up. There, too, he was married; but the mother of our subject died when he was only three years old, and after his father remarried, the lad's early life was no longer happy, nor is it pleasant now to remember.

By his first wife, Mark Hulbert had four boys and two girls, among whom Henry Stephen was the youngest. John Russell, the eldest, went out with the first company that left New York State for the Civil War in 1861, and his regiment was known as the First New York Mounted Rifles. He fought bravely and died of typhoid fever while campaigning in Suffolk, Va. Sheldon, the second son, was equally patriotic; he went out in the train service in the Civil War, and was killed in a railway accident between Meadville and Salamanca, Euphemia died young. Marcus enlisted in 1863 in Company M, of the Twenty-first New York Volunteer Cavalry, passed through all the hard service, serving his full time, and came home so broken in health that he died within a month after his return. Hettie became the wife of W. P. Davis, who worked for the Union Pacific Railway in early days and died in Kansas; and she also passed away in that state.

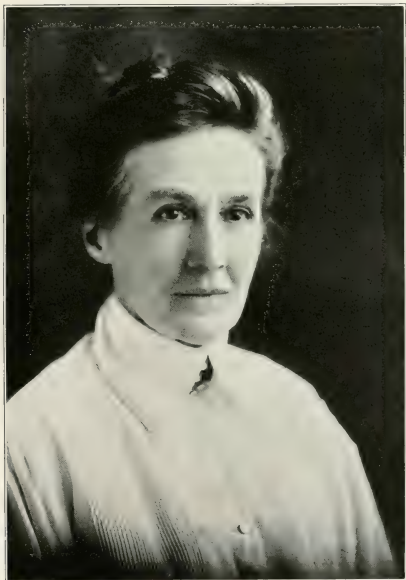
Henry Stephen Hulbert was born on Washington's Birthday, 1851, and grew up with five children by his father's second wife. Two of these are still living in Victor, N. Y., and in Shortsville, near by. He attended the district schools, and then worked on his father's farm. He was faithful to his father, and remained at home until a few years after attaining his majority, when he made up his mind to come West. Finding it necessary to stop a couple of years in Cheyenne, he wiped engines on the main line of the Union Pacific, later became a fireman, and still later was a brakeman on a freight train. Finally he was promoted to be a freight conductor; and he made his headquarters in Cheyenne from April, 1874, to 1876. Pushing further west in the latter year, at length he arrived at Sacramento, where he tried to get work as a brakeman, but was unable to do so; and on that account he went on to Lathrop, where he was more successful. But he had to wait for thirty







*H. S. Hulst*



*Emma Hulbert*



days, and then commenced as brakeman on the Visalia division of the Southern Pacific. After a year, he was given a freight train, which he ran until December, 1879, when he quit and started for Arizona.

Now it so happened that A. L. Bartlett, the ticket agent at Kingsburg at that time, had had an unfinished business transaction with Mr. Hulbert, which induced the latter to stop at Kingsburg on the way and try to settle up the matter. The agent wished him to wait until pay-day, and so Mr. Hulbert loafed at Kingsburg and ran over to Selma from time to time. He had a particular interest in the place; for while he was conductor, he had set out the first car of freight ever consigned to the Selma switch. The car contained machinery for the flouring mill then being built there by Frey Bros. Getting interested in the prospective town, Mr. Hulbert bought for \$200 the first lot ever sold at Selma for money. It was on the northwest corner of West Front and Second Streets. Several lots had been given away before, but Mr. Hulbert became the first bona fide purchaser, and the deed was signed by the four fathers of the town. Being now a lot-owner, Mr. Hulbert put up the first two-story building for store purposes erected in Selma. It had a public hall in the second story, and this was Selma's first public hall; and therein, on February 22, 1880, the first public ball was given, the proceeds constituting the first money taken in by the way of rent or profit in Selma. This building had been opened a year and nine months, and Mr. Hulbert was just getting ready to start a restaurant when, in the winter of 1881-82, a fire occurred that burned him out and destroyed much else of value there. He decided not to rebuild, and sold his property for just what he had paid for it, \$200, and then turned to other fields of enterprise.

Mr. Hulbert had already applied for the purchase of the 160 acres he came to own in Selma, filing his petition in 1879, but there arose a question as to whether he or another applicant should be awarded the land. In the spring of 1880, however, the contest was settled and the land was awarded to Mr. Hulbert, as he had the best intentions of improving the same; and he then accepted any kind of a job he could get, such as carpenter work and work in the warehouse at Selma, to help him live and pay the interest and taxes. While thus occupied, he was married, in 1882, to Miss Emma Litchfield, of Lathrop, Cal., an attractive daughter of Illinois, from Fulton County. Her father had come to California seven years before and had taken up farming. Her mother, now Mrs. Bailey, is still residing at Lathrop, aged eighty-six. Mr. Hulbert went to work for the California Pacific Railway Company and again ran freight trains from Vallejo to Calistoga, and out to Willows; and in railway work he continued for a year, when he prepared to engage, as already stated, in the restaurant business at Selma; but the third night after he had returned, the building burned. It was then that he built a shack on his farm. There was just enough grass on the 160 acres to make a hen's nest; the nearest switch was at Fowler, and the nearest business point was Selma. His first crop was wheat and barley. Farming was very uncertain without irrigation, and he hardly made small wages. But he continued to farm and to cultivate his land, and in 1884 he planted his first vines. For a good while, the returns were very discouraging; he had to sell fine muscat raisins for eighteen and a half dollars a ton. Such prices being ruinous, he cooperated with his neighbors in trying to secure a stable and reliable market. He took a live interest in all the movements to provide a market and living prices, but all these efforts failed until the California Raisin Growers' Association finally made a success of its project. Mr. Hulbert, in looking back to these dark days, finds satisfaction in the thought that he was in the forefront in taking stock in the Raisin Growers' Association, as well as in interesting his neighbors in it. He was the first man in this neighborhood to try to sell stock in this association, and he personally took stock and sold it to others. He succeeded in getting two or three neighbors to join, and together they took \$40,000 worth of stock—subscriptions that meant a

good deal in those days. Now he has one hundred acres of muscats, and also fine vineyards of Malagas and Thompson Seedless, and an orchard of peaches.

Mr. and Mrs. Hulbert have five children. Hettie is the wife of Joseph A. Kenry, a rancher living near Selma, and is the mother of three girls and two boys. May is the wife of Vernon Matlock, also a rancher near Selma. Goldie California graduated from the University of California and taught two years at Santa Ynez, in Santa Barbara County. Victor operated his father's ranch until he left home in September, 1918, to enter the service of his country and went into training at Camp Kearney, where he died of pneumonia on November 20, 1918. Velma attends the Selma High School.

Besides being prominent as a stockholder and member of the California Associated Raisin Company and the California Peach Growers, Inc., Mr. Hulbert, as president of the First National Bank of Del Rey, is able to effect much good as a capitalist and a money lender. Upon the reorganization of the Farmers' National Bank as the Selma National Bank, Mr. Hulbert became a stockholder, and he has since served as a director. He also was one of the organizers of the Le Grand Bank, in Merced County. He is an A-1 citizen, ever mindful of the ideal in politics, voting for principle and for men of principle, and placing conscience above party affiliation; and with his good wife he stands ready to promote local movements for the public weal. He was chairman for Del Rey of all the Liberty Loan issues after the first, and the town went over the top in every instance. The quota of the Second Loan was \$9,000; amount subscribed, \$13,700. For the Third Loan the quota was \$12,000; amount subscribed, \$36,000; number of subscribers, 235. For the Fourth Loan the quota was \$17,000; amount subscribed, \$35,650. For the Victory Loan the subscriptions were \$20,000, the quota being \$15,750. Besides this, the War Savings Stamps and Thrift Stamps approximated about \$15,000.

**JOHN KAISER.**—Born in Alsace, France, March 5, 1863, John Kaiser was the son of Manuel Kaiser, a doctor doing government work. His parents came to New York State where his mother died. The father died at Fresno, where he came to make his home with his son.

John Kaiser was the third oldest of a family of six children, and was reared and educated in Alsace. At an early age he was apprenticed to a machinist and learned the trade thoroughly. In 1880, in his seventeenth year, he went to Rochester, N. Y., where he worked at his trade until 1887, then, in the fall of that year he, with two brothers, started for California, making the trip on horseback from Nevada. They eventually reached California, rode down the coast to San Luis Obispo, then to San Diego and back across the Tehachapi to Fresno, early in February, 1888.

Mr. Kaiser located on a 120-acre ranch at Raymond, now in Madera County, which he preempted, and then came to Fresno, shortly thereafter purchasing ten acres of land in the Kearney tract. This was raw land, and he started to improve by planting a vineyard. During this time he was in the employ of M. Theo. Kearney, as foreman of the Kearney (Fruitvale) Ranch; he directed the planting of 70,000 trees along Kearney Avenue and superintended the first buildings in Kearney Park. He also superintended the first planting of Kearney Park, and became well acquainted with Mr. Kearney, which intimacy led him to remain there from 1888 to 1893, when he resigned. Moving into Fresno, he engaged in business for two years, then went back to his own little ranch, besides which he leased other vineyards and remained there four years.

Then came the Alaska gold excitement. His brother, H. G., was one of the first pioneers at Nome, and one of a party which originally discovered gold on the Beach. He wrote for his brother John, who went to Alaska remaining there for a season. In 1902 he returned to his ranch and later bought his present place, forty acres eight miles west of Fresno. In 1903 he began improving it, setting out peaches and sowing alfalfa and in 1905 built his present

residence. He leased forty acres more and operated eighty acres for ten years. His ranch is now in peaches and Thompson seedless grapes.

Mr. Kaiser was married in Rochester, N. Y., to Miss Anna Doaring, a native of that city, and they have had eight children, three now living: Lucile, Mrs. Hayes of San Francisco; Fred E. and George E., both in Fresno. Mr. Kaiser is an expert horticulturist and viticulturist, and has a splendid record in planting. He is interested in public affairs, in politics a Democrat, and altogether a man whom it is worth while to know, for he has succeeded in making two blades grow where only one grew before.

**JOHN NEWTON HINES.**—No class of California pioneers came to better understand the early conditions peculiar to the Pacific Coast than such business men as John Newton Hines—men who saw the inside as well as the outside of the cup, and who, adapting themselves to changing circumstances succeeded in much that they attempted, and became masters in more than one field of endeavor. Mr. Hines' grandfather was Isaac Hines, a native of Maryland and a soldier in the War of 1812, who settled in Tennessee and there built both flour- and saw-mills. His father was Archilaus D. C. Hines, who was born in the same vicinity and followed the same line of business. He had a saw-mill on the Tennessee River, at the mouth of Chook Creek, where he obtained his water power; and he furnished lumber for building up much of Knoxville. He continued the industry for fifteen years after the Civil War, and then sold out and moved to Carthage, Mo., but returned to Tennessee to look after his father's farm. Still later in life, in 1892, he came to California, and since then he has made his home in Fresno. He is now ninety-four years old, and lives at 333 Blackstone Avenue. During the Civil War, he passed through some very trying times—due to his Union sentiments at a time when he was among or near so many Southerners. He believed that the Union must be upheld, and discountenanced Secession; and even his life was threatened in consequence. He was willing at any time to give up his property to save the Union, and he was proud of the fact that a brother was a captain in the Union Army. Mrs. A. D. C. Hines was Margaret P. Bowman before her marriage, and she came of an old Southern family. She was born near Whitesburg, Ala., and died at Fresno in April, 1915. She was the mother of six boys, all but one of whom are still living, and three girls. Those living are: Dr. J. B. Hines, a practicing physician of Fresno, the eldest; John N., the subject of our sketch; F. M. Hines, a farmer at Tranquillity; Samuel B. Hines, who resides at Fresno; Dr. A. Don Hines, of San Jose; Edith M., and Mrs. Mary L. Lane, both of Fresno; and Alice, now Mrs. Williams, of the Temperance district.

Born at Knoxville, Tenn., on November 14, 1858, John Newton Hines was brought up in Tennessee, where he attended a private school until he was twelve years old, when he removed to Missouri; and after finishing with the elementary and secondary schools, he attended the State Military School at Knoxville. Finally he entered the East Tennessee Wesleyan University, from which he was graduated in 1884 with special honors and received the degree of Bachelor of Arts.

In 1885, Mr. Hines came West to California and to Fresno, where he was soon engaged as bookkeeper for Kutner, Goldstein & Co., which position he held to everyone's satisfaction for a couple of years. Then he was advised by Dr. Rowell, on account of illness, to give up all indoor work, or he would not recover. He therefore resigned, and with his brother, F. M. Hines, bought teams and engaged in teaming, hauling lumber from Pine Ridge. The outdoor work agreed with him, and he again became robust. Before the flume on which they were working was completed, they sold their teams, and John, with John Albin as a partner, then ran the Pleasanton, now the California Hotel. After that, with his brothers, F. M. and S. B., he started a grocery business, under the firm name of J. N. Hines and Bros., at the corner of I and Fresno Streets, and soon built up a very prosperous

business. This interest he sold in 1906 in order to give his attention to his vineyard and farm; for some years before he had purchased 160 acres nine miles northeast of Fresno. He began to improve the holding by setting out a vineyard and planting alfalfa; and later he erected a brick residence and other buildings. As the acreage is under the old Gould ditch, the grapes and alfalfa do well, and always there is a bumper harvest; and it is little wonder that, wishing to retire from farming to devote his attention to his other business affairs, Mr. Hines readily sold his home place of eighty acres for the magnificent sum of \$70,000. At present the place is used largely for a vineyard for table and raisin grapes. Mr. Hines also owns other valuable lands, including twenty acres near Roeding Park and eighty acres at Waho-toke. He has valuable business and residence lots in Richmond, some of which are in the Inner Harbor, and he holds the title to considerable real estate in Fresno. Believing in cooperation, he is a member of the California Associated Raisin Company.

In Fresno, Mr. Hines was married to Miss Annie May Owens, said to have been the first girl baby born in that city. She was the daughter of William and Julia Owens, and her father was a well-known pioneer contractor, who died here. Mrs. Owens resides at Santa Rosa. Mrs. Hines was educated at the Fresno High School. All too soon, in 1906, she passed to her eternal reward. She was the mother of six children: Dorris E., attending Junior College at Fresno; Archie B., Gertrude E., and Margaret, attending the Fresno High School; and John B. and Mary J. Mr. Hines is a member of Lodge No. 186, I. O. O. F., of Fresno. In politics he favors the policies of the Republican party.

**JOHN H. KELLY.**—A man who may justly be called a pioneer up-builder of Fresno County is found in the person of John H. Kelly, a resident of the county since the spring of 1887. He was born in Cortland County, N. Y., October 14, 1842, where his parents, Patrick and Bridget Kelly, had settled when the country was in an almost virgin condition, and carved out a farm and home, where they lived in comfort. While he was growing from youth to manhood, John H. Kelly assisted in the development of the home farm, and when not at work with his father, went to the district school in their neighborhood in pursuit of an education. Conditions were crude; the schoolhouse was constructed of logs and the floor was of puncheon. It was here, under such pioneer conditions, that the sturdy character of this youth was moulded up to the time he was sixteen years of age. He then went on a trip of exploration to the Mediterranean Sea, sailing from New York City, via London, to Spain. He spent some time at the celebrated fortress of Gibraltar, and returned home after an absence of two years, during which time he gained a fund of valuable information.

In 1860 John H. Kelly returned to the United States and located at Midland, Midland County, Mich., where for two seasons he engaged in lumbering with his brother, William Kelly, after which he opened a general merchandise store in Midland and carried on a prosperous business for five years, when he gave it up. Later he was appointed postmaster of Midland, his appointment being among the first made by President Grover Cleveland during his first term, and he served four years.

In the spring of 1887 Mr. Kelly came to California, and during his travels stopped at Fresno, making the newly built Grand Central Hotel his headquarters. While there he met Mr. Ferguson, then editor of one of the local papers, who drove him about the city and country. Mr. Kelly had brought a carload of buggies from Michigan, intending to sell them in California. During the drive about the country he was much impressed with the possibilities of this section, and soon negotiated for a forty-acre tract one and one-half miles south of the city limits, and traded in his buggies as part payment on the \$8,000 deal. The land had just been set to muscat grapes, and a house had been built on the property by the owner. After the vines





*Mr & Mrs Pittsley*



came into bearing, Mr. Kelly, with others, erected a packing-house on the site of the plant now owned by the Hammond Packing Company; a cooperative raisin association was formed, the first of its kind in California, with T. C. White as the first president. Mr. Kelly was sent East to sell the output of the association, and made stops at Chicago, Detroit, Boston and New York City, besides many other important cities throughout the East and South. After a tour of two months the crop was disposed of and agencies were established in various cities for future business. On his return to California, Mr. Kelly was elected president of the company and W. F. Forsythe was made secretary. Two years later Mr. Kelly left this concern, to become a member of the firm of the Chaddock Packing Company, where for twelve years, including his services before and after his trip to Alaska, he was manager of the packing-houses and devoted his time and attention to the building-up of that concern.

In 1897, when the gold excitement broke out in Alaska, Mr. Kelly went to Dawson, and during the journey experienced many hardships. After packing over the Chilcoot trail, on reaching the Yukon River the party built boats and went down stream, making the journey to the new Eldorado in safety. Mr. Kelly met with fairly good success. With three partners he engaged in the general merchandise business in Dawson and owned the Skokum Mine on Bonanza Creek, famous in Alaskan history. This company cleaned up about \$60,000 in four months. Some time after this Mr. Kelly sold out his mercantile interests in Alaska and came back to Fresno. The next year he made the second trip to Dawson, going by steamer and rail all of the way. On this trip he sold out all of his mining interests. On his return home he became interested in the oil business, and with others invested about \$120,000 on Pinoche Creek, Fresno County; but no good results came from the venture.

The real estate business appealing to Mr. Kelly, he bought a tract of land located about three blocks southwest of the new State Normal School, and this deal he considers one of the best he ever made. He subdivided the tract and sold lots on ten-dollar monthly payments, with seven per cent. interest on deferred payments. He built many homes for his purchasers, as well as houses on his own lots, selling the latter on the installment plan, the installments ranging from fifteen to thirty dollars per month. He preferred to sell in this way rather than for cash, as he would have a certain amount of money coming in each month. So successful was he in this venture that he bought a tract west of Russian Town, which he subdivided and handled in the same manner. Mr. Kelly is still building on his lots in the two tracts, and has his offices at 1033 J Street. He is very well pleased with his venture in the real estate business in Fresno County.

Mr. Kelly has always been a lover of fine horses, especially of trotting and pacing stock, and has owned some very fine standard-bred animals, among them the pacing mare Diablo, with a record of 2:08. Lottie Lilac was another of his favorites, and both were well known on the various circuits, where he won his share of the purses that were put up for the races. In 1903 he assisted in organizing the Gentlemen's Driving Club, of Fresno, and races were held at the local park which were a source of much pleasure to the lovers of the sport.

The marriage of J. H. Kelly in Manteno, Ill., on May 1, 1873, united him with Mrs. Almira M. (Seaver) Flood, a native of Craftsbury, Orleans County, Vt., and the daughter of William and Hannah Seaver, of Vermont, in which state her mother passed away. In 1854 her father removed with his children to Illinois, locating at Manteno, where he followed farming until he retired. He spent his last years with Mr. and Mrs. Kelly in Fresno. Mrs. Kelly was educated in Cottage Grove School, Chicago. Her first marriage occurred in 1863, when she was united with Henry Flood, a soldier in the Civil War, and thereafter a farmer until his death in 1868. Five years later she met and

married Mr. Kelly, and they became the parents of one daughter, Florence, who married Millidge Sherwood, and died in Berkeley, Cal. Mrs. Kelly is a member of Fresno Parlor Lecture Club. Mr. and Mrs. Kelly are both very enterprising and have given freely of their time and means toward the furtherance of all projects that have had for their aim the upbuilding of the State of California and of Fresno County in particular, and no more public-spirited citizens are to be found in the country than these two honored pioneers.

**WILLIAM FRANKLIN ROWELL.**—Prominent among those New Englanders who have upheld the best of "Down East" traditions and at the same time have contributed greatly to elevating that standard which has given a definite and higher significance to the name of Californian, was W. F. Rowell, of special interest as having been a member of a sturdy old family, the great majority if not all of which have in some way distinguished themselves. He was a brother of Dr. Chester Rowell, George B. Rowell, and Albert Abbott Rowell, all of them renowned pioneers and commonwealth builders like himself.

William Franklin Rowell was born in Woodsville, N. H., the son of Jonathan and Cynthia (Abbott) Rowell, who moved west in 1849 with their eight sons, and settled at Stouts Grove, near Bloomington, Ill. There, under truly wild and unsettled conditions, his father died the next year, and then he lived and worked on an Illinois farm, doing his bit toward the support of the mother, until the outbreak of the Civil War. The Rowells have in all generations been distinguished for their Americanism, and in short order not less than five of the boys, including our subject, had enlisted in defense of the Union. W. F. Rowell put his name to the paper that bound him for military duty on June 14, 1861, and became a member of Company D of the Eighth Missouri Infantry. The fact is that he was originally in an Illinois contingent, but the quota for Illinois being full, he joined the Missouri regiment, which was largely made up of Illinois boys. He served through the war with commendable fidelity and more than one exhibition of marked bravery; was veteranized; and on Independence Day, 1864, was duly mustered out as a corporal.

Having laid aside arms for the more peaceful implements and agencies of rebuilding a nation, Mr. Rowell spent some years in the Middle West. In 1883 he followed the trail of his brother, Dr. Chester Rowell, who had come to the Pacific Coast in 1866, and of Albert Abbott, who migrated in 1873, and found himself in California just before the great realty boom. He looked over the ground carefully and decided to cast his lot with Fresno, and in a short time he had entered the field of viticulture in which he became a leading spirit and a most successful producer. He was active in the first cooperative raisin associations, and had a cooperative packing-house at Easton, where his vineyard was located and where he made his headquarters.

Developing his ranch properties with foresight and judgment, he developed himself and steadily came more and more before the public, and hence it was natural that he should be tendered the honor of representing the Sixty-second District in the Assembly of the State Legislature. It happened that the representative from the Sixty-third District at that time was N. L. F. Baughman, who had served in the Confederate Army, and it is indicative of the superior character of each gentleman that, when they found, by comparing records, that they had fought opposite each other in a number of battles, they became intimate friends, and so remained, for years helpful in their fraternal exchanges.

When Mr. Rowell retired, he removed to San Jose, and there, on April 13, 1912, he died, ten days before his brother, Dr. Chester Rowell, passed away. His esteemed widow continues to make her home at San Jose, the recipient of every honor and courtesy that is naturally due to the companion and helpmate of one to whom California owes so much. Of their eight children, six are living: Gertrude F., head of the Psychology Department of San

Jose State Normal; Milo L. and H. D., connected with Hobbs-Parsons Company, Fresno; Edna Ellen, Mrs. W. C. Claybaugh of Jefferson District; Ola, Mrs. C. H. Reynolds of San Jose; Isabel, Mrs. S. B. Smith of Los Gatos; Jennie and Jonathan, who died in their youth.

Mr. Rowell, as might be expected from one of his old Yankee traditions, became not only a strong Republican but one prominent and guiding in the councils of the party; and his influence was felt not merely throughout the state, but in the legislative halls of the national capitol. He never allowed party politics, however, to interfere with his energetic cooperation in local affairs; and his good works in civic reform will help to keep alive that altruistic spirit needed more and more as society becomes complex and self-centered.

**JOHN R. GLOUGIE.**—A most excellent man, with an enviable record for real accomplishment, whose memory is the blessed heritage of the man who knew him as one of the most progressive of Central Californians by adoption, was John R. Glougie, who passed away somewhat over a decade ago. His grandfather was John R. Gladu, a native of France who migrated to America (at which time he changed the family name to Glougie) and settled in Vermont. He had a son, John R. Glougie, who was the father of our subject. Both grandfather and father made their mark, although in a modest way, as French-American citizens, contributing something to the early development of the neighborhood in which he lived.

John R., of this sketch, was born on February 18, 1839, at Jeffersonville, Lamoille County, Vt., where his father was a farmer. When the Civil War broke out and his country needed his services, he served under General Grant in Company H of the Second Vermont Regiment, and after some of the hardest fighting during the Battle of the Wilderness, in 1864, he was wounded and for the time put out of commission. He received the coveted honorable discharge, however, and in time returned to Vermont.

At Jeffersonville, on January 1, 1865, Mr. Glougie was married to Miss Martha Hull, the daughter of John P. Hull, also a soldier in the Civil War, and an Englishman, who had married Rozina Edwards. Mrs. Glougie's grandfather, William Edwards, served in the English Army during the War of 1812 and afterwards located with his family in Vermont, and he lived to such a ripe old age that he was one of the centenarians at the Centennial Exposition in Philadelphia. After some of their children had settled in Iowa, John P. Hull and his wife removed there also and resided in the Hawkeye State until their death. This association of the names of Edwards and Hull is the more interesting as a part of the life-story of Mr. Glougie because of the valiant performance of General Oliver Edwards at the Battle of the Wilderness when, on the second day, he broke through the Confederate lines, giving a splendid example of Yankee prowess.

After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Glougie removed to Austin, Mower County, Minn., where they homesteaded land and engaged in farming. Later, they sold out and moved to Adair County, Iowa, where they purchased a farm. Not finding there exactly what they wanted, they sold again, and this time moved to Prescott, Adams County, in the same state, where they became well-to-do farmers and resided until they moved to Corning, the county seat.

On account of impaired health, Mr. Glougie at length turned his face toward California, which he and his wife first visited in 1905. They liked the climate and country so well that they concluded to locate here, and in 1907 they came to Fresno, and soon after purchased their residence. Sad to relate, Mr. Glougie closed his eyes to the scenes of this world in June, 1908, a good man, widely esteemed and by many beloved, and nowhere more welcome than in the circles of the Masons, to which time-honored organization he belonged.

Since her husband's demise, Mrs. Glougie has resided at the family home, loved, revered and assisted by her children in the care of her property. She

is a member of the Christian Church of Fresno, and as a cultured, refined woman loving the beautiful and the things of good report, she is interested in the genealogy of her family and in the annals of Fresno County and in all that pertains to its promising future.

Nine children blessed the union of Mr. and Mrs. Glougie: Albert, a farmer near Kerman; Cora, who is Mrs. Shafer of El Centro; Eugene, a retired rancher in Fresno; Clyde and Cleon, successful real estate men in Nampa, Idaho; Irene, who is Mrs. Anthony of Fresno; Pearl, who married F. T. Bingham and assists her mother in presiding over her home in Fresno; Irma, who is Mrs. C. F. Gallman of the same city; and Inez, who is Mrs. F. M. King of Bakersfield.

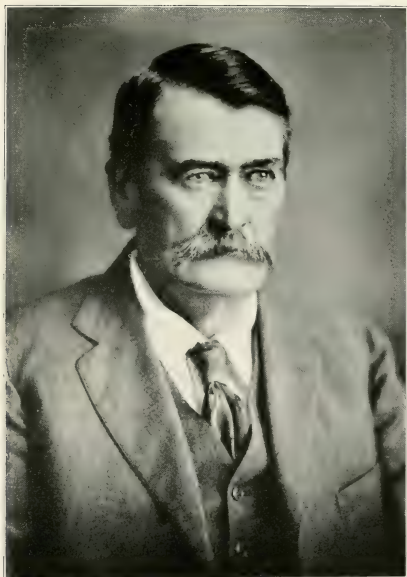
**RICHARD A. CAMERON.**—A native Californian, and one of the foremost ranchers and dairymen, who deserves material success as well as a high place in the history of the dairy interests in Central California, is Richard A. Cameron, whose father, Alexander M. Cameron, was a native of Tennessee, having been born in that state about 1822. In his youth the father was a farmer, and then he took to school-teaching; and in both these fields he excelled. Manly, sympathetic, and naturally observing, so that he studied both nature and human nature, he made many friends and accomplished much good before he began his greatest tussle with the world. In the exciting year of 1850, stirred by news from California, Alexander M. Cameron left for the Pacific Coast. He had served a couple of years in the Mexican War, and that contributed to develop his hardy qualities. He came up to Monterey Bay, and walked across to Millerton. Then he mined in Fresno County, and was successful where others failed. In 1852 he went into the stock business, going to Yuma, where he bought and sold for three or four years. Having lived in Ventura until 1889, he went to Mexico and took up land; and after operating there for three years, he died there. His wife, a native of Arkansas, was Margaret Glenn before her marriage; they were married at Visalia, and she had many good stories of how her folks crossed the plains in 1852. She was the mother of six children, and her third child was Richard A.

Born in a part of Santa Barbara County that is now Ventura County, on May 12, 1863, Richard A. grew up to join his father in stock enterprises and, finally, on the twelfth of July, 1881, he came to Fresno County. He located at Kings River, three miles east of Fresno, and went into stock-raising, in which he has been interested to the present time. He secured 180 acres of land, and then and there began his important association with California dairying.

At Centerville, on New Year's Day, 1898, Mr. Cameron was married to Annie Douglass, a native of Denton County, Texas, who came to California with her parents in 1887. Her father was Theodore Douglass, a farmer, and her mother was a member of the well-known Darden family. They were married in Texas, and coming to Fresno County, located the Sunny South Orchard, which they improved by planting thirty acres to oranges; the father died at Centerville in 1916. Two children resulted from this ideal marriage, and they are Douglass and Margaret Cameron. Wherever the Cameron name is known, there it speaks for what Californians hold most dear.

**CARL F. HEISINGER.**—Comparatively few of the present-day residents of Fresno County have any conception of what the early settlers endured, to make it possible for later generations to live in comfort, if not in luxury, brave of heart and strong of body, must always blaze the way that others may follow. He opens the paths that generally are lost in broad highways, and too frequently the trail-maker hardly finished his task ere he is called to his last couch and rest.

Among the notable path-finders is Carl F. Heisinger, whose name, now so familiar to many, heads this article. His life story is as profitable as it is absorbing. He was born in Ray County, Mo., August 11, 1872, and is the son



*R. H. Cameron*





of Fred and Mary A. (Harris) Heisinger, of that state. Their family included eight children, two of whom are now living, Paul E., in Sacramento, and Carl F., of this review. The father died in Missouri, suddenly, after having made all arrangements to come to California; the widow, taking her eight children, carried out the plans he had made and arrived in San Diego, in 1886, and the following year, 1887, she came to Fresno County. There were six deaths in the family in California, leaving the two children now living. The mother is now making her home in San Jose, hale and hearty at seventy-seven.

Carl F. Heisinger attended school until the family came to San Diego, and there he had to work to help support the younger children and himself. He was soon employed and was the first bell-boy in the then new Hotel Coronado. A year later, in 1887, he accompanied his mother to Fresno County, and here drove the first bus for the then New Hughes Hotel; he was healthy and strong, and of a willing disposition, and early thought of making his own way in life. Seeking employment in any honest work he could do, he took to ranching, learned the details, and then concluded that if he could make his work profitable for anyone he could make it more so for himself, and in 1894 bought his first property, raised grain on the ranch, near Selma, but it proved a poor investment and he lost his earnings. His next venture was in 1901, when he bought forty acres, upon which he resided fifteen years. It was far from ideal when he bought it, but he made many needed improvements and little by little increased its attraction and value. While living on this forty-acre ranch he purchased his present place of eighty acres.

Mr. Heisinger was the first man to buy property in the new section, then called "hog-wallow" land, and people said he would never make it pay as a vineyard. There were no vineyards then except a few old ones between his place and Parlier, but Time has verified his judgment. He has made the place "blossom as the rose;" others followed his lead and today the entire section is covered with vineyards and orchards. This land was bought for \$75 per acre and \$1,250 per acre has been refused for the property. Mr. Heisinger leveled the land, put in ditches so the entire acreage could be irrigated with an electric pumping-plant, and during eight years of this development work he "batched it" on the second ranch while his family lived on the other place, and his good wife would drive up nearly every day with an old horse and buggy, through dust in summer and mud in winter, to bring some provisions and homemade delicacies to him and his men. Always prudent, he was far sighted enough not to give up his old home until he could see his way clear on his new place. In the course of time, he reached that stage, and in 1916 he moved onto the new tract of eighty acres and gave it that more vital touch possible by near personal oversight.

Without doubt the ranch is one of the finest home sites in Fresno County; Mr. Heisinger has spared neither pains nor expense to develop its varied possibilities; he has it most beautifully laid out for complete irrigation by means of an electrically-operated water system. He erected, in 1918-19, a fine modern bungalow, with electric lighting system, hot and cold water, and all other modern conveniences, which, with the grounds and vineyards, make it a show-place of the county.

In Sacramento, September 23, 1896, Mr. Heisinger was married to Mrs. Anna R. Ratliff, a native of California and daughter of Charles and Sophia Byrd, who came to this state from Texas, in 1849, in which state Mrs. Byrd was born, the father having been a native of Mississippi; they crossed the plains with oxtams and settled near Porterville, Tulare County, took up Government land and proved up and developed it, living on this ranch until their death. These pioneers were the parents of six children, all of whom are now living. Mrs. Heisinger was married, prior to her union with her present husband, to George Ratliff, by whom she had a daughter, Ruby E. Four children have blessed the union of Mr. and Mrs. Heisinger. The first was Everett C., a graduate of Heald's Business College, who learned ranching

under his father and helped develop the home place, and who married Violet Toler of Tulare County, a daughter of W. E. Toler of Orosi, and who had one child, now deceased; this patriotic son felt the call to serve his country, and left his wife behind to enlist for service in the World War with the U. S. Navy; he was stationed at Philadelphia during all but three months of his service, which time he spent at sea, and was discharged in January, 1919, when he came home and is now engaged in ranching two miles south of Parlier. The remaining three children were: Clyde F., the second born, who died; Jack, who is developing a ranch owned by his father near Kingsburg; and Harold J., a student and coming rancher, who from his first attempt, won first prize for an eight-months fat pig, second prize for most gain for least expense, and special mention for grade and condition. This was at the Reedley Pig Fair, held in 1919, for the grammar and high school boys, numbering some seventy-five boys of the various country schools in the Reedley section.

Mr. Heisinger has always worked for good schools; he helped to organize the River Bend School District and advocated the best of teachers. He has been associated with every cooperative raisin association from the beginning and now is a member of the California Associated Raisin Company. He never turns a deaf ear to any mortal in distress, believing that a good word and a little financial aid may help them to success. He lives by the Golden Rule as the true religion; however, he has always put his hand in his pocket to aid the churches, regardless of creed. He loves his home and his ranch work—loves to watch things grow and develop, and sees some good in everything.

Those who are fortunate in knowing this interesting and representative couple are duly impressed by their qualifications as citizens and neighbors. A self-made man in the true significance of the term, Mr. Heisinger has always pursued a straight-forward way and always operated by the most honorable methods; with the result that today he enjoys the fullest confidence, and commands the widest respect of his fellowcitizens. Mrs. Heisinger is not only the most companionable and helpful of mates, but she is a citizen who takes a live interest in the welfare of her community, and is ever willing to help in all movements for its advancement.

**AMBERS BROWN.**—The popular and efficient Justice of the Peace of the First Judicial Township of Fresno County, Judge Ambers Brown is an able, conscientious and impartial dispenser of justice, whose wise counsel and advice are eagerly sought by the residents of Tranquillity and vicinity. Judge Brown is a native of the Hawkeye State, born in Washington County, Iowa, June 3, 1849, son of James and Agnes (Johnson) Brown. His father was a native of Kentucky, who moved to Indiana, where he married Agnes Johnson, a native of the Hoosier State, and they migrated to Iowa about 1845, where they were among the early pioneers of Washington County. The Indians were still to be seen in the county when Mr. Brown located in Iowa. He improved a farm and followed farming until his death in 1878, and his wife passed away in 1855. James and Agnes Brown were the parents of three children, Judge Ambers Brown being the only member of the family living. He remained at the Iowa home until he was twenty-one years of age, when he was united in marriage with Miss Mary Pike, a native of the Buckeye State, born near Columbus, Ohio. She came with her parents, Jonathan and Louisa (Umbel) Pike, to Iowa. They were pioneer farmers of the Hawkeye State.

In 1875, Mr. and Mrs. Ambers Brown removed to Hamilton County, Nebr., where they homesteaded eighty acres of land, twelve miles from Aurora, on the Little Blue River. Mr. Brown broke up the virgin prairie soil, and raised corn, wheat and stock, continuing his operations in this locality for about twelve years, when he sold his farm and returned to Fremont County, Iowa, where he followed farming for four years. In 1891 Ambers Brown decided to migrate to the Golden State, and after arrival in California, he located at Dos Palos, where he purchased twenty acres and improved it

by planting alfalfa and fruit trees, and also engaged in dairying. While living there he was honored by being elected to the office of justice of the peace and also served as school trustee. In 1910 he sold his ranch and located at Tranquillity, Fresno County, where he purchased twenty-two acres. The land was raw and unimproved, but Mr. Brown soon leveled and checked it, set out an orchard, planted alfalfa, built a residence, engaged in dairying and raising hogs and cattle.

In 1914 he was elected justice of the peace of the First Judicial Township of Fresno County, after which he moved into the town of Tranquillity and bought his present home, and has established an office on the same lot, renting his ranch for three years. In 1918 Judge Brown was reelected, evidence of the satisfactory manner in which he has conducted the affairs of his office. He is also notary public and grain-buyer for Gen. M. W. Muller Company, of Fresno. Judge and Mrs. Brown are parents of two children: Dennis V., the owner of a ranch at Tranquillity; and Robert E., residing in Hamilton County, Nebr., where he is a farmer.

Judge and Mrs. Ambers Brown are active members of the Church of Christ and were instrumental in the organization of the congregation at Tranquillity, aiding substantially in building the house of worship, the Judge being a member of the building committee and a trustee. Judge Brown is an exceedingly pleasant and affable man and is highly esteemed in the community.

**WILLIAM CLOUDSLY CORLEW.**—Californians can never be too grateful to those pioneer farmers and stockmen, such as William Cloudsly Corlew, who, daring and sharing, through self-denial and hardship have won success and so strengthened the various social and business activities, crowning the whole, as has Mr. Corlew, by a live interest in local history and the preservation of historic records. Born at Rocheport, Boone County, Mo., on December 16, 1862, William's father was John Corlew, a native of that state who married there, Eliza Sexton, a worthy helpmate. William C. was the youngest of the three children; a brother, Clifford, is still living. The mother died in Missouri when our subject was born. Soon after, the father abandoned farming for the more hazardous but more profitable enterprise of teaming across the great plains to California; and as a path-breaking pioneer he made several trips to the Pacific Coast. Among all the sturdy Americans who thus contributed to conquer the great continent, none was braver or more surely deserved the reputation he acquired for safeguarding the lives and property of those confiding in him, while serving them to the limit of his strength and endurance.

In 1875, John Corlew came to California to locate, having by that time caught the "fever" sure to seize all who had a chance to become personally posted as to the superior advantages of the Golden State; and he settled at Modesto, where he established himself in the stock business. Later, he brought his sheep to Auberry Valley, at the same time he filed on a claim in the Valley. He continued in the sheep business until 1879, when he sold his sheep and engaged in cattle-raising at the same place. After that he moved to Big Sandy, and raised cattle and hogs; and finally he took up his residence at Fort Washington, at which place he died, honored by everyone who had known him and had dealings with him.

William C. was reared in Missouri by his grandmother Sexton, and attended the schools of his district. In 1878, when he had just passed his fifteenth year, he came to Fresno to live with his father, helping on the farm. He went to school at Big Sandy, grew up as a farmer, and remained at home until he was twenty-four. Then he started out for himself, having been well prepared for the battle of life in a country of such keen but honest competition that to succeed in one's chosen field is indeed a high honor. He rented a farm and engaged in the raising of hogs and cattle; and as soon as he was able, he bought 160 acres at Big Sandy from his brother, Clifford. Then he

bought still more land, until he had 290 acres of choice farm territory. This ranch he continued to run for the next three years.

In the meantime, Mr. Corlew married, at Big Sandy, in 1887, Miss Annie Hall, a native of Solano County, Cal., born near Suisun, the daughter of Thomas and Mary (Jeans) Hall. Her father was a well-known pioneer and stockman of Fresno County who located in Red Bank district in 1870. Four children were born of this union: Vera, Harland, Lurline and Winnie. In 1904, Mr. Corlew also bought eight and one-quarter acres at the corner of Blackstone and Weldon Avenues, Fresno, and having improved the same for the growing of alfalfa and peaches, he built for his family a fine residence. They attend the Christian Church.

During all these years Mr. Corlew was engaged in hauling wood to retail in Fresno; and of late years, or since the construction of the San Joaquin & Eastern Railroad, he has shipped the wood into town from his place, thirty-eight miles northeast of Fresno. In 1914, he sold all of his ranch property except twenty-five acres, but in the spring of 1918 he bought 160 acres in Old Auberry Valley, at the foot of Corlew Mountain, and there he is still engaged in stock-raising and in handling wood.

Always public-spirited, interested as a wide reader in politics generally, Mr. Corlew has long supported the platforms of the Democratic party on national issues, and the best men and the best measures on strictly local questions of the day. For years he served as clerk of the school board at Big Sandy. Mr. Corlew has done what he could to elevate the standard of good citizenship, and it is not surprising that prosperity has come his way.

**HANS HANSEN.**—A hardy, energetic and thorough viticulturist, who has done his share towards developing the county's resources, is Hans Hansen, known for his high standards of character. In the early nineties he came to Fresno County, equipped with farming experience acquired in one of the fertile regions of Northern Europe.

Born in Gjestele, Fyen, Denmark, on September 6, 1865, his father was Niels Hansen, also a native of Fyen, and a farmer there. When Denmark was in her death-grapple with Germany, Mr. Hansen fought as a soldier in the Danish army; and when peace enabled him once again to apply himself to his private affairs, he married Anna Nielsen, also a native of that district. Both are now dead, but they were the honored parents of six children, four of whom grew up and are yet living, three being in California: Hans, the subject of this sketch; Peter, a viticulturist in the Madison district; and Christ, also a viticulturist at Orosi.

Brought up on a farm in Denmark, Hans was educated in the common and the high schools of his home district, after which he went out to work on farms near-by. When twenty years of age he entered the Danish army, as a member of the First Company, Third Regiment and Seventh Battalion, and having served the time required, he received an honorable discharge with a good record. He thus balanced his account with his fatherland and is today free to return there and enjoy all that is so attractive in Danish life.

In 1892, Mr. Hansen came to the United States, convinced that America afforded opportunities not obtainable in the crowded Old World, and arriving in Fresno County in the month of April, he made haste to engage himself for vineyard and grain-farm work. The work was new and hard, but at the end of three years he had so far progressed toward self-independence that he bought his present place of forty acres on Johnson Avenue, four miles west of Fresno. Here he engaged in viticulture, erected a fine residence and put up barns and other outbuildings, and he also set out an orchard of three acres in apricots and peaches. Later still he bought twenty acres adjoining, which he set out and otherwise improved, and still later twenty acres on Kearney Boulevard, so that now he has eighty acres, sixty in vines, bearing muscats, Thompson seedless, and sultanas. He also bought and improved eighty acres near Orosi, which he carefully set out to vineyards, but later sold. No one



*Hans Hansen*





welcomed the early movements for a raisin association more heartily than Mr. Hansen, and it is only natural that he should be active in the California Peach Growers, Inc., and the California Associated Raisin Company. He was one of the original stockholders in the Danish Creamery Association.

Among the social events in Madison District, was the marriage of Hans Hansen to Miss Elina Nielsen, a native of Fyen, Denmark, and the daughter of Hans and Marie Nielsen, farmers there; and four children have come to them: Einer, Holger, Kenneth Ernest, and Anna who died in infancy. Mrs. Hansen came to Fresno in 1905 and was married in June the same year.

In 1894 Mr. Hansen made a trip back to Denmark; and there he spent some four months visiting his old home. He is a member of the Danish Brotherhood, and was for some years also a member of the Dania, and with his wife is a member of the Danish Sisterhood, an auxiliary of the Danish Brotherhood. Mrs. Hansen is a member of the different ladies' societies of the Lutheran Church, as well as the Danish auxiliary of the Fresno Chapter of Red Cross. Mr. Hansen is a Republican in national politics. He was one of the organizers of the Scandinavian Fire Insurance Company and is still a member.

**THOMAS BETTIS MATTHEWS.**—What the right kind of a man can accomplish when adversity has overwhelmed his parents, hurrying the one to the grave and exacting from the other the bitterest ordeal and sacrifice; and to what heights he may attain when, in the beginning, he has been blessed with a loving and devoted mother, and when, in addition, he has been fortunate in the selection of just the right helpmate for life, so that, having put behind himself the struggles of years, he finds himself honored as one of the earliest pioneers, one of the successful and conservative financiers, and one of the most public-spirited citizens,—is set forth in the interesting story of Thomas Bettis Matthews, the extensive farmer and banker who is still residing on the same property that he bought in 1879, before Selma was on the map.

His father, Ransom B. Matthews, was a native Kentuckian who came to Missouri while he was a young man. He died at an age of thirty-five, in January, 1861, when Thomas B. was only two and one-half years old. The father had become the owner of a fine farm of 1,280 acres in Missouri, but during the war the records at the county seat as well as the deed itself, were all destroyed and they had to pay for their land a second time. Thus with all his property and striving the father had been unable to do anything financially for his baby-boy; but he had come of excellent lineage and in his blood he bequeathed a fortune such as many would envy. His mother also belonged to a pioneer family. Her maiden name was Burnette Anderson, and she was born, grew up and was married in Missouri. After her husband's untimely death, she proved her sterling character by devoting all her energies to keeping the family together. So great was her affection and fidelity in those trying hours, so much did she do for the children who needed her guidance and help, and to such an extent did she influence and mold the life of our subject that no memory is sweeter to him than that of his mother. There were seven children in the family, and four of these came to California with the mother.

It was really due to the second daughter that the Matthews family turned their gaze toward the Golden State. She was the first wife of M. Sides, president of the First National Bank of Selma, who came to Fresno County in 1875 and to Selma in November of the same year, and was thus one of its earliest pioneers. She urged her mother to make the move; and, accompanied by her eldest daughter, then a widow, Mrs. V. Brewer, and her three children, and another younger daughter, Mrs. McCartney (whose husband had come out here three months before), and Thomas Bettis, then twenty years old, and the youngest daughter, Miss Hettie, arrived at Selma on January 10, 1879, by way of the Union Pacific and Central Pacific railways.

The party landed at Kingsburg, for there was then no station at Selma, and drove up to the place where Mr. Sides then lived.

For the first four years young Mr. Matthews worked day and night to provide and maintain a home to be presided over by his sainted mother, laboring on the Centerville and Kingsburg Canal, and buying 82.93 acres of railway land, the nucleus to his present home farm of 168 acres, the balance of which was purchased two or three years later. His mother kept house for him, as she had done in Missouri; and aside from her hallowed associations, the place has historic interest from the fact that the owner has lived there continuously ever since, and is the only pioneer to reside for the same length of time on property hereabouts. On November 21, 1887, Mr. Matthews' mother died.

As might be expected, something worth while in the way of accession to the ranks of the pioneers came from the settling here of the Matthews family, which included seven sons and daughters. Jennie, the widow of V. Brewer, resides at Long Beach; Cassandria was Mrs. M. Sides and died at Selma in 1894; Ama C., the widow of P. Baricklow, lives in Los Angeles; Sarah Jane, the wife of G. J. Nees, came west to Selma in 1884 and now lives at Fresno; Fannie L., the widow of W. S. McCartney, lives near her sister Ama; Thomas Bettis, who married Miss Allari, resides on the home farm; while the youngest sister married J. E. Longacre, one of the earliest business men of Selma, and now lives on an Imperial Valley ranch at Blythe, Riverside County.

Thomas Bettis was the only boy in the family, and the duty fell to him to remain at home and, from his tenth year, to work on his mother's farm. In that way he succeeded in paying off some liabilities due to the war, and great was his satisfaction, and that of the rest of the little circle, when he was able to do so. In 1882, at the suggestion of his mother, he went back to Missouri and sold his mother's farm, and then divided the proceeds between the children, share and share alike. The mother kept nothing for herself, but continued to reside with her son. This generosity on her part was typical of the high ideals which always animated her. As indeed a noble woman, she looked after the sick and the needy, and was to everybody the epitome of human benevolence. She had never studied medicine, but long experience enabled her to administer home remedies with great success. Though lonely and sometimes despondent on account of the loss of his mother, Thomas stuck by his farm and thus continued the proprietorship which has now become historic.

Mr. Matthews was married, in 1888, to Miss Annie Allari, a native daughter who was born in San Francisco and grew up in the metropolis. Her father, Henry Allari, was a native of Geneva, Switzerland, but came from Parisian French blood. With his parents he crossed the ocean to New York, and there he studied navigation. Her mother had been Annie Haines Penney before her marriage, and she came of good old British ancestry, the Penneys being Scotch and the Haineses, English. Mr. Allari and Miss Penney were married in New York, and their wedding tour was a trip to San Francisco by way of the Isthmus. The crossing was made in 1862, and when he arrived at San Francisco, he operated for a while a box and trunk factory. His main occupation became mining, he becoming interested in mines in Arizona, and Old Mexico, where, for a year and a half as a child, Mrs. Matthews lived. Her father could speak seven languages very fluently, and was in many respects a remarkable man. He finally died at Darwin, Inyo County, while crossing Death Valley to reach his Arizona mine; after which Mrs. Matthews' mother continued to live in San Francisco until her daughter married, when she divided her time between the home of Mrs. Matthews and the other daughter, Mrs. W. T. Lyon, the wife of the founder of the Selma Irrigator. Mrs. Allari died at the Matthews home on February 22, 1917, at the ripe age of seventy-five. Mrs. Matthews, who is an accomplished woman, was educated in the public schools of San Francisco and possesses knowledge

and experience which have enabled her to assume most responsible positions in society and affairs.

Mr. Matthews enjoys the distinction of being the only person who is a stockholder and director in all four of the banks at Selma, namely: the First National Bank, the Selma Savings Bank, the Selma National Bank and the Farmers Saving Bank. A large cattle ranch of 1,080 acres near Trimmer is owned and operated by Mr. Matthews and Douglass Sides, a son of Mr. M. Sides. Mr. Matthews is also largely interested in the Crescent Land and Cattle Company, Inc.; while he is a director in the Wheatville Ranch Company of Fresno County, and has other agricultural interests; he is heartily interested, also, in the California Raisin Association.

Mr. and Mrs. Matthews have had two children: Thomas A., who died when he was eighteen months old, and Ransom B. Matthews, now associated with his father. He is only twenty-three years of age, but he has already demonstrated his ability as a student and as a thorough machinist, a farmer and a business man, his liking for machinery aiding him materially in the complicated management of a ranch. Mrs. Matthews and her son are members of the Presbyterian Church at Selma. Mr. Matthews served on the building committee for the new church in 1917, he having donated funds to help put up three edifices on the same spot. His mother was a charter member of the Presbyterian Church of Selma, as were also his eldest and youngest sisters. In the erection of business buildings, also, Mr. Matthews has had a pioneer part. It was he who built the first brick store structure in Selma, which was burned three years ago; it was called the Matthews Block, and was an ornament to the town.

Although widely known for his public-spiritedness, Mr. Matthews has consistently declined public office. His first refusal was announced when friends had him appointed as the second postmaster of the town, but he declined to serve, and since then he has repeatedly refused honors of this kind.

The Matthews old home place is located about one mile northeast of Selma, and there he has a beautiful country home nicely furnished, its fine array of pictures in particular reflecting the exquisite taste of the lady of the house. Despite his struggles in early life, Mr. Matthews has been a real homemaker, and even in days of poverty and distress he took the pains to plant trees in regular Missouri style. These, now grown large and stately, adorn his yard and afford refreshing shade. When he was again in Missouri in 1882, Mr. Matthews brought with him from his old home several young seedling trees, and four of these are still living in this yard; two are Missouri black ash, one is a slippery elm, and the other is a wild Missouri persimmon. He also set out Italian cypress trees, Monterey cypress, and two beautiful sequoia trees which are now like the forest trees in Grant National Park, whence they came as tiny seedlings and were set out by Mr. Matthews' own hands.

The ranch of 280 acres which he maintains in partnership with his son, eleven miles southwest of Selma, is devoted to alfalfa and vines. One hundred acres are planted to raisin grapes, and sixty acres more have lately been planted to Thompson seedless. Other properties attest the worldly prosperity of this man, who, overcoming material obstacles at the outset and keeping his eyes fixed on the high ideals he early set before him, has made good in a thousand ways, not only for himself but for others.

**WILLIAM O. BLASINGAME.**—The descendant of an honored and successful pioneer of Fresno County, W. O. Blasingame was born November 11, 1875, on the home place, five miles northwest of Academy. He is a son of the late J. A. Blasingame, who was a prosperous stockman and early banker of Fresno County, a more extended notice of whom will be found elsewhere in this history.

After completing his education, which included attendance at the grammar and high schools of Berkeley and Oakland, W. O. Blasingame entered upon the activities of a business life, selecting stock-raising as an occupation,

one in which his father had achieved such splendid success. In 1898 he entered into partnership with his brother, J. A. Blasingame, Jr., in the cattle business on the old Blasingame Estate ranch of 11,000 acres. As their herd and business increased they bought more land and now they own 5,000 acres adjoining the old place on which their cattle range. They use their father's old brand, B with bar underneath. W. O. Blasingame being very ambitious, began to improve 320 acres of raw land, which he owns on North Avenue, Kutner Colony. Here he set out vines and now has the entire acreage in a vineyard, under fine cultivation, and here he raises table and raisin grapes. He also owned 320 acres on Belmont Avenue, 120 acres of which he also improved to a vineyard and orchard, and after bringing it to a high state of cultivation sold out at a good profit. The success he has attained in cattle-raising and in viticulture and horticulture is attributed to his close attention to the details of his business, as well as to judicious management.

W. O. Blasingame was united in marriage with Edna Leonard, a native daughter of California, born in Berkeley, where the ceremony occurred. Their marriage has been blessed with three children: Frank; Florence; and Billie. Mr. Blasingame is a member of the Sequoia Club and the Commercial Club in Fresno. A firm believer in cooperation for those engaged in the raising of fruits and vines, he has been a supporter of every cooperative raisin association, and is a member and stockholder in the California Associated Raisin Company. As early as 1903, Mr. Blasingame erected a modern residence on his ranch and beautified the grounds with ornamental trees, among them an orange and lemon grove, and he has a border of figs around the ranch. The ranch is under the ditch, but he has installed four pumping plants, which furnish ample water for irrigation.

**PHIL SCOTT.**—Not many men have been able to close their eyes to the scenes of this world with greater satisfaction than that which doubtless soothed the last moments of the late Phil Scott, one of the prominent up-builders in his time of Fresno and Fresno County, who made an enviable record as Supervisor, and who was true to his trust so that his honesty and integrity were never questioned. In those eventful moments, he must also have been comforted with the thought of his faithful wife who was indeed a helpmate to him, for many years. A native daughter of California, she well knew Californian conditions and so could the better aid and encourage him; and today she recalls many an early experience, in a way both absorbingly entertaining and instructive.

Born at Joliet, Ill., on May 3, 1848, Phil Scott was the son of Jediah Hubbard Scott, a native of New York State who was born on an island in the St. Lawrence River, in 1818. The father was a pioneer farmer in Will County, Ill., and in 1851 brought his wife and four boys to California, crossing the great plains with ox teams. In Sacramento County he became a farmer and stock-raiser, and in that field of activity he continued until he retired and spent his last days in Fresno County. He had married Miss Anna Chamberlain, a native of Canada, and she also died here, the mother of thirteen children, among whom Phil was the second oldest.

Phil Scott was a child of three years when his father crossed the plains in 1851, and he was reared on a farm three miles out of Sacramento. When seventeen years of age he entered the employ of the old Central Pacific, and was the seventh man hired by that company in the train department for work on the construction of its line. He was conductor of a construction train from the start, and for years continued with the company as conductor. As early as 1875 he came to Fresno while railroading, and he ran the overland passenger between Oakland and Bakersfield. While hunting quail in 1890, his left arm was accidentally shot off by a comrade, and when he recovered, he continued as conductor on the Porterville branch.

He was always interested, as the result of the first favorable impressions that he received, in the growth and development of Fresno County, and in





Phil. Scott



*Alice Scott.*





1893 he purchased in the Nevada Colony a vineyard of forty acres, which he improved and which is still owned by Mrs. Scott. In 1906 he and his brother, Jay Scott, the ex-sheriff, and son-in-law, J. C. Clark, bought 160 acres in Lone Star. They set out vineyards of malagas, emperors, muscats, Thompson seedless and other grapes, turning stubble-fields into model ranch-land, and together they operated their property. In 1893 he and his family located again on the ranch, but in 1895 he moved to Fresno.

Soon afterward he was elected supervisor of the Third Supervisorial District in Fresno County, to fill an unexpired term caused by the death of Supervisor Smith; and two years later he was reelected for a full term, and during that time was made chairman of the board. After he retired from the board, in 1904, at the close of his second term, he returned to the ranch of forty acres located on Lone Star and Las Palmas Avenues, which is devoted to the culture of muscat and malaga grapes. In November, 1918, he moved to Fresno, where he purchased a comfortable home on Wishon Avenue, and there he died, on January 18, 1919, nearly seventy-one years of age. He was a member of the Fresno Lodge of Elks.

At Sacramento, on December 23, 1873, Mr. Scott was married to Miss Alice Leonard, a native of that city where she was born on August 11, 1852. Her father was Albert Leonard, a native of Springfield, Mass., and when he was twenty-one he joined others in buying a barque and sailing around Cape Horn, in 1849, to San Francisco. He was therefore a true Argonaut, and he mined for a short time, and then became one of the early insurance and real estate men of Sacramento, where he finally died. His wife was Miss Caroline Merrill before her marriage, and she was born in Conneaut, Ohio. Grandfather Isaac Merrill was a native of New York state, and with ox teams and wagons, he brought his family across the plains in 1849. When Caroline was sixteen, they located in Sacramento, and there she met Mr. Leonard. She also died in Sacramento, the mother of fifteen children, ten of whom are still living. Mrs. Scott, the eldest, was brought up in Sacramento, and well remembers the flood of 1861-62. The mother and children were in the house when the flood came, and they were deep in the water before a boat came to rescue them. Soon after they left the house, it toppled over. Mrs. Scott was educated at the Sacramento grammar and high schools. Four children blessed the union of Mr. and Mrs. Scott: William M., for years a conductor on the Southern Pacific, is now engaged in viticulture east of Fresno; Jessie is the wife of P. B. Donahoo, of Fresno; Nan C. is the wife of Robert Barton, proprietor of the White Theater; while Blanche, who died in March, 1906, became Mrs. J. C. Clark.

Mrs. Scott continues to reside in Fresno, surrounded by her children and friends, who love and esteem her for her splendid traits and amiable disposition. As a Christian Scientist she has ever been known as a benevolent Christian.

**E. W. LINDSAY.**—Fresno County is noted for its excellent school system, and its high standard is due to the efficiency of those in charge. From 1907 to 1919, E. W. Lindsay served as county superintendent of the schools and during that period the increase in efficiency has been marked.

Mr. Lindsay was born in Halifax County, Nova Scotia, April 8, 1861, the son of Alexander and Charlotte (Guild) Lindsay, farmer folk of the Dominion. Mrs. Lindsay passed to her reward in Canada, and soon after Mr. Lindsay removed to the United States and located in Colorado and there he lived until he answered the final summons. E. W. Lindsay received his early education in the country schools of Canada, later attending the Truro Normal School and Pictou Academy, and he taught school four years in Canada. Feeling that a greater field awaited him on the Pacific Coast, Mr. Lindsay came to California in 1888 and at once settled in Fresno. He soon took up his chosen profession and taught in the public schools of this city for a number of years. His success as a teacher soon brought its reward and he was

prevailed upon to accept the office of county superintendent of schools, taking charge in January, 1907. When he assumed the duties of the office there were but 124 districts in the county and the average daily attendance was 8,150 pupils. Ten years later there were 156 districts and an average daily attendance 15,140 pupils. There were ten high schools in the county in 1906, and their average daily attendance was 650 pupils. In the ten years there was an increase of four high schools and the attendance was 2,015. The corps of teachers increased from 287 to 541 in the ten years. To what extent the successful management of the office was due to the splendid system inaugurated and supervised by Mr. Lindsay is well known to the citizens of the county and needs no recounting here. After diligently serving the public from 1907 until 1919, Mr. Lindsay declined to be a candidate for reelection, deciding that twelve years in office were sufficient for any man. His great endeavor while in office was to secure the best instructors available and he enthusiastically encouraged the consolidation of county schools. No incumbent in the office ever worked more indefatigably for the upbuilding of the school system of the county than did he. Since leaving the office of county superintendent Mr. Lindsay has become associated with the Fresno State Normal School.

On August 8, 1894, E. W. Lindsay and Miss Rebecca L. Fader were united in marriage. Mrs. Lindsay is a native of Nova Scotia and she shares with her gifted husband the esteem of their many friends. Mr. Lindsay is an active worker in St. Paul's Methodist Church and for years has been a member of the Board of Stewards, also superintendent of the Sunday School and a director of the Young Men's Christian Association. In national politics he is a Democrat and fraternally he is a member of the Masons, Odd Fellows and Woodmen of the World.

**HOWARD A. HARRIS.**—Prominent because of his association with affairs of the greatest importance in the community, Howard A. Harris has for years been influential in assisting to direct the destiny of Fowler as the editor and proprietor of the *Fowler Ensign*. He is welcomed everywhere as a man whose judgment is sought and prized.

He was born at Lawrence, Kans., on December 8, 1867, the son of Amos and Antoinette Harris, the well-known and highly-esteemed pioneers, whose interesting lives are outlined in another part of this work. The father was a native of the Empire State and came to California as early as 1851, to seek for gold. He mined in Placer and Nevada counties, found the shining dust that he was after, and returned East with several thousand dollars. He took up his residence at Jackson, Mich., and there opened a hat store; and while there he married Miss Antoinette Pelham, who had studied at Olivet College and the State University, and had been a successful teacher, working in a field that peculiarly prepared her for the great work she was to be privileged to do when it fell to her lot to be one of the foundation builders of Fowler, years later. Mr. Harris removed to Kansas, invested in lands in Chickasaw County, and there, face to face with the plague of grasshoppers, lost the last of his California gold. When, therefore, he came back to California, in 1874, and settled in Fresno County, in 1881, it was to begin life anew.

Howard A. Harris followed his father and came with his mother, brother and sister, to Turlock, on December 23, 1877, the worst of all years, for it went into history as abnormally dry. In October, 1881, however, the entire family came to Fresno County by team, when it took five days to make the journey. They settled a mile southeast of Fowler, and took up railroad land which was then selling at from three and a half to five dollars an acre. The family then consisted of Mr. and Mrs. Harris, and their children, Frank B. and Howard A.

Howard's childhood was passed on the frontier, under pioneering conditions, and his schooling was therefore limited. He had to work hard to make a living, and this experience in getting the necessities of life was continued

after he arrived in California. The first two crops were absolute failures; and it required backbone, and plenty of it, to keep up the game. He and his brother Frank still own the original Harris ranch of seventy-four acres, but today its well cultivated, and the fruitful fields tell an altogether different story. It is planted to muscats and Thompson seedless grapes and there are five acres of alfalfa. Through thick and thin the boys stuck by their devoted parents, and no one was ever more honored by those who gave them being and a higher development. Amos Harris served as a school trustee for years and was in every organization for the public good, being, with his entire family, an outspoken advocate of temperance, and living to witness one triumph after another of the blue-ribbon crusaders; and when he died, in 1911, he had rounded out eighty most useful years. Mrs. Harris also came to be greatly interested in community affairs, and so endeared herself to the neighborhood that she was universally beloved and when she passed away, in the fall of 1916, about seventy-nine years of age, her demise was generally regretted.

Howard Harris's greatest activity in a semi-official capacity was as a progressive journalist identified with the Fowler Ensign for twenty-two and a half years. This paper was started as the Fowler Courier, on April 19, 1894, by C. P. Ruffner, and on October 13, of the same year, when the infant was likely to give a last kick and go the way of so many newspaper enterprises, it was re-christened as the Fowler Ensign, and Mr. Harris became proprietor and editor. In an account published in the Ensign on May 30, 1917, he tells the story of the journal's vicissitudes, and speaks a good word for the succeeding editor, Charles A. Foster. The Ensign played more than an ordinary part in boosting Fowler, and the town will never forget the long years of labor, including altogether too much night work, by which Mr. Harris rescued more than one enterprise from disaster, and won success where many prophesied failure.

Among these ventures, difficult enough at first, was the introduction here of insurance as a definite business; and now Mr. Harris writes for nine leading old-line fire insurance companies. He was a promoter, director, secretary and manager of the Fowler Independent Telephone Company.

On November 15, 1897, Mr. Harris was married, at Pomona, to Miss Tabitha Close, a native of Ledyard, in Cayuga County, N. Y., where she was born on July 14, 1875. Ill health, due to the strain of caring for a sister through a long illness from which death finally resulted, led Miss Close to come out to California in 1895; and as Amos Harris was distantly related to her mother and a childhood friend, she came directly to the Harris home. There she remained for fifteen months, when she returned to New York; but in the following November she again came to California, and was met by Howard Harris, to whom she had become engaged, and they were married in the Southland. On January 12, 1902, their child, Howard Avery, was born—now in the Fowler High School.

From her advent as a citizen of Fowler, Mrs. Harris took a deep interest in everything pertaining to the development of the town, and to gratify a wish of her own, she worked with her husband in the Ensign office and often added many a touch that gave some reader pleasure. At her father's death, she invested most of her share of the estate in Fowler property; and when she came to have their residence built, she had a care not only as to the interior conveniences, but to the exterior design, solicitous that it should be a credit to the town. She was an active member of the Fowler Improvement Association, serving both as treasurer and director, and took a leading interest in the laying out and beautifying of the town park. She was also an active participant in welfare work of the Presbyterian Church, and such was the success of her efforts to lead an unpretentious, consistent Christian life that her bereaved husband could say of her, "In all of the eleven and a half years of our married life, I have never known her to speak an unpleasant

word intentionally." When, therefore, she passed away in the night on July 20, 1909, her untimely end came as a terrible shock not only to her immediate family, but to all in the community who knew and loved her, as the numerous and heart-felt tributes to her memory, at the funeral and afterward, amply testify.

**S. M. ANDREWS.**—A hard-working, self-made man owning one of the best-located, most productive and extremely beautiful ranches, acquired through toil and sacrifice, and developed by foresight and sensible attention to the experience of the past, is S. M. Andrews, a resident of the vicinity of Parlier, which he helped to organize. He has a new and attractive bungalow residence, one of the ornaments of the fast-growing district, and there Mr. and Mrs. Andrews dispense a hospitality typically Californian.

He was born at Farmington, August 30, 1874, the son of G. W. Andrews, a well-known farmer in San Joaquin County, who came to California fifty-five years or more ago, and settled near Stockton. He attended the schools at Farmington and had the usual experiences of a California boy, although he was more fortunate than some, for he grew up when the great state was growing, and both had a chance to try for himself one thing or another, and to learn to lean upon his own powers.

In 1890, when he was sixteen years old, he first came to Parlier, and soon after bought twenty acres half a mile southeast, which he planted, improved and then sold. Then he bought another tract of forty acres, which he likewise prepared, planted and greatly improved, and finally sold at a profit. He soon demonstrated that good judgment and square methods assisted him in such transactions, and that he had special gifts for operating in that new field.

Ten years ago he bought the Preacher Miller ranch of fifty acres, and in the fall of 1917 he sold twenty acres, leaving him thirty. This he made his home ranch, and there, during 1916 and 1917, he erected the residence referred to.

During 1910, Mr. Andrews was married to Miss Nellie Tremper, who was born in Lower Lake, Cal., and grew up in Lake County. She is a sister of Chris Tremper, a prosperous rancher who lives between this place and Kingsburg, and is a charming woman such as one would expect to find gracing the Andrews household. Both Mr. and Mrs. Andrews aim to endorse and support every movement for the general betterment of the community.

Active for years in the commercial as well as the industrial development of the county, Mr. Andrews helped bring into existence the First National Bank of Parlier, and to well establish itself; and he did so by the practical method of becoming a stockholder. He also helped to organize the California Associated Raisin Company and became a stockholder of that also. He is a Republican, and has worked for the elevation of the ballot and national politics, and as a loyal American has vigorously supported the administration in all its war work.

**PERCIVAL BOWDISH.**—Among the early settlers of Fresno who contributed to the development of some of its surrounding colonies, was Percival Bowdish of Central Colony. Though born in San Francisco, he spent his boyhood and early youth in New York State, coming to Fresno as a young man of twenty. He soon realized the extent of the opportunities offered in the vastness of the San Joaquin Valley, and in this particular district. The tract around Fresno had an irrigation system, then partially completed by the late M. J. Church, and some orchards and vineyards had been planted. From the Bowdish's home place in Central Colony, the eye could traverse the plains as far as the three buttes which now form the background of Fresno's irrigation supply. The foothills supplied the winter wood which was hauled across the plains over roads broken by the farmers. In 1886 the family bought an eighty-acre tract at Malaga and planted a vine-





John Green



yard. Raisins were then confined to the muscat variety, and the sale of the finished product was varied and often difficult. Some had to be shipped to San Francisco and there sold in small boxes to groceries or peddled by the pound to housewives.

Percival Bowdish engaged in grain-farming, at the same time taking an interest in the social and political advancement of Fresno. Thus he became a member of the vigilante committee which rid Fresno of much of the undesirable element then existing there. In 1889 he married Miss May Kimball of Oakland, whose father, Henry Kimball, was also a pioneer of California, being constructor of the first water ditch for mining purposes built in California, in Sierra County. He also helped build the first warehouse in Fresno and plant the first vineyard in Temperance Colony.

In 1892, the fruit industry expanded and Fresno shipped carloads of fruit and grapes to the eastern markets. Mr. Bowdish worked awhile in the icing of cars for that purpose, and so saw that business, also, in its infancy. A few years later he moved to San Francisco, where he was caught up in the current of the gold rush to Alaska. After spending a hard and fruitless year in Alaska, he came back to San Francisco and in 1903 again returned to Fresno. Here he engaged in the fruit business, this time planting a Thompson vineyard at Kerman, where he has brought that variety of raisin to its perfection both in quality and quantity.

Thus he has seen Fresno develop from a few straggling houses set in the middle of the plains with a pump in its main street, and an open ditch running the length of the settlement to supply water for its primitive flour mill, to the present city surrounded by miles of rich vineyard land. Mr. Bowdish is glad to have been one of the promoters of such a vast enterprise, and is looking ahead to greater things to come.

**JOHN AND EMMA L. GUNN.**—An illustration of the splendid opportunities in California for intelligent, worthy and industrious immigrants from other countries, is afforded in the interesting careers of John and Emma L. Gunn, who, coming from their homes in old England many years ago, are now numbered among the prosperous and much-esteemed citizens of the Golden State.

John Gunn was born in London, on December 27, 1854, and in the excellent common schools of England received his education. He first went into the planing mill business, and thus prepared himself for technical and industrial work. While still in London in February, 1876, Mr. Gunn was married to Emma Louisa Henderson, a native of Clifton, Somersetshire, England, who was admirably fitted to enter into his life with its English background and its American present and future.

In 1883, bidding good-bye to the country they had good reason to love so well, they crossed the ocean to the United States and landed in New York City; and there Mr. Gunn again engaged in the mill business, putting in six years in Brooklyn. He made a specialty of planing, sawing and molding mill-work, and soon had a reputation for accurate workmanship. In 1889, during the great boom, Mr. and Mrs. Gunn came out to California, and after looking over the state they chose Fresno County as their location and thus early became acquainted with the section where they have by their industry become so well and favorably known. Mr. Gunn worked for a couple of years in Madary's mill, but he sensibly decided to turn his attention to land and its products.

Twenty-six years ago he located on his home-place east of Clovis, and was among the first to join the Enterprise Colony movement. He had forty acres of stubble field and he set it all out into vineyards, later adding five acres, making forty-five acres in the home place, devoted to vines, peaches and oranges. The Gunn vineyard has become widely known; the original vines are still healthy and good producers, the soil being especially adapted to viticulture. The large modern residence was built by Mr. and Mrs. Gunn

in 1903; the grounds have ornamental trees and are surrounded by an orange orchard. On the same section they purchased forty acres which they have improved to a muscat and Malaga grape vineyard. They also purchased 100 acres at Clotho which they set out to Malaga vines, with a border of figs. In 1916, they also built one of the most modern packing houses in the county on this place, with a switch from the Southern Pacific Railroad. The fruit is packed and loaded in cars and consigned directly to eastern cities. They sold this 100 acres in 1918 to L. Powers for \$100,000, at that time the highest price paid in Fresno County for 100 acres in vineyard, straight through. Thus they have improved 145 acres of land, although they have owned other places.

They found the marketing of fruit in the early days very unsatisfactory because the shipper often came back to the producer for money to pay the freight. Believing a cooperative sales company was the only remedy, they joined the movement from the starting of the first raisin association by Mr. Kearney, and they are active members and stockholders in the California Associated Raisin Company.

The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Gunn has proved a happy one, especially since their coming to California and their commencement in the absorbing work of building home and fortune. Mr. Gunn is a member of the Woodmen of the World, and Mrs. Gunn shares the social life incidental to that affiliation. Both are public-spirited and ready to do their part to advance community, state and nation, along broad-minded ideals. All who know Mr. and Mrs. Gunn esteem them highly.

**MISS MAGGIE P. RUCKER.**—A kind-hearted, broadminded and exceedingly charitable lady of prominence in Kingsburg church and social circles is Miss Maggie P. Rucker, the daughter of Ambrose B. Rucker, a California pioneer of 1853, who first settled in the Salinas Valley. He was born at Richmond, Va., and in that old Southern city was educated, taking a theological course and becoming a minister of the Methodist Church. In time he moved to Ohio and Iowa; and assisted by his good wife, who was Margaret Atkinson before her marriage, he left a record for faithful pastoral labors, the influence of which was felt for years. When he came to the Salinas Valley he chose a piece of land which he thought belonged to the government, but which proved to be included in an old Spanish grant; and having become convinced that the title was really owned by another, he moved off, taking with him, through the consideration of the authorities, his house and certain improvements. He then moved nearer to the Coast and once more took up government land; whereupon he built a second home, where he brought up his five children.

W. A. Rucker, now deceased, was the eldest and came to Kingsburg in 1882, when he bought and improved a place half a mile to the east of the town. And at Kingsburg, on February 27, 1914, he passed away, eighty-two years old, never having married. He was eminently prosperous, and was probably the heaviest taxpayer at Kingsburg. He was kindly disposed, and everybody was his friend. He was born in the state of Ohio, and came with his father to California, and at first settled in Monterey County. There he became an extensive cattleman; and he continued as such in Fresno County. He raised and bought and sold cattle, and kept cattle on the Coast Range. After coming to Kingsburg, he became the owner of a ranch of 160 acres; and his mother, who was a native of Ohio, and two nieces and a nephew stayed on the Rucker ranch, known as the Rucker home. In 1890 they moved to the present home in Kingsburg, and here the mother died, eighty-three years old. The father had previously died in Monterey County, in his forty-seventh year.

Lydia Jane married William Curtiss of Monterey, and they are now both deceased. They left four children, however, each of whom has reflected most creditably on the family name. E. E. Curtiss is the well-known newspaperman, at present residing at Berkeley, and for years associated with the

Fresno Republican, the San Francisco Chronicle and other journals. In fact, he was the first editor of the Republican, and in the issue for January 1, 1917, of that famous paper he published some exceedingly interesting reminiscences under the title, "Fresno City Forty Years Ago, when the Republican was Founded," in which he told of his early experience as a newspaperman in Monterey, the cradle, it will be remembered, of California newspapers; the scattered appearance of Fresno and the uninviting character of the surrounding country; the first location of the newspaper founded by Dr. Rowell, and the peculiar politics of that time. Mr. Curtiss still writes for the press and magazines, and looks back with pride to his connection for years with the Associated Press. He is married and has two children—Emmett and Madeline. Lydia, another child, resides in Calaveras County, the wife of James Cosgrave, a rancher and cattle-raiser. They have five children—Laura; Clarence, who is in the army; Harold, a rancher and fruit-grower in the state of Washington; and Ernest and Ruth who are both at home, attending school. E. A. Curtiss is a fruit-raiser at Kingsburg, and resides on the Rucker place. He married Dina Johnson, of Kingsburg, and they have two children—Frances and Howard. The fourth child is Dolly, the wife of W. W. Grimes, a rancher and fruit-raiser near Centerville, and the mother of four children—Loren, Evelyn, Blanche, and Lila.

Isabella married J. B. Stinson at Salinas; and two years ago she died.

Elizabeth became the wife of W. L. Apperson, and lived in Fresno, where he was a cabinet-maker and carpenter. She died and left three children—Margaret Isabella, the wife of Ed Miles, a rancher who resides three miles east of Reedley; Harriet, the wife of Daniel Calcote of Visalia; and W. H. Apperson, who is dead.

The youngest of this interesting family is Miss Maggie P. Rucker, our subject, who was born in the state of Iowa and was a baby of three months when her parents left Iowa to cross the plains with ox teams to California. She attended the public schools in Sacramento, where her mother and brother, W. A. Rucker, lived after her father's death in Monterey County; and later she attended the Methodist College at Santa Clara. In 1881 she accompanied her mother and brother to this place and settled on the ranch; and nine years later, they removed to Kingsburg.

Besides being active in the Red Cross, Miss Rucker is a hard-working Methodist, particularly active in the Rucker Memorial Methodist Episcopal Church of Kingsburg, so named in honor of the pioneer work in the Methodist ministry done by her esteemed father and mother, and because of the generous contributions made by William A. Rucker and herself to the building fund. The history of this church was outlined in an absorbing address made by the pastor, the Rev. D. A. Allen, at the watch meeting on New Year's Eve, 1913, and published in the Kingsburg Recorder on January 3, from which one may gather the full significance of the Memorial. Indeed, as long as the history of Kingsburg shall be recorded, the family name of Rucker will never cease to be honored, and among these beloved will be the lady whose good works will live after her.

**MADLAIN DeWITT.**—A distinguished lady of Selma, the descendant of noted American forebears, and highly esteemed in the town where she is best known as the widow of a very worthy citizen, Mrs. Madlain DeWitt enjoys a wide circle of friends. She was born in Sullivan County, Mo., and is a daughter of John McCullough who married Elizabeth Bell, a native of Pittsburgh, the ceremony taking place in Pennsylvania. He had been born in Ohio, went South to Louisiana, then North again and West to Missouri, where in Sullivan County he developed a farm; and when the Civil War broke out, he enlisted in the Union Army, served with the Twenty-third Missouri Volunteers, and was made a major. Eight children were born to these devoted parents, among whom our subject was the fifth and the oldest girl.

She grew up in Sullivan County, attended the common schools, and when

twenty-one years of age was there married to Thomas Buffington DeWitt, a native of Virginia who served in the Home Guards at Milan, Mo. He was a farmer and stock-raiser, at first in Adair County, that state, in 1872, and in 1884 came to Fresno County, where they settled on a ranch four miles north of Selma, on what was known as the Russell Quarter. They had ten children, of whom the second daughter, Luella E., now Mrs. Garnet Adkins of Los Angeles, was married in Missouri, and the seventh child, a little girl named Alta, died there; so that they brought with them to California eight children, namely: Mary Elizabeth, who is Mrs. W. H. Say; William Henry, the blacksmith at Caruthers; Oscar, a well-borer at Selma; Florence, the wife of W. J. Boles of Fresno, a rancher near Caruthers; Viola, wife of R. M. Pettus, a housepainter in Oakland; Shearon, an engineer at Sacramento; and Thomas Buffington, at Selma.

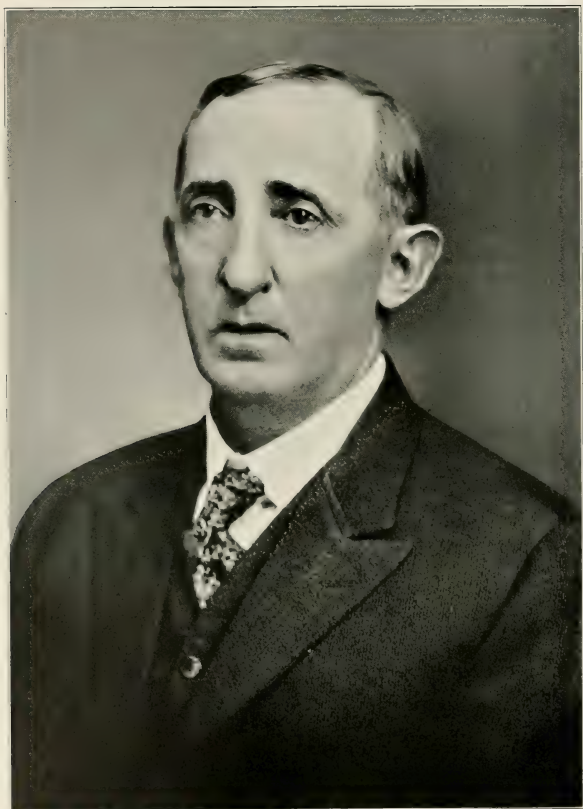
This son, Thomas Buffington, recalls Mrs. DeWitt's husband, who was born at Wheeling, Va., in 1833, the son of Thomas DeWitt, a Virginia farmer, whose estate near Wheeling is still owned by a member of the DeWitt family. His father, in turn, was born in France, became a soldier in the French Army, and came to America with Lafayette, to aid in the great struggle for American Independence.

Mrs. DeWitt is an active member of the Presbyterian Church and there, as well as in such circles as the Red Cross, works for the betterment of society. Her daughter, Mrs. W. H. Say, is a well-known club-woman, and was president of the Woman's Improvement Club at Selma for five consecutive years, an organization that has accomplished much for that beautiful town. Upon leaving that office she turned over \$1,200 in cash, which had been raised during her incumbency, and was in turn presented with a beautiful hand-painted jardiniere, by the club, in appreciation of her valued services.

**ALFRED H. BLASINGAME.**—Among the pioneers of Fresno County who were successfully engaged in the stock-raising business, and one who eventually became an extensive landowner, and one of the first bankers in the county, was J. A. Blasingame, the father of Alfred H. Blasingame who was born near Vallicita, Calaveras County, on December 28, 1855. J. A. Blasingame was a native of Talladega County, Ala. Becoming enthused with the glowing reports that reached him of the discovery of gold in California, he decided to try his fortune in the Golden State and in that memorable year, 1849, he came via Panama to California, bringing with him several men to help in the mines. For a while he engaged in gold-mining, but like many other men endowed with keen business acumen he discovered other ways and means of securing gold that were not as hazardous and uncertain as mining. Subsequently he entered the stock-raising business, and by good judgment and wise management he achieved signal success. In 1862 or 1863, he located in Fresno County where he purchased land near Big Dry Creek, in the vicinity of Academy. His land holdings accumulated until he was the possessor of between ten and twelve thousand acres. In 1869 he was also interested in the sheep business. That his splendid business ability and wise counsel in financial matters were soon recognized in the community is recorded in the fact that he was for a time the vice-president of the Bank of Fresno County, the first bank in the county. In 1878 or 1879, he retired from active participation in business and moved to the city of Fresno. He was interested in educational matters and helped to build the Academy school house, which was one of the first in Fresno County. He also gave his aid to the church work of the community. J. A. Blasingame was united in marriage with Mary Jane Ogle, a native of Missouri. They were married in Calaveras County and the union was blessed with seven children: five boys and two girls.

Alfred H. Blasingame, of this review, was the oldest child. In the fall of 1869, just after the golden spike was driven, Alfred H. accompanied





*Matias Erro*

his parents back to Alabama, then to Texas, and about 1870 they crossed the plains, with a drove of cattle, which they had to guard every night, and after a hazardous but interesting trip they arrived safely in California. Alfred's education was received principally in the school at Academy, where he attended up to about the year 1872. After his school days were over he remained with his parents, assisting his father on the ranch until the latter's death in 1881, when Alfred assumed charge of the ranch. Alfred, with his brother, Lee A., engaged in the sheep business, running as many as 15,000 head of sheep. About 1911, Alfred disposed of his interest in the sheep business and since then has been successfully engaged in raising cattle. They make headquarters on a part of the old Blasingame ranch, which has numerous springs, making it very desirable for growing cattle. They lease other lands and own about 1,200 head, which are well known by their brand, H.

At Academy, on February 8, 1905, A. H. Blasingame was married to Harriet S. Cole a native of Academy, the daughter of William T. Cole, who was born in Missouri and who served in the Mexican War. In 1848 he crossed the plains to California. For a time he followed mining. He was married in Solano County in 1854, to Jennie Sweasey, who was born in Maine, and who also crossed the plains, coming with her parents in 1850. Mr. Cole farmed in Solano County till 1860, when he located in Fresno County, being engaged in the sheep business on Kings River until 1870, when he located at Academy. He helped build the Academy school building in 1872. He died in 1907, aged eighty-two years, while his widow survives him, residing in Clovis, being now ninety years of age. They were the parents of a family of ten girls, eight of whom are living. Mrs. Blasingame was the youngest, and for some years was engaged in educational work in this county. Mr. and Mrs. Blasingame moved to Clovis in 1914, where they reside with their four children: Mary Jane, Alfred, Jr., Julia and Kate. Mrs. Cole is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church South. In the line of his business, Mr. Blasingame is a member of the State Cattle Growers Association.

**MATIAS ERRO.**—Identified with Fresno County as a stockman and man of affairs, Matias Erro has always maintained his home here, and would like to be associated with this section as long as he lives. He is a well-to-do sheep-man and farmer who must be numbered among the most hospitable of adopted Californians, and whose prosperity and wealth are no cause of surprise to those who know of his activity as an inveterate worker. He was born in Navarra, Spain, on February 13, 1863, the son of Jose Erro, a miller of flour, who ran his mill with waterpower, while he also gave of his attention to farming. His daughter now owns the historic establishment and runs it after the manner of the sire. Nine children were born to Señor Jose Erro and his good wife, but only five are now living; and the single one to come to America is the fifth youngest, Matias Erro.

Brought up on a farm, he attended the Spanish public schools, and having early heard of the opportunities afforded in California, he concluded to try his fortune here. When not over seventeen, he embarked at Bordeaux for Liverpool and sailed to New York, and by May 1, 1880, arrived in San Francisco. He pushed on to Tres Pinos in San Benito County and, since his funds were low, he immediately went to to work on a ranch at \$15 a month, and being anxious to give satisfaction, he worked from daylight until dark. In the fall of 1881, he removed to where King City now stands in Monterey County, and there he was in the employ of a sheepman, with whom he remained until 1885. In October of that year he returned to San Francisco, and on the thirtieth of the month crowned the first chapter of his life in the Golden State by becoming a naturalized American citizen. He next went to Castroville, bought a new wagon and two horses and drove through the Pacheco Pass to Los Banos. In November the heavy rain began and he went to Merced with a partner and bought 1,100 ewes at \$2.25 a head, and drove the band



to Fresno County, and having pitched their camp at Cantua, in the fall of 1886 he bought his partner out and continued alone. Ever since he has been in the sheep business for himself.

In 1891, Mr. Erro bought a ranch on Jacobitos Creek near what is now Coalinga, and there for a few years made his headquarters. Then he moved to Madera and bought a ranch of 420 acres four miles south of the town. Part of it was given up to the growing of alfalfa and a dairy; there were thirty acres of orchard and another thirty acres of vineyard; and some of the land was used for sheep. In 1909 he sold the ranch and removed to Fresno, and from that date Mr. Erro has been reckoned a man of affairs here. He is one of the organizers of and a director and vice-president in the Growers National Bank of Fresno. Here he bought a residence, while he continued farming and the raising of sheep in Coalinga, on leased land, and later he bought a ranch of 220 acres at Rolinda where he is now raising alfalfa and grain. The tract is under the canal and also has two pumping-plants, for which Mr. Erro put in two electric pumps, one of five inches, the other of six. He also owns 200 acres at Tranquillity, 120 acres of which he has in alfalfa. He has sunk deep artesian wells, and has a splendid flow of good water, so that he is able to irrigate the entire ranch. Besides the above, he owns 640 acres at Tulare Lake, on which he very successfully raises grain.

Mr. Erro is still engaged in leasing lands near Coalinga for sheep-raising, and there and in the mountains he has about 6,000 head of sheep. In 1916 he bought a place of forty acres on Church Avenue, Fresno, where he resided until 1918, when he purchased his present large ten-room residence at 340 North Van Ness Street, where he resides with his family. For some years he has belonged to the National Woolgrowers Association.

Mr. Erro was married at Hanford to Miss Javera Huarte, a fair daughter of Spain, who was born at Navarra. She died in 1910 from the result of an automobile accident. Five children were born to them: Agnes, Annette, Angelina, John, and Phillip, all at home. Mr. Erro was married a second time on May 27, 1913, in Los Angeles, to Mrs. Marie (Noussitou) Camy, who was born on River Pou, Basses Pyrenees, France, and came to Fresno in 1889, where she was first married to Jean Camy, a prominent stockman and dairyman who died February 17, 1905, the result of the union being five children, four of whom are living: Henry A., a rancher on Belmont Avenue; Julia A., who is Mrs. J. P. Sagouspe of Nevada; Alfred, serving in the Aviation Section of the United States Navy; and Lawrence L., attending St. Mary's College, Oakland. The Jean Camy estate owns valuable lands on Belmont Avenue and an orange grove near Centerville.

Besides Mr. Erro's interest in oil-lands, he is a capitalist of value to financiers. He has encouraged every good movement likely to advance local business interests, and he has especially supported the First National Bank of Coalinga. In national politics Mr. Erro is a Republican, but when voting on matters near at home, he votes for Fresno every time, and stimulates many to vote likewise.

**JOHN CALVIN BRANDON.**—One of the leading contractors and builders of the city of Sanger is J. C. Brandon, better known to his intimates as "Cal" Brandon. He has specialized in this particular work since 1903 and has erected enough substantial buildings in Sanger and vicinity to justify the statement that he is a master builder and a leader in his craft, as Brandon-Built Buildings are known for their beauty and durability.

Cal Brandon was born in Mercer County, Ohio, December 14, 1862, a son of William A. and Sarah (McDonald) Brandon, parents of nine children, seven now living, namely: Cal; Lewis, in Pittsburgh, Pa.; Z. Z., in San Francisco; Lydia E., Mrs. W. F. Baker, of Fresno; Minnie, Mrs. Frank Hells-worth, of Hanford; Pearl, Mrs. John Moore, of Porterville; and M. V., of Sanger. Cal Brandon was educated in the public schools of Ohio, learned the carpenter trade from his father, who was a master workman; then, de-

siring to see more of the world, with his brother, M. V., he came to the Pacific Coast in 1882. They stopped for a time in Placerville, but in 1884 located in Fresno County, where Cal has since resided. He was engaged in the stock business in Watts Valley, where he homesteaded 160 acres of land, and succeeded. For two years he raised corn on the river bottom, east of Sanger, on land that he and his brother leased. While he was ranching he occasionally was called upon to do building for his neighbors, and in 1903 he began that work exclusive of all else and has won an enviable reputation in Sanger and vicinity, where he has constructed many of the finest homes in both city and on the ranches.

In Watts Valley, Fresno County, in 1885, Cal Brandon and Catherine E. Hole, an Iowan and daughter of J. B. Hole of Fresno County, were united in marriage. There have been born six children as follows: Pearl, Mrs. Arthur Bradford; Grover A.; Clara B., Mrs. Elbert Hamilton; Marvel B., Mrs. Clete Allred; Vivian, Mrs. Houdashelt; and Alice N. Fraternally Mr. Brandon is a member of the Eagles and Modern Woodmen of America. He is interested in educational matters and served as a trustee in Watts Valley, also three years in Sanger, where his influence was felt for the good of the schools. Mr. Brandon has seen the development of Fresno County from grain and hog-wallow land into vineyards and orchards, and has noted with satisfaction the building of towns and cities on the wide plains of the Valley.

**SAMUEL J. CULL.**—A resident of the Golden State for forty-five years, and an honored pioneer of Fresno County, Samuel J. Cull is one of the early settlers of his section of the county, having purchased his present ranch of forty acres in the Empire District in 1905. A native of the Blue Grass State, S. J. Cull was born in Washington County, Ky., October 17, 1873, a son of Hugh and Jennie (Taylor) Cull, also natives of Kentucky. His father was a Kentucky farmer who migrated to California in 1874, settling at first near Hayward, Alameda County, where he followed farming for one year, when the family moved to Livermore, and there Mr. Cull continued to farm until 1884. In the fall of that year, Hugh Cull moved to Fresno County, where he followed farming at what is now Rolinda, continuing there until shortly before his death which occurred in Selma in 1887, his devoted wife having passed away at Livermore, in 1883. Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Cull were the parents of four children: Samuel J., of this review, being the eldest; James P., is a rancher in the Empire district; Carrie, is now deceased; and Frank, who resides in Kentucky.

When one year old, Samuel J. Cull accompanied his parents to California from his native state, and was reared in Alameda County until 1884, when the father and children removed to Fresno County. His early education was obtained in the public school of the Herndon district. At the early age of ten years he was able to drive a team in the grain-fields, early learning the rudiments of grain-farming while living west of Fresno.

After the death of his father, Samuel J. Cull returned to Alameda County, where he made his own way in the world by working on ranches. When he reached his majority, Mr. Cull returned to Fresno County and, after working on a ranch for one year, leased land in partnership with S. T. Cull, and they engaged in raising grain. The first year they seeded 2,500 acres to grain; they had 110 head of working stock, their equipment including two combined harvesters and a stationary threshing machine, but the first year, being a dry one, there was not much need for the harvesters as they cut only forty-nine sacks of grain from the large acreage, the enterprise proving a total loss. Undaunted by their heavy loss, a spirit so characteristic of the early pioneers, Mr. Cull was hopeful of better results in the future, so they increased their acreage for the second year to 4,000 acres, but the Fates seemed unpropitious to these optimistic and industrious ranchers, for the second year proved to be another dry one and the total number of sacks from the large acreage was only 4,000. In 1899, Mr. Cull leased 320 acres of

land in the vicinity of where he now resides and was very successful in raising grain in this section for six years. Afterwards he leased 900 acres of the Williams ranch which he operated for two years and then leased 900 acres at Round Mountain, where he raised grain until 1916.

In 1905, Samuel J. Cull purchased his present place of forty acres from A. R. Briggs, paying \$40 per acre. While raising grain at Round Mountain Mr. Cull improved this place by setting out twenty acres to a vineyard, an orchard of three acres and the balance to alfalfa. His ranch is in a high state of cultivation and its appearance bespeaks the enterprise and progress of the owner.

In 1900, Samuel J. Cull was united in marriage with Miss Ella Beatty, a native of Missouri, who came with her parents to California when she was ten years of age. This happy union has been blessed with three children: Hugh, James and Raleigh.

Fraternally, Mr. Cull has been a member of the Foresters of America, at Livermore, Cal., since 1898, and is also a member of Manzanita Camp, W. O. W., at Fresno. He is well posted on viticulture and horticulture, and keeps a record of his production each year. Mr. Cull is one of the original members of the California Associated Raisin Company, also belongs to the California Peach Growers, Inc., and is regarded as one of the most enterprising and progressive ranchers in his section of the county.

**FRANK PETER LEISMAN.**—A Hoosier who, having cast his lot in California, has come to reflect most creditably on the stanch State of Indiana, is Frank P. Leisman, who was born in St. Anthony, Dubois County, on August 27, 1863, the son of Frank Leisman whose birthplace was on the stormy ocean. He first saw the light on an American sailing vessel, three weeks before his parents landed in the United States in 1835. These worthy people, John P. and Mrs. Leisman, grandparents of our subject, settled at Pittsburg, Pa., where Mr. Leisman got work in the iron mines; and later as members of a colony of sixteen Germans, they moved to Dubois County, Ind., where they engaged in farming. In 1888, they went to Missouri and there spent their last days.

Frank Leisman, the father, was reared in Dubois County and there he married Christena Berg, a native of Indiana. For a while he was a school teacher as well as a farmer, but in 1888 he located in Atchison County, Mo., where he bought a farm. He sold it in 1910, however, and settled in Nebraska City, Nebr., and there, in 1917, he died. Mrs. Leisman passed away in Missouri, the mother of thirteen children, seven of whom are still living.

Frank P. is the oldest of all and the only one in California; and he was brought up on an Indiana farm until he was eighteen, when he learned the carpenter's trade. In 1885 he went to Spearville, Ford County, Kans., but he soon removed to Atchison County, Mo., where he worked on a farm. It was there, on February 17, 1890, that Mr. Leisman married Miss Carrie Gude, who was born in Dubois County, Ind., the daughter of Benjamin and Marie (Kemper) Gude, who came from Holland and settled in Indiana. They were farmer folk, much respected, and they died there leaving many friends. Mr. Leisman paid his fiancée the compliment of going back to Indiana for her, and bringing her to their new home.

Following his marriage, Mr. Leisman bought a farm at Watson, and raised grain and stock. As the pioneer in that field there, he made a specialty of Duroc Jersey hogs, and was an organizer of the National Duroc Jersey Breeders' Association. He continued here until 1897, when he spent a year in traveling the great Northwest, and after that he lived two years at Parrell, Mo., where he farmed.

Convinced of the superior advantages and prospects of Central California, Mr. Leisman in 1902 located in Fresno County, and soon after became one of the earliest settlers at Empire. He followed the carpenter's trade, worked in both Fresno and Empire, and built some of the most attractive





*J. E. Woodworth*

residences first erected here. In 1911, Mr. Leisman purchased twenty acres of raw land that he rapidly improved to his present place. He built serviceable ranch buildings, and set out Thompson seedless vines which are now the chief feature of the fine place. He is a member of the California Associated Raisin Company, and was active in securing new memberships.

Mr. and Mrs. Leisman have two children: Ludvig, who served in the American national army until his discharge; and Bertha, who is Mrs. A. A. Lowe of Kerman. The family attends the Kearney Park Catholic Church. Mr. Leisman has always been a Democrat and has also always been an American, and places patriotism above partisanship, "every time."

**JOSEPH E. WOODWORTH.**—A typical California rancher who comes from one of the "good old" pioneer families and has been very successful, especially in the raising of fine corn, alfalfa hay and high-grade hogs, is Joseph E. Woodworth, who lives on the Laguna, six miles southwest of Laton. A native son proud of his association with the Golden State, he was born near Sacramento on October 24, 1857, the son of Alonzo Woodworth, who came from Rochester, N. Y. In company with his uncle, Lot Whitcomb, he had crossed the plains to Oregon in 1847 and settled near Baker City where the Whitcombs have ever since been leading people, but in 1850 Alonzo Woodworth came down to Sacramento, lured by the discovery of gold. In that city and year he was married to Miss Julia Malissa Twitchell, a member of a family, like the Woodworths, of English origin and identified with the English-settled East. Grandfather Joshua Twitchell was married in Ohio to Arsula Knight, the ceremony taking place on June 25, 1816; he was born in Vermont on September 12, 1794, and his wife was born on July 1, 1797, her birthplace being Northampton, Mass. They were, therefore, all Colonial families. Joshua came from Ohio to Illinois, farmed there for a while near Monmouth, and in 1848, right after the gold discovery, he sold and outfitted for California, crossed the plains with ox teams and reached Sacramento in the early part of 1849, after wintering at Salt Lake. Joshua Twitchell was a physician, and so became one of the earliest practitioners at Sacramento, following the medical profession until he died at San Juan on August 24, 1867. Grandmother Twitchell reached the age of eighty-nine years, three months and twenty-four days, and on October 24, 1886, she died at San Juan. Dr. and Mrs. Twitchell had six living children of whom Joseph's mother, Julia, was one. She was born in Ohio, on February 20, 1833, and reared at Monmouth, Ill., and married Alonzo Woodworth at Sacramento, in 1850. He worked out on farms, was a good stockman and a teamster. He settled at San Juan, formerly in Monterey County, but later in San Benito, and owned and farmed 160 acres. The Woodworths had thirteen children, eight boys and two girls of whom grew to maturity; and Joseph is the third living son. The parents moved up to Sacramento and lived there when our subject was born.

Joseph E. grew up at San Juan until he was twenty-five years old, and there, in his twenty-first year he was married to Miss Mary F. Shook, a native of Sacramento County and the daughter of Fortunatus and Cornelia (Doane) Shook. Mr. Shook was an old river-man and a jolly old soul, a good singer and a good dancer. Two children were born as the result of this union: Josie May, who is the wife of S. F. Carper, the well-known carpenter and builder at San Jose, and who is the mother of two children; and Pearl, the wife of Earl Campbell, also a well-known carpenter and builder in the same town, the mother of one child.

On Washington's Birthday, 1883, Mr. Woodworth came to the San Joaquin Valley and farmed for three years near Newman, Stanislaus County, and in 1888 bought 320 acres known as the Samuel Hill Estate. Here he raised fine Durham cattle until 1896, when he sold to Miller & Lux and he then moved to Dos Palos, and in 1901 he came to Laguna bringing with him a fine herd of Durham cattle. He bought forty acres from Nares & Saunders,

and in 1905 he purchased an additional thirty acres, thus making seventy acres which he has since well improved. He has a beautiful row of Lombardy poplars, set out in 1906, now grown to be almost forest trees and beautiful as ever; and he also has a lot of fine North Carolina poplars, equally well developed. His ranch boasts of good barns, a tank house, and a milk house, with cement floor; there is a well, furnishing an abundant water supply, from which the water is piped to his barn. So many are the improvements that it is easy to see how he has put in a life-time of work to bring about the happy results.

In 1902, Mr. Woodworth was married a second time to Miss Ola Allen, a native of North Carolina, who came to California when she was twenty years old. Her parents had died in North Carolina when she was only five years of age, and she was reared in the family of a cousin. She came out here to join her brothers, Thomas J. and William H. Allen, whose life-stories are given elsewhere in this volume. She attended the common schools of North Carolina, and there enjoyed the foundation of a liberal education.

A Native Son, affiliated with the Parlor at San Jose, and a Republican in national politics, Mr. Woodworth is a friend of Charles King, the banker and railway builder of Hardwick, and he helped to start the Hardwick Bank. He also welcomed the Hanford & Summit Lake Railway, and he helped to organize and develop the Laton Creamery, now a mournful memory.

On the old home place where Mr. Woodworth was reared, one-quarter of a mile southeast of San Juan, there are now eight market-gardens, among the finest in all California. They are managed by a great seed firm. The old Twitchell house still stands with its majestic fireplace. As our subject grew up, he followed his father's occupation of farmer and teamster, and attended the public schools of San Juan. He teamed with oxen, horses and mules before there was any railroad through the San Joaquin Valley. He hauled merchandise from San Juan and San Jose, and helped to freight grain produce and to drive hogs and cattle on the hoof—a distance of forty miles. He could ride expertly and became a "bronco buster" and a general all around buchero. He can lasso cattle to perfection. In those days there were many Spanish cattle with great horns, and he often attended Spanish bull-fights. There were some Spanish cattle here with horns two and a half feet long when our subject came to this grant. His father once lassoed an elk near where Pleasanton now stands, and this animal was tamed and stayed on the Woodworth farm many years, and grew to be about as tall as a cow. The father suffered a stroke of paralysis when our subject was twenty-six years old, and remained a speechless invalid for nineteen years, when he died at Dos Palos aged eighty-two years, two months and two days. Joseph was associated with his father from the time that he was twelve years of age, and worked with him up to 1886. He was a noble old pioneer. One reason the subject does not know more about his father's former history is on account of his paralysis and subsequent speechlessness. Joseph Woodworth himself has met with misfortune. In 1892, while brisking horses, he was kicked in the left eye by a colt, and the injury resulted in blindness to that eye.

**FRANK SILVA.**—A sturdy pioneer of the section in which he has attained so great success, and now one of the oldest residents in the vicinity, enjoying a well-earned rest after years of strenuous labor which lead back to a boyhood in the balmy Azores, Frank Silva is among the most popular ranchers in Fresno County, and enjoys with his family the esteem of a wide circle of friends. He was born in the Island of Flores, on March 9, 1862, and was brought up on a farm as a member of a large family, a circumstance that compelled him early to set to work. In the spring of 1879, when he was only sixteen years of age, he came to Fresno, attracted here because a half-brother had preceded him to the land of promise. For two years he worked for Alex. Gordon and herded sheep; and then he was with other ranchers and sheepmen.



In 1887, Mr. Silva started in business for himself, by buying a drove of sheep which he ranged where he could in the county. His returns were sufficiently encouraging for him to continue in that enterprise for sixteen years; and he came to have as many as from three to four thousand head. He next engaged in grain-farming and for that purpose leased land in the Houghton tract. He broke it up and put in there the first crops planted. But the prices were so low that he did not realize the profit that he ought, and it required faith and courage to go ahead. Later, Mr. Silva bought his present eighty acres—Section 25 of the Barstow Colony—and still later he purchased the forty acres adjoining, on Section 24. Still later he secured another twenty-five acres from Section 25. This gave him 145 acres together, which he has improved, putting sixty-five acres in Thompson seedless grapes, and the balance in alfalfa, making a specialty of A-1 hay. He also built a fine residence. When he had finished what has proven the oldest place thereabouts, he could survey the developments and improvements of many others, undoubtedly inspired by his own pioneer enterprise. He is a member of the California Associated Raisin Company.

At Fresno, Mr. Silva married Miss Mary Brickley, a native of Liberty, Fresno County. She is the mother of three children: Maggie, who is Mrs. Fred Kaiser of Fresno; Mamie has become Mrs. George E. Kaiser, of the same city; and Benjamin Franklin is at home. Mrs. Silva is the daughter of John and Dorah (McCormick) Brickley, born in New York and Ireland respectively. Her father served in the Civil War. In the latter sixties he came to California and soon afterwards located in Fresno County, being one of its early upbuilders. All in all, a very attractive family is that of Mr. and Mrs. Silva, each one devoted to promoting the general welfare of the community.

**CHARLES SCHARER.**—During his many years of residence in the county, Charles Scharer has weathered the vicissitudes of agricultural development work, and by diligent application and perseverance has won success in his later years. Born in Straub, Samara, Russia, November 26, 1859, he is a son of Philip and Louise (Schaeffer) Scharer, both of whom died in that country, the father in 1875. Of their union two children were born, and Charles was the eldest and the only one now living. He was reared on the home farm in that far country, and after his father's death assisted his mother there until his marriage. This occurred in Straub, in 1881, and united him with Miss Maggie Schwabenland, also a native of that province.

After his marriage, Mr. Scharer raised grain and stock, owning a farm on the River Volga, where he engaged in farming on a large scale. In 1888 he brought his wife and family to Fresno, and here he first engaged in building, the Farmer's Bank being among the buildings he worked on. Later, he bought twenty acres of land in Perrin Colony No. 1 and improved the barren land to alfalfa; three years later he sold the property as it proved alkaline. He then bought forty acres on McKinley Avenue, five miles from Fresno, leveled and checked another ranch from the raw land and planted it to vineyard and orchard; again he was disappointed, as the water rights he purchased with the property were not forthcoming. He abandoned this project and returned to Fresno to begin again. He then rented forty acres in alfalfa on Kearney Avenue for three years; then rented fifty acres in vineyard and orchard at Fowler and ran the property one year.

After these ranching activities, Mr. Scharer returned to Fresno and bought six lots on F and Inyo Streets, filled in the lots and improved them for a feed yard and livery barn and here he ran the F Street Livery and Feed Yard for twelve years, meeting with success. His real liking was for ranching, however, and in 1912 he sold his business and property and settled on the 160-acre ranch in Gray Colony, which he had purchased in 1905. This property he had partially developed while in business in Fresno; had leveled and checked it and put in orchards and vineyard, 113 acres in muscats and

a ten-acre orchard. In 1906 he gave each of his two sons forty acres to develop, and kept the remaining eighty acres until 1918, when he sold his acreage, and in that same year bought forty acres of unimproved land in Barstow district, and this property he is also setting to vineyard, of the Thompson seedless variety. While carrying his other development work, in 1915 Mr. Scharer also bought a seventy-acre ranch in Del Rey, improved to vineyard. In May, 1919, he bought twenty acres in Biola, fifteen acres of which were in Thompson seedless. As can be seen, he is a man of diversified abilities, always putting forth new efforts and meeting with the success due to a man of energy and farsightedness.

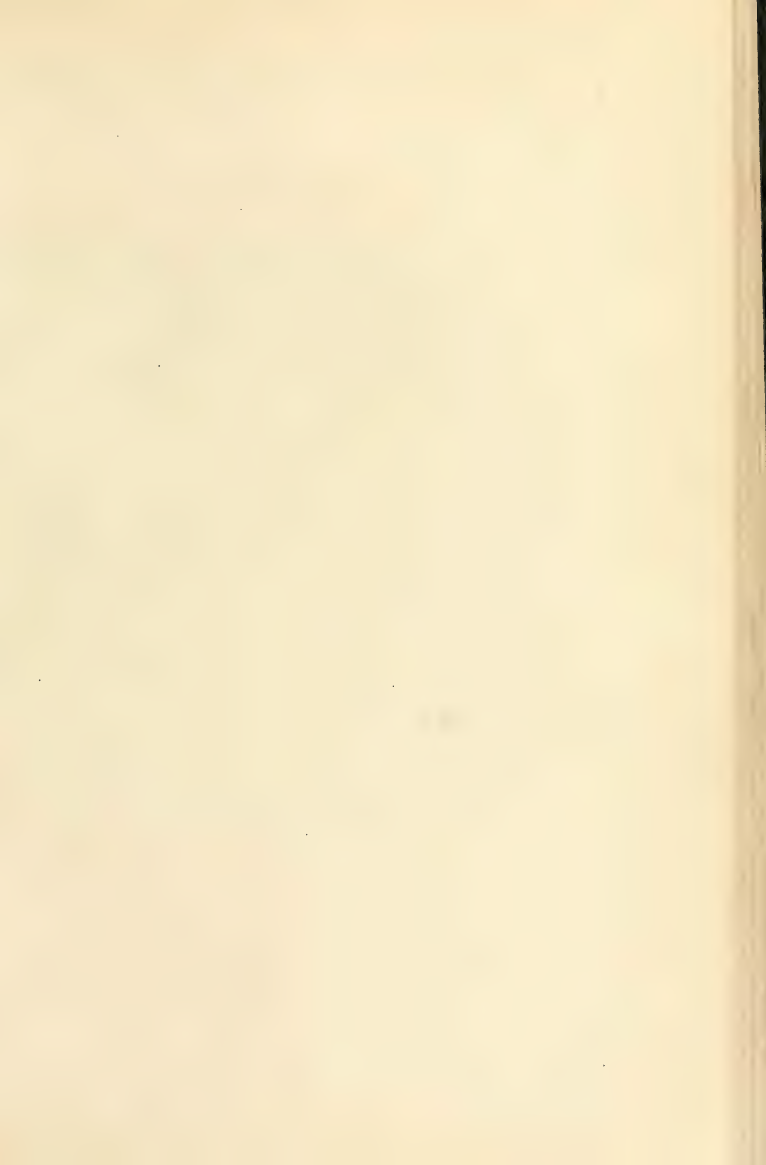
To Mr. and Mrs. Scharer six children have been born: Charles, a rancher in Parlier; August, a rancher at Fowler; Marie, whose death occurred shortly after their arrival in California; Margaret, Mrs. Tripple of Fresno; Philip, assisting his father in ranch development; and Mary, Mrs. Will of Caruthers. The family attends the Christ Lutheran Church in Fresno, and Mr. Scharer has served as trustee of that church. In national politics he is a Republican. A man of public spirit and progressive mind, he has done his share in the upbuilding of Fresno County and enjoys the respect of his many friends in the community. He is a member of the California Associated Raisin Company and a firm believer in the further development of the resources in which this county abounds.

**R. C. HEIMS.**—A pioneer merchant of the town of Kerman, Fresno County, Cal. R. C. Heims began his business career in that place in 1906, in a store-room twenty-five by forty-five feet. He carried a stock of general merchandise such as is required in that section, and it was not long before he had to move to more adequate quarters, where he has since conducted a prosperous and increasing business. He is interested in all that helps to build up Kerman and vicinity. The packing-house at Kerman was one of the results of his spirit of enterprise, so that the fruit-grower of that district could dispose of his product at home; another public necessity was the creamery, in which enterprise he is heavily interested. This institution has been the means of developing the alfalfa lands into prosperous dairy ranches, and has added materially to the development of the surrounding country. Besides these activities he is president of the Kerman Commercial Association; president of the Kerman Building & Loan Association, which he helped organize, and no one is more loyal in the support of all movements for the upbuilding of this section of Fresno County than Mr. Heims. He also was one of the organizers and a charter member of the Kerman Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. Heims was born in Lancaster County, Pa., August 16, 1865, and his education was obtained in the grammar and high schools there. At the age of seventeen, he learned the business of manufacturing furniture, and at the age of twenty-five was superintendent of a furniture factory in St. Paul. He first married, in St. Paul, Minn., Katherine Schneider, who was born in Bloomington, Ill., and who died in November, 1918. His second marriage took place in Madera, where he was united with Anna Schallman, a resident of San Francisco, and she presides over his home at Kerman.

**ERNEST KLETTE.**—A Fresno attorney whose natural ability and steadily increasing knowledge of the law has very naturally brought him increasing patronage, confidence and esteem, is Ernest Klette, who was born at Montreal, Canada, on July 17, 1874, the son of C. J. M. Klette, a furrier, who married Marie Held. Through the methods he had developed in his business career, the elder Klette came to occupy a good position wherever he operated, while his good wife helped to add, by her personal traits, to their circle of friends.

In the centennial year of the republic, when attention was directed anew to the advantages of the United States, the family first came to California





*L. D. Reyburn*



*Frances LO Reyburn*



and settled in Fresno County, then hardly yet entering upon its era of prosperity. They took a farm about five miles from Millerton, and the family ranches and engaged in the stock business. After a busy and useful life, the elder Mr. Klette died June 8, 1909, honored by all who knew him, while Mrs. Klette, equally well liked and mourned, passed away December 28, 1903.

Ernest Klette was educated at the county school in the district eighteen miles square which his father had organized, and then he helped on the family ranch until he was past twenty years of age. He early interested himself in local civic affairs, and during this period of apprenticeship to agricultural pursuits he became Justice of the Peace and in that office conscientiously served his fellow men. In 1902 he resigned the responsibility, determined upon a forward movement demanding increased efforts for a new field.

Having studied privately, he entered Stanford University and took the law courses there; and in December, 1904, at San Francisco, he was admitted to practice at the California bar. For a year and a half he practiced in Selma, and since then he has been one of the most active and prosperous attorneys of Fresno.

On April 4, 1904, at Fresno, Mr. Klette was married to Miss Ada Knight, a resident of Fresno, who passed away November 4, 1908, the mother of a daughter, Ruth. On September 18, 1912, he was wedded to Olga Sorensen. He belongs to Camp 160 of the Woodmen of the World, and has passed through the chairs. He is a member of the Fresno County Bar Association, supports the Republican platform, and is untiring in efforts for local advancement and uplift. In 1907 he was appointed a city trustee of Fresno to fill the unexpired term of Mr. Wrightson; in 1909 he was reelected to this position; and in 1912 he was appointed city attorney of Fresno.

Mr. Klette has been a frequent contributor to the press, of articles upon public questions.

**LESLIE DEVOE REYBURN.**—A successful vineyardist who may proudly look back to the accomplishments of his pioneer father, nor fear a comparison between what was wrought in an earlier generation and what he himself has achieved, is Leslie Devoe Reyburn, who owns one of the scientifically developed and artistically arranged places at Clovis, and quite as nice a ranch home for its size and pretensions as any in Fresno County. He was born a native son at Salida, Stanislaus County, on September 7, 1876, the son of Joseph D. Reyburn, a native of Des Moines, Iowa, where he was born in 1840. After attending a log-cabin school there, the father grew up apprenticed to farming, worked out as a farm laborer, and in the early sixties joined a mule-train company about to cross the plains. They traveled along the Platte River and finally reached distant Oregon, where Mr. Reyburn had some experience in lumbering; but although he had planned to stop in that state, he was so dissatisfied with the long rains that he and his party came south into California, to the Sacramento River and Folsom, and finally crossed over the mountains into Nevada. There he teamed between Carson City and Virginia City, then he drove to Stockton, sold his mules and camped for the winter. He returned to Nevada, but in the fall of 1864 came back to California and settled on the Stanislaus River. He homesteaded and preempted on what is now Salida, and again engaged in the lumber business, this time on the Tuolumne River. In 1869 he was married to Miss Mary Ella Lester, an Iowan who had come to live nearby, and by whom he had the following children: Charles T.; Leslie D., of this review; Glenn W.; Emery Everett; C. Ray; Ida May; Walter P.; John L., and a child who died in infancy. He continued to raise grain until 1881, and then he came to Fresno County and bought a farm in the Red Bank district. He owned over 2,500 acres in a body, some of which he eventually gave to each of his children, while he was yet alive. He also set out a vineyard of 120 acres. On May 9, 1897, Mr. Reyburn remarried at San Jose, and six more children were born to him: Gilbert Rowell,



who died a baby; and Gladys, Alfred, Doris, Mary Margaret and Adda. After a particularly active life, in which he sought to contribute toward civic reform under the banners of the Republican party and endeavored to exert, as a ruling elder in the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, such religious influence as he could, Mr. Reyburn lived in retirement at Pacific Grove and quietly passed away, full of honor, in 1914.

Educated at the public school at Red Bank, and also in the Jefferson district, Leslie Reyburn assisted his father until he was twenty-one and then engaged in farming for himself. His father gave him an outfit, and leased him some land; and he engaged in grain-raising, in which field his father had been so successful. This he continued for six years, but light crops decided him to enter another field.

He then tried viticulture, and toward this end his father gave him forty acres of stubble field, three and a half miles southeast of Clovis. He leveled and improved it, and set out a vineyard; in 1907 he built himself a handsome residence. He set out twenty acres of muscats, ten acres of malagas, five acres of seedless grapes, and planted the balance to figs; and when well established, he energetically supported each of the raisin associations, and particularly the good work of the California Associated Raisin Company, and the California Peach Growers, Inc.

The La Frances Vineyards, as he has named them, are well kept, sightly and beautiful, and reflect great credit on the enterprising owner. To what he had inherited of intuition, foresight and a natural aptitude for agricultural endeavor on a high plane, Mr. Reyburn has added an invaluable experience of his own, so that today he is rated as one of the ablest viticulturists in this section of the state.

In the Jefferson district, October 22, 1902, Mr. Reyburn was married to Miss Frances Dawson, a native of Arena, Wis., and the daughter of John A. Dawson. She came here when she was eleven years of age, and has grown up practically as a native daughter. She has three children: Harold, Milton and Leland, and with her husband is active in Concordia Chapter, No. 320, of the Order of the Eastern Star at Clovis. The family attends the First Presbyterian Church at Clovis, of which Mr. Reyburn has been a trustee for years, and was secretary of the building committee when the new church was built.

Public-spirited in every respect, Mr. Reyburn is a school trustee of the Jefferson district and for six years has been clerk of the board. He is also a member of the board of trustees of the Clovis Union High School. In 1917 he served on the Grand Jury, and he has been ready at all times to respond for war-service of any kind. He was made a Mason in Clovis Lodge, No. 417, F. & A. M., and belongs to Pine Burr Camp, No. 254, at Clovis, of the Woodmen of the World.

**BERNHARD KOHMANN.**—A vigorous upbuilder and a generous improver, who has effected all that he has accomplished with his own unaided efforts, is Bernhard Kohmann, who came to Fresno County in the early eighties. He was born near Lahr, Baden, Germany, on August 14, 1858, and there he was reared and received a good education. When sixteen he was apprenticed as a wheelwright, and when he had reached his eighteenth year, he had completed his trade. He then went as a journeyman through southern Germany and northeastern Switzerland, and while in the little Swiss republic, he determined to come to the United States. He saw an advertisement in a German paper calling for men to work in the vineyards and setting forth the prospects in Fresno County for viticulture, and having visited and said adieu to his parents, he crossed the ocean and wide continent, and in November, 1883, arrived in Fresno.

At first Mr. Kohmann went to the Eisen vineyard, which had been mentioned in the advertisement referred to, and found employment; and there he continued until he was foreman in that and other wineries. He later worked at his trade in the Fresno Agricultural Works, and he was the first

man to carry a ladle of molten iron to the molds there, in May, 1887. Afterward he worked in the Donahoo-Emmons hardware store awhile, and then in different shops at his trade, both as a wheelwright and a blacksmith.

In 1892, Mr. Kohmann rented an alfalfa ranch from A. V. Lisenby in West Park, who advanced him the means to start in farming; and he continued until, on January 2, 1900, he finally bought his present place. This consists of twenty acres on Belmont Avenue, two miles west of Fresno, for which he paid thirty dollars an acre, fifty dollars down, while the balance was to be paid within nine years. While he leveled and improved the place, he worked out for others, leveling lands, making roads and ditches, and contracting generally. From time to time he improved his property, setting out a vineyard and building a residence and barns, which he erected himself; and then he bought five acres more, near it, also a vineyard. He now raises Thompson seedless grapes, but at first he set out zinfandels, which were later grafted, and he also set out malagas. He joined the California Associated Raisin Company and the California Fruit Growers Association, and thus helped to advance California husbandry.

At Fresno on September 11, 1888, Mr. Kohmann was married to Miss Mary Duss, a native of Emmendingen, in Baden, Germany, and they have six children: Adolph B., who assists his father; Emil J., who was educated in Fresno County, entered the United States Army on August 10, 1917, trained at Camp Kearney with the Grizzlies, went overseas with the Field Artillery and later was transferred to the Army of Occupation and served there until June, 1919, when he returned to the United States; Otto Francis, who entered April, 1918, trained at Camp Lewis, went overseas with the Ninety-first Division and came back with them; was discharged in May, 1919, and is now at home; Bertha, a twin of Otto F., now Mrs. John Kooyman, ranching near Rolinda; and Emma and Gerald, at home.

Mr. Kohmann, who is a Roman Catholic, belongs to the Knights of Columbus and the Young Men's Institute. He is a Democrat in national politics, and an American citizen, who believes in casting aside partisanship in local issues, for the welfare of the community.

**M. BOS.**—A progressive farmer and viticulturist who has the distinction of being the oldest settler still living in the Holland Colony is M. Bos, who has not only cared industriously for his own interests, but has found time willingly and efficiently to serve his fellowmen as well. He was born at Appeldoorn, Holland, January 1, 1861, the son of Dirk Bos, a farmer and lumberman, who died there. His mother was Hendrika von Logem before her marriage, and she also died in her native land. She was the mother of five children, and the second eldest of these is the subject of our sketch.

Mr. Bos is the only one of the family who came to the United States. He enjoyed the excellent public school advantages of Holland until his eleventh year, but then began to work to help his parents, and from that time on he had something of a struggle with the world. In July, 1884, he was married to Miss Antonia Pol, who was born in Holland and was the daughter of Andrew and Eva Pol. For a while after his marriage he rented a farm and practiced agriculture as the Dutch understand it.

By 1891, however, Mr. Bos had decided to leave the country of dikes and canals and try his fortunes in the New World. His attention was already fixed on California, and in due time he arrived at Fresno and soon was employed at a vineyard in the Holland Colony. Three years later he was able to rent a vineyard, which he ran for a couple of years; and this experience as well as the profits of his labor put him on his feet sufficiently to enable him to take another and important step forward. In 1896 he bought his present place of twenty acres on Blackstone Avenue, four and three quarters miles north of Fresno, where he engaged in ranching; and later he bought forty acres more, half a mile to the north. He went in for grain raising, and

made of the home place a fine vineyard with the best of muscat vines. He also bought twenty acres a quarter of a mile nearer Fresno, and set out vines and an orchard there. He has become one of the notable producers of high-grade apricots, figs and grapes, and is an active member of the California Associated Raisin Company.

Eleven children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Bos, and ten are still living. Dirk assists his father; Andrew is in the United States' service; Everett resides in this vicinity; John is also serving his country; Temmen is living not far away; and besides these there are Marie, Albert, Eva, Johanna and Hendrika. Henry died when he was seventeen years of age. Mr. Bos has taken a very active part in civic affairs, and has given his services freely for sixteen years as a trustee of the Wolters school district. He has been clerk of the school board for ten years and was a member of the board when the new school building was erected.

**DR. HIRAM P. MERRITT.**—Of Huguenot stock, the Marriatts came originally from France to Florida; three brothers located there, and their descendants gradually drifted northward, some of them to Vermont. The name was always Marriatt until later generations Americanized it. Noble M. Merritt was born in Vermont and was married to Elizabeth Bates, a Virginian; they were the parents of three children, the eldest of whom, Hiram P., was born at Fair Haven, Rutland County, Vt., January 24, 1828, and when three years old his parents removed to Cuba, N. Y. When a lad of fourteen he became filled with the desire to "go west," and accordingly went to South Bend, Ind., where he made his home with an uncle, Dr. A. B. Merritt, and soon found employment in his uncle's drug store. He occupied his spare moments in the study of pharmacy, and later on medicine. Six years after his arrival in South Bend he went to Laporte, where he entered the Indiana State Medical College, graduating in due time, and he gave promise of a brilliant career in his chosen profession.

In the spring of 1850 he and five of his comrades fitted out a company and started on that long and perilous trip across the plains. The trip was attended with many exciting and trying incidents. Owing to inexperience and poor advice, they had not provided sufficient provisions and were obliged to live on half rations, at one time being so famished that they were unable to travel. In Utah they had all their horses stolen, and it was some time before they recovered them. Many and thrilling were the hairbreadth escapes of these young men from the Indians. After six months of travel, foot-sore and weary, the little party arrived in Sacramento.

When he had recuperated from this exhausting and perilous trip, Mr. Merritt bought a lot of provisions and other necessities and went back into Nevada to meet incoming emigrants. He traded these supplies for their famished stock, which he put on good pasture and soon had in salable condition, and thus laid the foundation of future prosperity. From this on he traded extensively with the emigrants and miners, and had pack trains running as far north as Siskiyou and Trinity Counties. On one of these trips one of his pack mules fell into a creek and was drowned, losing a pack-load of coffee. From this circumstance Mr. Merritt named the stream Coffee Creek, which has since become famous for its gold mines.

In 1851, Mr. Merritt first passed through Yolo County on one of his trips from Sacramento to Siskiyou, and the following year returned to what he believed would be the future garden spot of California. By this time he had accumulated enough means to begin stock-raising on an extensive scale, and later on wheat-growing, and by perseverance and industry he became the most extensive stock-raiser and mule-breeder in Central California. At the time of his death, in 1893, he was the owner of large tracts of land in Trinity, Mendocino and Fresno Counties, Cal., and in Morrow County, Ore., and also had the largest sheep-ranch in Nevada, his flocks feeding over four



H. P. MERRITT, M. D.



counties, besides his holdings in Yolo County. He was the organizer of the 76 Land and Water Co., which built the 76 Canal, purchased and developed thousands of acres of land in Fresno and Tulare Counties, making the desert blossom like the rose. He was largely instrumental in starting the Bank of Yolo, of which he was president up to the time of his death, and was one of the charter members of the Yolo County Savings Bank also. As a public-spirited citizen he gave many rights of way for irrigating canals and railroads, and aided in everything that had a tendency to develop the country; he was also liberal in giving to churches and took great interest in educational matters.

Mr. Merritt was married in 1868 to Jeanette E. Hebron, a woman of many accomplishments and the mother of his four children: Lanson, who died in 1898, after having made a name and place for himself in both California and Nevada as a stock-raiser and business man; George N., vice president of the Bank of Yolo and a prominent capitalist; Florence, Mrs. C. C. Gardner, of Alameda; and Jeanette, who married Roy P. Mathews of Navelencia.

After the death of her husband, Mrs. Merritt took up the burden of business and the management of the affairs left by him. How well she has managed these affairs is shown by her adding to the holdings and greatly increasing the value of them. Besides the items enumerated above, Mrs. Merritt owns with her son, Merritt Terrace, a thirty-acre subdivision of San Francisco, and other realty holdings in various parts of the state. She is liberal and progressive and has carried out faithfully the ambitions and ideals of her husband and herself with remarkable success.

**MRS. JULIA ANN JACOBS.**—The distinction of being a native daughter, as well as being a daughter of a forty-niner, and of an honored pioneer family of California, belongs to Mrs. Julia Fink Jacobs, who was born in Fresno County, in 1863, the daughter of Peter and Eliza (Deakin) Fink, natives of Wisconsin and England, respectively. In 1849, Peter Fink, inspired by the reports of the discovery of gold, migrated to California. However, like many another miner, Mr. Fink decided that farming offered a safer and more dependable means of livelihood, so he took up agriculture and followed it successfully the remainder of his days. Peter Fink's demise occurred in 1904. Mr. and Mrs. Fink were the parents of six children, as follows: Mrs. J. F. Hill; Mrs. Julia A. Jacobs; Mrs. T. W. Street; Mrs. Rose Deason; Mrs. Mary Hackett; and Peter E. Fink.

In 1886, Julia Fink was united in marriage with Alfred T. Marsh, at one time a deputy sheriff in Arizona, where they lived for twelve years. This union was blessed with seven children; four of whom are living: Mrs. E. C. Pulliam; Maggie; Alice; and Ralph, who is now in the United States Navy. The second marriage of Mrs. Julia Marsh was solemnized in 1902, when she was united with Harry Jacobs, born in Kentucky. They settled down to farming on part of the Fink estate. In 1918 she moved to Fresno where she now resides.

For a more extended account of the pioneer Fink family, see the sketch of Eliza Fink on another page of this history.

**CHRIS L. HANSEN.**—A pioneer whose early life was a struggle for existence, but who has prospered since he came to Fresno County, is Chris L. Hansen, who has a record of thirty-five years of faithful and honorable service for the Valley Lumber Company in their Fresno yards. He was born on April 21, 1859, in Schleswig-Holstein, under the Danish flag, five years before Germany took it from Denmark, and grew up to attend the local school. Inasmuch as the territory there came under German rule in 1864, he had to study German in the schools much against his wishes. But he studied Danish also, and for the most part, and was brought up in the Danish Lutheran Church.

His father was Ehm Hansen, a farmer operating on a small scale, who owned a few acres and kept two or three cows, making most of his living working out on larger farms. He was in the Danish army in the War of 1848 with Germany, and proved himself thoroughly patriotic. He lived to be forty-eight, and died when Chris was only twelve or thirteen years old. He was married in Schleswig to Elsie Hansen, who died there in February, 1917, almost ninety years old. The good couple had four children: Christian L., the oldest; Methe, who married Christian Iversen, and now resides in Scherbeck, Schleswig; Niels P. Hansen, a vineyardist and rancher near Oleander; and H. A. Hansen, agent at Selma for the Valley Lumber Company.

In 1876, before he was seventeen, Chris Hansen went to Denmark in order to get away from German militarism, and there he worked at farm labor. At twenty-one, he enlisted in the Danish army, served two one-half years, and was honorably discharged. Then he returned to Schleswig and bade good-bye to his mother and home, and bravely made off for the United States. He sailed from Hamburg, and landed at Castle Garden in New York City on November 1, 1882. His taking up residence in Denmark was due to the fact that when Germany annexed Schleswig-Holstein it was provided that any boy born before 1870 might remain a subject of Denmark by removing to Denmark before he was seventeen.

An old army friend knew something about Paterson, and that drew Mr. Hansen to New Jersey, but he left the city after thirty days' work on a dairy farm, where he had received seven dollars for his labor and had to pay an employment agency one dollar to get the job. He then went to Perth Amboy, where he secured work at one dollar a day, digging clay for a brick and tile factory, and where he had to pay sixteen dollars a month for board; and he stayed there until August, 1883, when he concluded to try California.

He arrived at Fresno, therefore, in the latter part of August, 1883, and from the first thought that he had reached next-door to heaven, with the result that, with the exception of the time when he went back to Denmark for a visit and traveled to Paris and other parts of Europe, he has never been absent from the county since. He had only a good head, generally favorable health, and two willing hands, but he set to work with a resolution to earn and to win. He first worked on the San Joaquin canal, and then on Canal 76; and then he entered the service of F. K. Prescott, in the vineyard of his little ranch on Elm Avenue. Not having work for him all the time, Mr. Prescott took him to Fresno and employed him in the Prescott & Pierce Lumber and Wood Yard. This gentleman soon found out that Mr. Hansen was a good penman and quick at figures, and gave him a clerkship; and when the foreman of the yard was taken sick, he gave him his place, and he held the foremanship from the summer of 1884 to 1918—a wonderful record of fidelity. In 1888, the company was incorporated as the Valley Lumber Company with yards at various places; and Mr. Hansen's foremanship extended to the Fresno yard.

Working for wages, he saved his money, and in 1887-88 he made a few wise investments and got a good start. He was married in 1894 to Miss Ingelborg Madsen, a native of Denmark, where she was born at Heibol, Jutland, and who had come to California a young lady. Nine children resulted from this union: Elsie, who died when she was two and a half years old; Emma; Anton and Henry, on the home farm; Eleanor, Meta, Christopher, Herbert and Anna.

As has been said, Mr. Hansen saved his wages and speculated in a small way. He bought and sold city lots in Fresno; improved city property and sold it, and also built three houses in that city. He purchased 300 acres here three years ago, and this choice land now lies one one-half miles southwest of Helm station. He owns 240 acres of West Side land. He bought three quarter-sections on the West Side several years ago, and later sold half of it for as much as he paid for the entire 480 acres, so that he has his 240 acres as profit. The three quarter-sections he bought cost him seven dollars an



acre. In 1918, Mr. Hansen resigned his position with the Valley Lumber Company and since then, he has put all of his time and energies on the improvement of his holdings, which he had rented out in 1916 and 1917.

Mr. Hansen is trying out an important experiment in prune-growing. He set out 1,600 French prune trees in 1918 and in 1919 set out several acres more of the same variety on his West Side ranch. They were all doing well up to this time, July 26, 1919.

A Republican in national politics, Mr. Hansen gives his support to measures for local improvement, regardless of party lines. He finds the greatest opportunity for religious work in the Salvation Army.

Together with his three sturdy sons, Mr. Hansen devotes most of his time to the work on his West Side ranch. His wife and the rest of the children reside at his little fruit ranch on Willow Avenue in Fresno, when every week-end is happily spent in religious observance and family reunion.

**ANDREW MATTEI.**—A. Mattei was born on a small farm in Canton Ticino, Switzerland, on August 9, 1855, a son of Francisco and Ursula (Pelanda) Mattei, farmers in their native canton. Before his marriage Francisco Mattei was a teacher, and his son Andrew received a good common-school education. As a youth he was strong and rugged, used to hard work and simple living. He came to the United States when he was eighteen years of age, arriving in April, 1874, and going direct to Eureka, Nev., went to work in the timber where he continued that kind of work for twenty-six months, meantime becoming used to the ways of this part of the country and learning English. In July, 1876, he went to San Francisco and from there to Modesto, Stanislaus County, where he found work in a dairy owned by George Owens, for the following six months. His next move took him to San Jose, where he continued working at the dairy business, and then he went to San Francisco for eight months. He returned to San Jose and for three years was again employed in a dairy. On January 1, 1882, he arrived in Los Angeles and was engaged in the manufacture of cream of tartar for six months, then leased some land where he began the dairy business for himself, delivering his product to customers in the city. After renting four years Mr. Mattei bought the ranch and cattle, and so continued until 1890, when he located in Fresno County, but he continued to own the Los Angeles ranch, which he had leased for dairy purposes, until 1894.

In 1887 he had made a visit to Fresno County and purchased the nucleus of his present holdings, foreseeing the great possibilities of what was then desert country. When he became owner of the 320 acres it was part of a large grain field, but he started in to develop the property as he intended to make it a permanent home place. In 1890, after settling here, he set out eighty acres in vines and has continued to increase his acreage until today he is the largest individual vineyardist and wine-manufacturer in the United States. By 1910 he had 1,200 acres set to vines, of many varieties of wine grapes as well as raisin. He made his first wine in 1892, starting on a small scale, and by 1902 he made 300,000 gallons of wine and 1,000 gallons of proof brandy, all of which he sold in carload lots. He enlarged his scope of operations by erecting more buildings and now can store over 3,000,000 gallons of wine; in his bonded warehouse he can store 350,000 gallons of brandy. His business is done only on a wholesale plan. Mr. Mattei bought grapes wherever he could find them, employing many men in his various branches of business. He created a local market for his wine and gave but little attention to outside business, but about 1913 he began to ship to eastern and other markets. In 1915, at the Panama Pacific Exposition in San Francisco, he was awarded twenty-two prizes for his products, including the Medal of Honor, gold medals and other premiums. The yearly production of wine by the wineries owned by Mr. Mattei averages from 800,000 to 1,000,000 gallons. His plant resembles a small city, for the buildings cover a large area

of land, located near Fresno, where Mr. Mattei settled when he first came to the county.

In 1886, in Los Angeles, Andrew Mattei was married to Miss Eleanor J. Joughin, born in Rockford, Ill., who came to California with her parents in 1860, locating in Los Angeles in 1866, where she was reared and educated. Her father, Andrew Joughin, was born in the Isle of Man, on February 23, 1824. He was a blacksmith in his native place and also after coming to the United States, in 1854, when he settled in Rockford, Ill. In 1859 he came via Panama to Sacramento, Cal.; in 1866 he established his home in Los Angeles where he made investments that caused him to be rated among the wealthy men of that city. He died there on February 7, 1889, when about sixty-five years of age. Mr. and Mrs. Mattei have three children: Andrew, Jr., Anne Joughin, and Eleanor Theadolinda, who, with their parents enjoy the esteem and good will of their many friends.

Mr. Mattei recalls Los Angeles as a small city, when the vicinity of Fourth and Broadway was considered in the country; he also has recollections of Fresno County when there were but two vineyards in the entire section between his place and Malaga. He has done much to develop the wine and grape-growing industry; and he has helped organize the school districts in his locality giving land for the school in his district. While he has given his attention to the building up of his own business and fortune he has ever had in mind the welfare of the county and has supported every movement for the bettering of conditions. Mr. Mattei has never aspired to public office but has served as a trustee of his district for years. He is a member of the Merchants Association, the Traffic Association, the Sequoia and Commercial Clubs. He is honored for his integrity and unswerving principles of justice.

**FRANKLIN PIERCE and ALVIRA BOLLMAN.**—The story of two highly interesting families—one that of a California pioneer, used to the burden and heat of the day, and identified with Del Rey when it was called Clifton and had neither railroad facilities nor even the beginnings of horticulture, and the other a "Pennsylvania Dutch" family of great virility of mind and body, that has produced some of the most progressive leaders of our country—is interwoven in the lives of Franklin Pierce Bollman and his good wife Alvira, who have one of the finest improved ranches in Fresno County, a handsome tract of forty acres one-half of a mile north and one mile west of Del Rey.

Mr. Bollman was born in Davis County, Iowa, on January 2, 1853, the son of Samuel Bollman, a native of Pennsylvania, who went to Ohio and from Ohio to Iowa, as early as 1844; so that Franklin was brought up in the Hawkeye State. While in Pennsylvania, Samuel Bollman was married to Susanna Good, by whom he had eleven children. Franklin was the youngest of these, and passed his boyhood on his father's farm. He was so much a fixture there, in fact, that he was never off his father's property, for any considerable time or distance, until he was married, at the age of twenty-two. His mother died in 1872, when she was sixty-three, and the father died ten years later, when he was seventy-eight.

Samuel Bollman was indeed a remarkable man. He was born on New Year's Day, 1804, in Lebanon County, Pennsylvania—the very day on which Napoleon Bonaparte gave to the world his notion of a civil code—and there he attended the log-cabin school and grew up. When he removed from that section, he went to Virginia, where he served an apprenticeship for three years to a miller. His fiancée, Susanna Good, was a daughter of the Old Dominion, and cheerfully accompanied her husband to Ohio the following year, 1831, after their marriage, and faithfully bore her share of fourteen years of pioneering in Ohio. Toward the middle of the forties, Mr. and Mrs. Bollman moved to Davis County, Iowa, and there, too, they went through many hardships. For a long time, for example, he had to get along without



*Alvira Bollman*



a team; and it was not until the Mormons came through and afforded him his first chance to buy a couple of horses that he was able to secure the means of properly breaking his land. Five years later he had brought 160 acres to a very fair state of cultivation; and from that time he prospered, so that some return and reward were allotted the intrepid couple. After a while he came to own 385 acres of good farming land, and also town property at Bloomfield, the county seat. When Mrs. Bollman died, seven children had grown to maturity. These were William N., John A., George W., David M., Samuel N., Margaret, who became the wife of Kirk Pearson, and Franklin Pierce.

F. P. Bollman's marriage to his first wife took place in 1875, and the bride was Miss Mary Jane Bivins, who later died in Montana. One of their children, named Bertha, became the wife of Charles Cox, of Missouri, and has three children; and the other child, also a daughter, Annie, is the wife of Oliver Dixon, and dwells in Des Moines, Iowa. For years the Bollmans continued to farm in Iowa, and then, believing that California offered still greater agricultural inducements, Mr. Bollman prepared to come to the Coast. He arrived in California in 1912, and soon after was married to Mrs. Alvira McCloskey, whose maiden name was Alvira Griffieath, and who was born and had grown up in the same county in Iowa, a daughter of David and Delilah (Bivins) Griffieath, natives respectively of Pennsylvania and Iowa. Mr. Griffieath was born in Perry County, Pa., on July 10, 1828. When he was ten years of age his mother took him to Van Buren County, Iowa, near Birmingham, and in 1866 he came to Davis County, then wild land. He had received a common-school education, supplemented with instruction in the great school of life, and at the time of his first marriage, on June 20, 1850, he was able to provide an excellent home for his bride, whose maiden name was Nancy Wilfrong, and who became the mother of his first child, William W. She died on February 20, 1852; and Mr. Griffieath married again, on the 4th of October, four years later, this time choosing as has been stated, Miss Delilah Bivins, of Jefferson County, Iowa. Seven children were born of that union; and Nancy Alvira, one of the subjects of this interesting review, was the eldest. The others were David Fremont, Marion C., Madison M., Susan D., and Washington Jefferson and Clinton Clay.

While at Bloomfield, Ill., and when she was twenty-four years of age, Miss Griffieath was married to Benjamin W. McCloskey, in 1881, and came with him to California the same year. About 1875 he had become a pioneer of Fresno County by homesteading here the land his wife now owns, and still more near by; and he had gone back to Davis County for his wife. When she came to Clifton, afterwards Del Rey, wheat farming only was practiced; and for years they farmed all their land to wheat. Mr. McCloskey died in 1913, aged sixty-three; and now Mrs. Bollman owns, as the result of his success in developing the land to more intensive purposes, twenty-five acres planted to Thompson Seedless grapes, nine acres of muscats, and five acres of apricots, while the balance of the forty acres is given up to alfalfa, build-ings, dry yards and other features of a well-platted ranch.

Five children were born to Mr. and Mrs. McCloskey. Gale Forest married first, Ethel Elder, by whom he had four children, Leora (McCloskey) Comar, DeWitt, Howard and Ernest. He now resides in Butte County, Cal. Ina is the wife of E. W. Johnson and resides at Sumner, Wash. One son, George W., has been born to them. Sophia married G. E. Clayton, and lives at Chico. They have one son, Kenneth. Ralph B. resides in Watsonville, Cal., and is the father of a son, Charles R. Laura is the wife of C. A. Huntington, and lives on Cherry Avenue, on a ranch eight miles south of Fresno. She has three children, Fred, Alice and Byron. Mrs. Bollman is a member of the Methodist Church; the California Associated Raisin Company; the California Peach Growers, Inc., and the Apricot and Prune Growers Association. She is proud of the part she has taken in bringing about the present prosperity of Fresno County.

**CHESTER H. ROWELL.**—Prominent among the newer generation of Californians whose character, intellect and ideals have given them power and influence, and who have made marked use of privilege and opportunity, must be mentioned Chester Harvey Rowell, whose national reputation as editor of the Fresno Republican and as a public man has placed him in the front rank, not only of California's commonwealth builders, but also of scholarly American publicists, and whose personality and achievements have long since made him easily the best-known citizen of Fresno. He was born in Bloomington, Ill., on November 1, 1867, the eldest son of Jonathan Harvey and Maria Sanford (Woods) Rowell, and received his earlier education at the common and high schools of his native city, and at the Illinois State Normal School.

In the fall of 1885 Mr. Rowell matriculated at the University of Michigan, and three years later he was graduated with the degree of Ph. B. after which he took an additional year there for post graduate study. He there laid foundations of learning and of training which enabled him in later life, when called upon to assume unusual responsibility and leadership and be equal to the task.

The three years immediately following Mr. Rowell spent in Washington, D. C., where for two years he was clerk to the committee on elections of the House of Representatives, of which his father was chairman, and then for a year he gave himself up to private literary work, making use of material to be found only at the national library. While in Washington he compiled a digest of the contested election cases of the Fifty-first Congress, which was published by Congress. He also then got together most of his volume on the contested election cases in all the congresses, which was afterward also published by Congress. At the nation's capitol he met the nation's leaders in all departments of activity, and he thus naturally became familiar with most phases of public and strenuous life.

Less for the sake of rest than to continue in his characteristically energetic fashion the hard work he had driven through, Mr. Rowell next visited Europe, where he spent a couple of years in travel and study. He was enrolled as a post-graduate student in the German universities of Halle and Berlin, and later he studied in Rome and in Paris. During the long vacations, he traveled a-foot across Germany, Switzerland and Italy, seeing both land and people at first-hand and mastering the dialectical peculiarities of everyday foreign speech in French, German and Italian, and he also made an interesting and instructive foot-tour in Bohemia.

On his return from Europe, Mr. Rowell began his experience as a teacher in Baxter College, Kans., and Racine College, Wis. He taught for two years in the high school at Fresno, and soon after was added to the modern language force in the University of Illinois, where he had charge of the course in scientific German. At other times and places, he taught mathematics, French and Latin.

In 1898 Mr. Rowell returned to Fresno, in which expanding city he had already established valuable social and professional connections, and assumed the editorial management of the Fresno Republican, in which he has been continuously engaged ever since. After the death of his uncle, Dr. Chester Rowell, in 1912, he became the principal owner of the paper, and president of the publishing company. Mr. Rowell has done much to direct local thought and to guide Fresno County to its deserved destiny; but he has also found time to accomplish a good deal for both California and the nation. He spent the winter of 1900-01 in Washington, and further studied national politics. In 1901 he accepted the Republican nomination for mayor of Fresno, but was defeated.

Mr. Rowell served as one of the trustees of the Fresno Free Public Library, and was instrumental in securing from Andrew Carnegie the gift of \$30,000 for the construction of a library building. He has also served as

a member of the Fresno Board of Education. During the summer of 1911 he delivered a series of lectures on journalism before the University of California and at various times, in different sections of the United States he has lectured upon political, civic and educational subjects. He has also contributed numerous articles to the leading magazines and reviews of the country.

Among Mr. Rowell's civic and other work may be noted his organization with others of the Lincoln-Roosevelt Republican League, of which he was president, which was the first organization of the reform movement in California, out of which the Progressive party afterwards grew. It was their organization which nominated Hiram W. Johnson as a candidate for the Republican nomination for governor in 1912. Mr. Rowell was chairman of the committee in charge of the Johnson campaign.

He was a member of the Republican State Committee from 1906 to 1912, and from 1916 to the present time (1919). In the interval from 1912 to 1916, he was a member of the Progressive State Committee. He was chairman of the Republican State Convention of 1910, the last delegate convention held in California, and was chairman of the Republican State Committee from 1916 to 1918. He was delegate to both the Republican and Progressive National Conventions in 1912, and had the unique experience of serving on the subcommittees on platform, of nine members, of each of these committees, thus assisting in the drafting of the national platform of two political parties the same year. He was also a delegate to the National Progressive Convention of 1916. From 1912 to 1916 he was National Committeeman for California on the Progressive National Committee. Returning to the Republican party in 1916, he was elected state chairman of the party committee the next day after he had changed his registration to Republican. He was a member of the National Campaign Committee of sixteen members, in the Hughes campaign of that year. Since 1918 he has not taken active part in organized politics, though retaining his membership on the Republican State Committee.

Mr. Rowell was a member of the board of state commissioners of the Panama-Pacific Exposition, is a regent of the University of California, and a director in the California Development Board and was a member of the executive committee of the California State Council of Defense. He served as vice-president of the National Municipal League, is a member of the Associated Press and the American Publishers' Association and of numerous scientific and literary bodies. He is a member of the Phi Beta Kappa and Golden Bear, college honor societies, and of the Delta Tau Delta college fraternity.

At Chicago, on August 1, 1897, Mr. Rowell was married to Miss Myrtle Marie Lingle, of Webb City, Mo., and they have three children, Cora W., now a student in the State University, Barbara and Jonathan.

**C. T. CEARLEY.**—Prominent among the business men and worthy citizens of Fresno stands the name of C. T. Cearley, a native son, born in Alameda County, November 21, 1865. The greater part of his boyhood was spent in the bustling city of San Jose. As a young man just entering business life, his inclinations turned in the direction of newspaper work, resulting in his securing a position with the San Jose Times, and later in his purchasing a one-third interest in that paper, which he retained for four years. Disposing of this interest, he removed to Fresno in September, 1891, in the interest of, and as agent for, the San Francisco papers. Recognizing in Fresno, the center of the raisin industry of California, the brilliant prospects of future advancement which have since been more than realized, Mr. Cearley, with keen business discernment, saw a good opening in that city for a stationery store, which he at first established on a small scale. The business prospered until it reached such proportions that in 1906 he incorporated it under the name of C. T. Cearley, Inc. The firm continues to do a large and growing business



in the sale of books and stationery. The most important branch of the business, however, consists in wholesaling paper and paper bags. At present there are twelve employees.

Mr. Cearley was appointed by President Wilson as a member of the exemption board for Fresno City and served with his usual ardor and zeal. He was also city director of the Fourth and Fifth Liberty Loan Drives.

Shortly after coming to Fresno, Mr. Cearley joined the Masons, and he has since taken an active part in Masonic affairs. He is a Past High Priest of Fresno Chapter and Past Commander of Fresno Commandery, as well as a prominent Shriner, and is also a member of the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks.

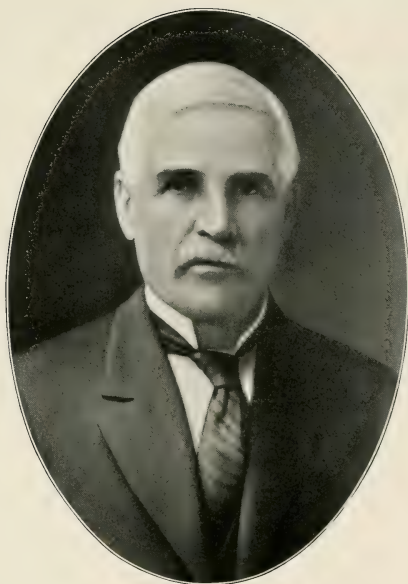
**MARTIN LUTHER WOY.**—One of the best-known ranchers and oil and real estate men in the state is Martin Luther Woy, the son of George Woy, a Pennsylvania farmer, stockman and horse fancier who emigrated from Ohio to Illinois in 1864 and drove to Clinton, Dewitt County, Ill., the first band of sheep. In 1884 he came to California and located at Pomona, and there he retired to enjoy some years of well-earned leisure. This blessing, however, was affected by the death there, on May 2, 1886, of his good wife Elizabeth, who passed away in her seventy-ninth year. Mr. Woy died at his home, aged eighty-seven years, on June 20, 1906, the father of five boys and nine girls, all of whom except one girl and two of the sons are living today.

Born on June 3, 1854, in Hancock County, Ohio, the eleventh child in the family, Martin attended the country school until he was seventeen years of age, when he started out to earn his living. He secured a position in mercantile business, and in that line continued until 1887, when he came to California. For a while he was at Fresno, and then he had a store at Pomona. When this was sold he returned to Fresno and on J Street embarked in the livery business. He commenced in May, 1889, and during the next eight years, while continuing in business, was very successful. In 1897, however, he sold out and took up what has proven far more remunerative—the real estate and oil business. Among Mr. Woy's real estate ventures may be mentioned the buying and plotting, with two partners, of the Poppy Colony, one of the largest real estate tracts subdivided in Fresno. He was also one of three partners who plotted the Wyhee home tract. He is interested in farming, and owns a ranch of 640 acres in the American Colony, which he improved as an alfalfa and stock ranch. He also owns a large ranch in the Tehachapi fruit section of Kern County.

Mr. Woy is interested in raising fine stock, particularly standard-bred horses, which he has bred and trained for years. He himself owns some of the finest pacers and trotters in California. Among these is Lulu B., who made a trotting record, as a three-year-old, of 2:11 $\frac{1}{4}$ . Another notable horse raised by Mr. Woy was Miss Macklie, a fast trotter. He owns the pacer J. C. L., who won all the races in which he started in California in 1918, and received the mark of 2:05 $\frac{1}{2}$ . He also owns Pavana and other horses of note. He maintains his racing stables in Fresno and takes keen delight in training his steeds.

Mr. Woy was one of the early pioneer oil men in Coalinga and Kern County. When he went to Coalinga, only Chancellor & Canfield and the Confidence Oil Company were operating, on Sections 20, 31, 19 and 15. When the first development began there, he became actively identified with the movement, organized the Commercial Petroleum Oil Company, and immediately began developing the oil in the Coalinga field. He was vice-president and general manager of the company, and much of the enterprise that marked that concern's aggressive programs must be credited to him. He also organized and accepted the presidency of the Woy, Machen & Madsen Oil Company, which has been so successfully operating in Coalinga. Superin-





*Thomas Dunn*

tending the drilling of the second oil well in the Midway field in 1901, Mr. Woy, as might be expected, was identified with the control of large tracts of land in the Midway section, and he owns outright a large body of land in the Midway field now under lease to the Midway Oil Company of Portland, Ore. His career as an operator in oil has been exceptionally successful.

For four years Mr. Woy was chief of police of Fresno. Always a leading Republican, he has taken an active part in public affairs, and has contributed to the growth of Fresno and vicinity. He is a leader in the Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. Woy was first married in 1875, to Miss Martha McCaudless of Kansas City, Mo., who was an exemplary Christian woman and an active worker in the Methodist Church and its charities, always aiding those who had been less fortunate. After a happy wedded life of thirty-five years, she passed away. No children came to bless the union. Four years later Mr. Woy was again married, at San Francisco, on May 16, 1914, to a most estimable lady, Miss Alice Kelly, a native of California; and one child, a son named Martin Luther, Jr., has come to gladden their hearts. The Woy home is the center at all times of true California hospitality, and Mr. and Mrs. Woy enjoy the good-will of a very large circle of friends and admirers. He is a member of the Sequoia Club.

**THOMAS DUNN.**—One of the prominent pioneers and developers of Fresno County, Thomas Dunn left his imprint on the community where he spent so many years of his life, and where he gave of his vigorous activities to the accomplishment of pioneer labors for the welfare and upbuilding of his section of the state. His life was an admirable example because of his breadth of interests, his sturdy character, and for his disinterested devotion to worthy causes. A native of Canada, when a babe in arms the family moved to Racine, Wis. The parents both died when Thomas was a small lad, and he was placed with a family that raised him to manhood.

Ambitious, even at that early age, he started west with a prairie schooner to Pike's Peak, Colo., during the famous gold rush to that region. Then the Civil War broke out, and he enlisted in the Thirteenth Colorado Cavalry and served three years. Later, with a partner, he went to Texas and from there drove a herd of longhorn cattle to Montana, the first man to import Texas cattle into that territory. He remained in Montana, in the cattle business, until 1885.

In 1886, Mr. Dunn located in Fresno, and engaged in ranching, purchasing, in 1888, eighty acres of vineyard near Malaga, planted to two-year-old Muscat grapes. For fifteen years he operated this ranch, in the meantime investing in other ranch and city property. In 1890 he bought a forty-acre vineyard southwest of Fowler; he invested in Fresno real estate and built the Dunn Block, on J Street, and also a business block at 827 I Street, both buildings standing today; in addition to this development, he owned a business block at Sanger. Mr. Dunn had large oil interests in Kern County and in the Coalinga district. His death occurred January 2, 1913.

The marriage of Mr. Dunn united him with Mattie Iliff, a native of Cincinnati, Ohio, but reared in Illinois; her death occurred in Fresno, June 11, 1916. Five children were born to this worthy couple, as follows: Mattie I., wife of Arthur Perkins, stockholder, director and manager of Barrett-Hicks Hardware Company of Fresno; William F., district manager for the Associated Oil Company, Fresno; Lieut. Thomas M., now with the United States Army; Lillian S., wife of the late Edward M. Voigt of Fresno; Herbert I., the only one born in Fresno, and who is First Lieutenant in the One Hundred Twenty-eighth Field Artillery, U. S. A., and who served as an Aviation Observer overseas; he was a student at Stanford University and attended the first officers' training school at the Presidio, San Francisco, receiving his commission.

While devoting his energies to business and developing his interests, Thomas Dunn was ever a willing worker for the good of his community, and served the public with the same devotion to duty that he gave to his personal affairs. He was a member of the board of trustees of the City of Fresno under the new city charter, from the Eighth Ward, and served four years in that capacity; he also served as park commissioner under Mayor Chester Rowell, and in all other work for the advancement of Fresno, city and county, he was wise in counsel and efficient in execution, and his passing removed from the community a man in whom reposed the sincerest respect and admiration of all who knew him. He was a prominent and well posted Mason and stood high in his lodge. Thomas Dunn was a candidate for mayor of Fresno, but withdrew in favor of Chester Rowell. He was a member of Atlanta Post, G. A. R., at Fresno, taking an active interest in all of its affairs, and showing his sympathetic spirit and loyalty by always attending the funerals of its members. In the cause of temperance he was an active worker but was not radical.

**HONORABLE ANGUS MARION CLARK.**—As one of the old pioneers of the state, A. M. Clark, who passed away December 2, 1907, is remembered by his friends as a man who did much to further the growth and interests of California, where he chose to cast in his lot. He was born in Madison County, Miss., August 25, 1831, and was brought up on a farm in that southern state until he attained the age of nineteen, attending private school in a log cabin schoolhouse. In January, 1850, he started for the Pacific Coast to join his father, Angus Archibald Clark, of Scotch descent, who was living in Nevada County, Cal., and one among the many who came west in 1849 seeking golden rewards in the mining camps of those early days. Crossing Mexico to Mazatlan, young Mr. Clark took passage from that seaport to San Francisco, where he arrived in May, going thence to Nevada County. For sixteen years he followed the occupation of mining, and in 1867 came to Millerton, Fresno County, and engaged in copper mining at Buchanan, for six years, meeting with varying success.

In 1873 he was elected by his appreciative fellow-citizens to the combined offices of county clerk and recorder of Fresno County, taking office in March, 1874, at Millerton, then the county seat. In the fall of 1874 he moved the county records to Fresno and in September of that year assisted in laying the corner stone of the new court house. In 1878 he formed a partnership with W. H. McKenzie, as Clark & McKenzie, in the abstract business in Fresno, which continued for some years. After eleven years service as county clerk, he retired from the office, and in 1884 he and Mr. McKenzie bought a controlling interest in the Fresno Loan & Savings Bank. Mr. Clark was elected to the Assembly of the State Legislature in 1885, from Fresno County, serving the term to the satisfaction of his constituents. In 1885 he also served as school trustee in Fresno, and in 1887 was elected to the Board of City Trustees, resigning in 1889. His last political office was that of city recorder of Fresno, serving several terms, and as Judge of the City Court his decisions were rendered with the greatest fairness.

He organized and was one of three owners of the Harrow Gold Mining Company. Their mines, located in the foothills near Millerton and equipped with modern machinery, were good producers for a number of years. In later years of his life, Mr. Clark had gold mining interests at Auberry Valley. He was also a large owner of city property.

His first marriage occurred in 1865, at Sacramento, when he was united with Emma Glidden, who died in Fresno in 1880. They were the parents of four children, all of whom are living. Ada Belle, who is the wife of L. R. Williams, is now residing in Cottonwood, Shasta County, and is the mother of two children, Marion, now Mrs. A. T. Brown of Cottonwood, and A. Bush Williams, serving in the U. S. Army. Their second child, Sadie P. Clark, is assistant librarian of the Fresno County Library. Angus Clark, assistant

secretary and land agent for the Keyroute System, resides in Berkeley. He married Martha Fisher of Woodland, and they are the parents of two children: Katherine Janette and Angus. The fourth child, Frank Marion, is with the Western Pacific Railroad in San Francisco.

By his second marriage, which was solemnized December 25, 1882, Mr. Clark was united with Sarah Bemis, a native of Framingham, Mass., who came to San Francisco in 1876. Mrs. Clark is the only charter member of the First Baptist Church now living in Fresno, having always been an active worker in the church, and has done grand work in the organization of charity in Fresno. Mr. Clark was a very prominent Mason, being a Past Master of Fresno Lodge No. 247 F. & A. M. and was also past High Priest of Fresno Chapter No. 69 and Past Commander of Fresno Commandery No. 29, K. T., and a member of Islam Temple A. A. O. N. M. S. in San Francisco. Mrs. Clark and the two daughters, Mrs. Williams and Miss Sadie, were members and Past Matrons of Raisina Chapter No. 89 O. E. S.

It is to such men as A. M. Clark, that Fresno County today owes much of its present greatness, development and prosperity, for with his energy and optimism he was always working to build up the county; was aggressive in the cause of education and zealous for a splendid school system, and a high standard of morals. Thus the best interests of his town and county were always nearest and dearest to his heart.

**FRANK HOLLAND.**—To serve for thirty-six years in the employ of the same corporation is a record of which any man may be proud. This has been achieved by Frank Holland, who was born in Marietta, Ohio, January 9, 1854, and crossed the plains to Virginia City, Nev., with his parents in 1863, a boy of nine years. He remembers many incidents of the trip, and a diary his mother kept of experiences on the way is prized very highly by the son. A few extracts from the diary are given here: "Started across the plains with wagons drawn by horses, April 16, 1863. Passed many ox teams of emigrants bound for California. Game is very plenty. Visited by friendly Indians. Saw buffaloes by the thousands. Traveled all day without water. Passed a grave of an emigrant who died August 31, 1862. Celebrated July 4th with big dinner and games. On July 8, Mrs. Miller, one of our party, gave birth to a son. Passed a spot where a train was attacked by Indians and some of the emigrants were killed. Arrived Virginia City, August 7, 1863."

Frank Holland received his early education in Keokuk, Iowa, from which place the family started across the plains. He attended school in Virginia City, where his parents resided for many years. He saw the place grow and was there during all the gold-mining activities in pioneer days. In 1868 he was sent to California to attend Brayton College, Alameda County. Later this college became the California College, founded by Prof. F. M. Campbell, who later became State Superintendent of Schools. The present University of California was formerly the California College, and was moved to the present site in Berkeley. As assistant to the landscape gardener Mr. Holland helped lay out the University grounds and set out many of the trees that now adorn the campus.

In 1870 Mr. Holland went to work for Bamber & Company, who ran a local express company, having charge of the delivery of newspapers. He also worked in and had charge of the old Badger Park in Oakland, an old picnic ground in the pioneer days. He carried papers of the pioneer newspapers of Oakland, The Evening Termini, and Oakland Daily News. While here he learned the printer's trade. Later he returned to his home in Virginia City, and after two years went to Bishop Creek, Inyo County, Cal., and with a partner tried ranching for a time. After this he went to Bodie, Mono County, Cal., and worked in the grocery store of Kirsch Braun & Son. He returned to Bishop Creek and entered the employ of J. W. Stoughten-

borough, general merchant. In June, 1883, Mr. Holland went to Los Angeles and entered the employ of the Wells Fargo Express Company, and since that time has not been off the payroll of that company. This is certainly a great record, and he wears a gold button given by the president of the company which reads: "Faithful service thirty-five years. Wells Fargo Express Company." He went to Tucson, Ariz., from Los Angeles, and drove the first express wagon for the company there, and in 1888 he arrived in Fresno, when the present city was but a village. He drove the first and only express wagon in Fresno, did all the collecting and delivery, tending the train, and helped do the office work. George Edmonds was the local agent for the company at that time.

Mr. Holland has seen many changes in Fresno since those early days. At one time he owned and conducted a wholesale and retail confectionery and ice cream parlor on J Street. For the past few years he has been an express messenger for the company, with headquarters in Fresno, and is still at work. He is an active member of the local lodge of the Loyal Order of Moose.

**JOHN NEAL.**—A highly-esteemed pioneer, hale and hearty at the age of eighty-one, is John Neal whose wonderful memory recalls in vivid detail the most interesting incidents of earlier California history, in the making of which he played more than an ordinary part. He was born at Veve, Ind., on December 31, 1837, the son of William A. Neal, who first saw the light in Scott County, Ky., on February 4, 1804. He had married Ruth Leap, who was born in Lancaster, Pa., on February 14, 1811. The grandfather Neal was of Scotch-Irish descent, in a family originally called O'Neal, but the first syllable of the name was left off when members migrated to America. Here he became an orderly sergeant on General Washington's staff, and representatives of our subject's family have served in all the wars from the time of the Revolution down to the present war against the Germans. Two uncles of John Neal were with General Jackson at New Orleans, and two other uncles served with General Harrison at Tippecanoe. Among John's mother's ancestors, Grandfather Leap came from Bingen on the Rhine, and some of his brothers served in the War of 1812.

John was reared on a farm in Indiana, worked there during the summer-time and attended the district school during the winters. When, however, the Civil War started, and President Lincoln issued his call for troops, for three months' service, he was one of the first to enlist. At Bennington, Ind., he joined the Seventh Indiana Infantry, and when the three months had elapsed, he reenlisted in the Sixth Indiana Infantry, formed a company and became second lieutenant. Later he was promoted to be first lieutenant, and as such he served with valor throughout the war, participating in many of the important battles, including those of Shiloh, Murfreesboro, Chattanooga and Atlanta. He was with the squad who fired on Gen. Robert Selden Garnett at Carrick's Ford, the first Confederate general killed in that war, and he was present when Gen. Joseph Eggleston Johnston surrendered his sword to General Sherman at Raleigh. On August 12, 1865, he was mustered out at Indianapolis, and brought home with him the last shell fired by Gen. John C. Breckinridge's brigade at the Battle of Shiloh, together with the old sword he himself carried through the war. When the civil contest was over he followed the trade of wagon maker at Bennington, Ind., for many years.

His first trip to California was made in 1884, when he remained for a couple of years. He engaged in building lumber mills, and erected one in Tulare County, on Redwood Mountain, two on Pine Ridge, the latter for A. W. Petrie, and one on Hopkins Creek in Humboldt County. But, despite the agreeable experiences he had in California, he returned to his home town in Indiana and there again followed wagon-making.







*George W Bonds*



*Lena S. Bonds*



In 1900 he arrived in Fresno and built the home in which he now lives at No. 530 Raisina Avenue; and he followed here the trade of a carpenter until he retired. He had married Mary Jane Day, a native of Bennington, Ind., where she was born on March 2, 1840, but she died at Fresno on December 12, 1904, leaving four sons who are still living. These are: William C., Charles C., John W and Edward C., who is a first lieutenant in the American Army, belonging to Company L., One Hundred Fifty-ninth Infantry, Fortieth Division, in active service in France. He was a member of the Californian National Guard at Fresno, and when the Mexican trouble commenced in 1916, he was made sergeant-major and went with his regiment to Nogales, Ariz. On his return home, mindful of the enviable record of so many Neals in various American wars, he reenlisted to war on autocracy.

Mr. Neal is a Democrat in national politics; is one of the influential G. A. R. men of Indiana, and in that state he was also made a Mason and an Odd Fellow. Now in the years of his well-earned retirement he can proudly contemplate the fact that he is grandfather to eleven children and great-grandfather to six, and that like his own offspring, they reflect great credit on the family name.

**GEORGE W. BONDS.**—One who has aided materially in the development of the natural resources of Fresno County, is George W. Bonds who was born in Paducah, Ky., in 1847, the second oldest of a family of eight children born to William D. and Charity Elizabeth (Clark) Bonds, natives of Tennessee and Kentucky, respectively. William D. was a blacksmith and followed his trade in Kentucky and later in Douglas, Union County, Ill., until he retired and there both parents passed away.

George W. received a good education in the public schools and when school days were over he learned the blacksmith trade under his father and then he served an apprenticeship as a machinist, learning the trade thoroughly and becoming as well a draftsman and patternmaker, showing much mechanical aptitude, continuing at the machinist's trade in Illinois until 1875, when he came to San Francisco, Cal., where he secured work as a machinist, in time becoming foreman for the Byron Jackson Machine Works, a position he filled for nine years. Mr. Bonds was more than a machinist, for if given the idea he could make the drawing, then make the pattern, and complete the invention. It was during this time that the Byron Jackson pump was perfected, and later on when Mr. Bonds was manufacturing the Bonds gas engine in Fresno he introduced the Byron Jackson pump, using it in connection with the Bonds gas engine when installing pumping-plants.

In 1889, Mr. Bonds came to Fresno County, locating at Selma, where for a time he followed his trade and then moved to Fresno and established a machine shop, which he built up under the name of Bonds Machine Works, located on Mono near I. Here he manufactured the first gas engine made on the Coast, and here also was built the largest gas engine (a forty-five horsepower) ever built in the county. He put in the first pumping plant for irrigation in Fresno County, using his engine and a Byron Jackson pump, and showed it to be a success, thus introducing the system of irrigating from wells in the county, a thing that has been of the utmost importance in the building up of Fresno County, resulting in its present wonderful state of development.

While in Fresno he met his future wife, Miss Lena Sophia Backer, born at Eureka, Sierra County, Cal. She is a daughter of Henry H. and Augusta (Busch) Backer, both pioneers of the state. Henry H. Backer was born in Holland and was a sailor. He came as a young man to California, a Forty-niner, and early pioneer miner of Sierra County, operating mines in that section. In 1878 he came to Fresno County and bought land in Church Colony, now known as Temperance Colony. Locating his family here on a sixty-acre ranch, he returned to Sierra County to settle up his affairs, and while there he took pneumonia and died, in April, 1879, aged fifty-six. He was a member

of the Masonic Lodge. The mother, as Augusta Busch, came to New York with her mother, and thence to California with a brother, to Sierra County. After her husband's death, Mrs. Backer continued to reside on the ranch in Temperance Colony and with the help of her children improved the property to vineyards. They added to their acreage, and at the time of her death, September 1, 1904, the family owned 160 acres. Mr. and Mrs. Backer were the parents of six children: Lena, Mrs. Bonds; Hilca, Mrs. Hagerty, deceased; August H.; Henry H.; Dora W.; and George W., all residing in Fresno County. After the mother's death, the heirs incorporated their holdings as the Backer Vineyard Company, and now own, besides the home property, 800 acres at Sanger. Mrs. Bonds was reared in Sierra County until fourteen years of age, coming with her parents, in 1879, to Fresno County. On completing her education here she assisted her mother until her marriage to Mr. Bonds, which took place on December 27, 1896. After their marriage, Mr. Bonds continued his machine-shop for a few years, and they then removed to San Francisco, where he worked as a machinist for nine years. At the end of that period they returned to Fresno, to the old home ranch, Mr. Bonds taking charge of the work there and followed viticulture until 1918, when they gave it up and returned to Oakland to reside. Of their union two children were born, one of whom is living, Elwin, who was attending the Oakland high school when he enlisted in the United States Army and is now serving over-seas. Mr. Bonds had six children by a former marriage, four of whom are living: Harry, proprietor of the I Street Garage in Fresno; George, a machinist in San Francisco; Milton, a machinist in Mare Island Navy Yard; and Lambert C., in the United States Customs House, San Francisco.

Mr. and Mrs. Bonds are members of the Fraternal Brotherhood. Too much credit cannot be given men like Mr. Bonds, who has given his years of experience and his best energy and efforts to utilize the natural resources of this great commonwealth by aiding in the development of intensive farming. His faith in Fresno County's future greatness has never been shaken.

**EDWARD A. WILLIAMS.**—Owing to a long period of residence in Fresno County, and close identification with its legal interests, Edward A. Williams, the successful attorney of Fresno, is well and favorably known throughout this section of the state. His life began in Virginia City, Nev., on July 17, 1874, but since five years of age his home has been in Fresno County, where he received his preliminary education. Having chosen the practice of the law as his life work, he entered the office of attorneys Sayle and Caldwell, in Fresno County. Being intensely interested in the study of jurisprudence, he made rapid advancement, and in 1895 was admitted to the bar. His comprehensive knowledge of the law and his energetic application to its practice soon gained for him ready recognition, and for four years he occupied the responsible post of deputy district attorney of Fresno County, under Alva E. Snow. Preferring to establish the private practice of his profession, he relinquished public office and began to specialize on corporation law. The high degree of confidence reposed in Mr. Williams as a wise counselor is best understood when one realizes that he is the attorney for fifty-two corporations in California. When the Webb alien land bill became a law in this state, it was E. A. Williams who suggested the idea of organizing into corporations the Japanese engaged in farming the San Joaquin Valley, which he accomplished.

Mr. Williams has acquired local appreciation and prominence in literary work, having written short stories and poetical works that have elicited favorable comment, and given much enjoyment to his many friends and acquaintances. He has been honored by being elected to many important posts, among which are: President of the Commercial Club; president of the Armenian Relief Association; director of the Raisin Day Festival Association; president of the Boy Scouts of America, Fresno Division. Fraternally, he is

a member of the Odd Fellows and for the past ten years has been Regent of the Royal Arcanum. He also holds membership in the Sunnyside Country Club.

Edward A. Williams was twice married. His first wife was Mary E. Lynn of California. She passed away in 1910. This union was blessed by one son, Edward A., Jr., who is a student at the University of California, and during seven months of the war was an Instructor of Military Law in the Aviation School at the University of California, at Berkeley. In 1913 Mr. Williams was united in marriage with Catherine E. Fenstermacher, a native of Pennsylvania. By a former marriage she was the mother of a son, Lieut. Earl J. Fenstermacher, and a daughter, Dorcas, whom Mr. Williams adopted. Lieutenant Fenstermacher is serving over seas in Company No. 348, Ninety-first Division, Light Field Artillery.

Mr. Williams had charge of "putting over" the Smileage campaign in Fresno County, and was a regularly enlisted "four-minute man," he served on the law committee of the draft board, and assisted in organizing the Girls' War Welfare League. In fact there was not a local movement started for the aid and successful prosecution of the war, in which he did not take an active part.

**LLEWELYN ARTHUR NARES.**—An interesting revelation of the extent to which British brains, experience and capital have assisted in the steady, peaceful and permanent development of California, reclaiming great areas of waste land, representing thousands of fertile acres, and bidding colonists from all over the globe welcome to the Golden State, is afforded in the story of Llewelyn Arthur Nares, the well-known director of realty enterprises, who is a native of Haverford West, Pembrokehire, England, where he was born on July 19, 1860. His father was Owen Alexander Nares, who married Emily Margaret Lewellin, and through their appreciation of education, he attended the fine public schools at Haverford, later topping off his studies at Godolphin School in London, where he remained until 1876.

In that year he returned to Haverford and engaged with the National Provincial Bank; but after a couple of years he went back to London, and for a year was in the employ of the Delhi & London Bank. In 1879 he came out to Montreal, Canada, and took a position of responsibility with the Bank of British North America; and with the extensive operations of that great house of finance he was identified until 1881.

He then moved to Winnipeg, where he followed surveying, for a short time, in the Canadian Rockies, first becoming acquainted with field work in land manipulation, and then he entered the service of the Merchants Bank of Canada. Later he became the financial representative for English capitalists in Northwestern Canada, and finally, equipped with a most valuable experience, he organized the firm of Nares, Robinson & Black, which was well and favorably known, from the middle nineties, as one of the most reliable and aggressive forces for the development of Canadian interests in all the Dominion.

Continuing in the same field of activity, Mr. Nares first came to the United States as the representative of English interests, and now his operations extend all over the western and southern part of the United States. These interests had made their initial investment in California as early as 1881, but they had not progressed far until he took charge of their projects. Since then they have acquired ninety-five per cent. of all the irrigation canals on the north side of Kings River, and the area irrigated has increased in this period from eighty to more than 400,000 acres.

Under Mr. Nares' direction, in fact, lands acquired by the companies about the time he took hold have been greatly developed and colonized; and subsequent land purchases by these and other interests have been splendidly developed and form part of one of the most extensive and successful colonization projects in the United States. The various colonization enterprises



extend for seventy miles along Kings River, and a veritable garden of the richest land, of which the Laguna de Tache grant, alone comprising about 68,000 acres, was the first principal part, has been reclaimed and thrown open to settlement.

It is but natural that scientifically directed energy, of the kind that Mr. Nares demonstrates, should take tangible form, and it is not surprising to find him president of the Fresno Canal & Irrigation Company, the Consolidated Canal Company, the Summit Lake Investment Company; while he is also managing director of the Laguna Lands, Ltd.

On January 26, 1909, Mr. Nares was married at Los Angeles to Kathryn Evans, a woman of intellectual attractiveness and social charm. He is a member of the Union League Club of San Francisco, the Fresno Sequoia and Commercial Clubs, and the Sunnyside Country Club of Fresno, of which he is also a director.

**ALEXANDER CAMPBELL FINE.**—From boyhood until the present time A. C. Fine has been a resident of the Golden State. He came with his parents when he was a lad of ten years and from that time to now he has been interested in ranching pursuits of one kind or another, and as a rancher he has gained an independent footing and won recognition among his fellow citizens.

A. C. Fine was born in Lafayette County, Mo., June 20, 1839, a son of Morgan and Louise (Belt) Fine, natives of Tennessee and Kentucky, respectively, the former born in 1800, and the latter in 1809, near the Mammoth Cave. This worthy couple had six children, the first five being born in Missouri; they are: Liggerd B., deceased; Alexander C.; Dr. Andrew, also deceased; Mrs. Maria Riche; and Amanda. John, the sixth and youngest, was born in California in 1852. Morgan Fine, with his family, left Lafayette County, Mo., in the spring of 1849, in a company of one hundred persons bound for California. The train consisted of thirty wagons drawn by ox teams and it was six months ere they reached the end of their journey. The trip was without incident, no Indian troubles worried the party, although they were continually on the lookout for a surprise attack. The lack of water was their greatest hardship. En route the party heard about the Humboldt hot springs, and their supply of water running low for their stock, Mr. Fine rode ahead two days and dipped the water from the hot springs and poured it into holes in the ground to cool so it could be drunk by the oxen when they should arrive. Mrs. Fine fastened a ham to a wire and dipped it into the spring and cooked it, also made coffee with the water. Arriving in California, the party made a short stop in Sonoma County, then came on down to Santa Clara County. Mrs. Fine had brought a good supply of baking soda among her other supplies and her surplus she readily disposed of at one dollar per pound in San Jose. Anxious to secure a home for his family, Morgan Fine took up a government claim of 160 acres, two miles from San Jose and near what is now known as College Park. In that early day the Spanish Grants were difficult of transfer on account of insecure title, and it was twenty-five years before Mr. Fine could obtain a deed. He farmed and raised stock, and later specialized in hogs, which proved very profitable. This good man died July 17, 1878, and his wife lived until December 22, 1891. They were of that sturdy pioneer stock that laid the foundation of California's greatness, and at their passing were mourned by many friends who knew them for the good they had done.

A. C. Fine, although but ten years of age when he came across the wide plains to California, well remembers the long journey; he enjoyed the trip and thought nothing of the hardships. He was reared and educated in California and from his earliest days has been interested in agriculture. After leaving home he went to Santa Cruz County, bought a quarter section of land and farmed for a time with considerable success. When he sold out it was to come to Fresno County and cast in his lot with the pioneers of the Parlier



St. John Mrs. Eva J. Fine



section, although there was no sign of a town in the vicinity then. His thirty acres, named the "Quieta Rancho," lying two miles north of the town, are devoted to a vineyard and peach orchard. He developed the place out of a stubble field, beginning in 1892, and today his little ranch is one of the most valuable in the entire district and all the improvements seen are the result of his hard work and good management. In order to pay for his property he worked for others on salary till such a time as he could move onto his own property. In all his discouragements and rejoicings he has had the encouragement and help of his good wife, who shares with him the esteem of all who know them.

In 1876, Mr. Fine and Miss Eva J. Burrows were married. She was born at Carson, Cal., December 25, 1854, a daughter of Phillip and Sarah (Knight) Burrows, pioneers of California that same year, having come by the way of Panama. Mrs. Burrows was the only white woman in the mining camp for about two years. Mr. Burrows engaged in mining for a time, but like many others he found that vocation very uncertain. He concluded that it was necessary to have considerable capital to make mining a success, and, although he was more fortunate than the average, he lost it again trying to make more. He had an extensive knowledge of the manufacture of woolens and was engaged by various companies to install the machinery used in their manufacture, and was the first to start in the industry in this state. Subsequently he bought 160 acres of land in Santa Cruz County, farmed for twenty years, sold out and bought the same amount near San Miguel, San Luis Obispo County, which he farmed. The children born to Mr. and Mrs. Burrows were: Mrs. Eva J. Fine; Phillip, at Cupertino, Cal.; Mrs. Lulu Wooster, of San Jose; William, of Fresno; Stephen, living in the San Joaquin Valley; Annie died at the age of eight years, and Mary Louise died, aged two. An historic incident in connection with the death of this child is worthy of mention here. She died while the parents were living at Murphy in Calaveras County, and on the day of burial, and after the body had been carried to the church, the town caught on fire and was entirely wiped off the map, all houses and buildings, except the Burrows' home. This was saved by cutting the reservoir, letting the water run over the ground and thus saving the house. Mrs. Burrows, being left at the church with the body of her child when the male population went to fight the fire, took the coffin and, with her daughter, Eva J., went into the Catholic burying-ground some distance away and remained there until twelve that night, when she was found, and the burial took place at one o'clock in the morning by the light of torches. Mrs. Burrows died in San Jose, December 2, 1902, aged sixty-eight, and Mr. Burrows passed away at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Fine, in 1905, at the age of eighty-one.

When Mr. and Mrs. Fine settled in Fresno County they developed their ranch to its present high state of productiveness. It was a frequent happening for horses, and even people, to mire down in the boggy soil, so deep often that it was necessary to dig them out. One did not dare get off the beaten roads in those days, particularly in rainy seasons. Mrs. Fine was often called upon to care for the bodies of the neighbors who died, there being no undertaker available, and she was soon known as the community undertaker. Mr. Fine has always been ready to aid in all movements for the benefit of the settlers, and he supported the raisin associations and now is a stockholder in the present company, also in the Peach Growers, Inc.

Not having had any children of their own, Mr. and Mrs. Fine adopted a daughter, Ina May, to whom they have given the love and care as to one of their own blood. She is married to Charles Forsyth and has two children, Orafino and Charles, and with her little family makes her home at Selma. Now in the evening of their days, this young old couple, for they have kept young in spite of the hardships undergone, live at peace with their fellow citizens, and maintain the true Californian hospitality.

**HON. F. E. WELLS.**—Among the most public-spirited men of Central California, no one bids fair to be more honored, both for ability and conscientious application to duty, and especially for unselfish devotion to the best interests of the town in which he lives, than F. E. Wells, the diplomatic and genial chairman of the Board of Trustees of the City of Fowler, who has distinguished himself as mayor, and is the brother of Supervisor Charles Wells, whose sketch is to be found elsewhere in this volume. He was born at Osceola, Iowa, on October 12, 1869, a member of a virile family and the son of Abraham Wells, a native of Columbus, Ohio, who married Mary Jane Ray, of Niles, Mich., in which state the marriage ceremony took place.

After completing his studies at the pleasantly-situated Baptist college at Kalamazoo, the father served four years in the Civil War, although he was married, as a member of the Twenty-fifth Michigan Infantry, and at the conclusion of the dreadful struggle was ordained a Baptist minister. During the war he had acted as chaplain but he carried a gun, also, and with true muscular Christianity did what he could to preserve the Union. Then, with his wife and two children, he moved to Illinois, where two more children made their advent in the family; and having gone to Iowa to preach, the family was enlarged by another twain, still another child being added later at Hastings, Nebr., to the group. Reaching California in 1891, and settling at Selma, he took up the work of the Christian Church, having changed to that ministry, and remained faithful to his new trust, until his death in 1905. As was his custom, he had supported himself from his farm a couple of miles northeast of Selma, and so gave his services as a minister of the Gospel quite free, closing his three-score and ten years with an enviable record of which anyone might justly be proud. At the age of eighty-four, his good wife is still living.

F. E. Wells was only three years old when his parents moved to Nebraska, and he grew up at Webster and Adams in that state, attending the public schools there, and afterward studied at the college at Hastings. While there, his father met with financial reverses and his health failed, so that the son was obliged at once to become a bread-winner.

Mr. Wells therefore took the examinations for teaching, and taught three years in Nebraska. This was before he came to California, and he was the last of the family to remove here. Abraham Wells first settled in Madera County, but soon removed to Selma, where he purchased some land. In this up-hill step, he has assisted our subject, and it is ever a matter of modest satisfaction to him that he was thus able to help the one who had so devotedly helped him. F. E. Wells came to California in 1891, and for a year taught school near Oroville, in Butte County. He found teaching too slow, however, as a means of material progress, and so he bought thirty acres of land, two and a half miles northeast of Selma, which he improved. He planted vines, set out trees, and erected thereon the necessary buildings, and in time it became one of the attractive ranches of the neighborhood.

On December 25, 1892, Mr. Wells was married to Miss Nannie Flint, a native of Missouri, who had become a resident of Selma. She grew up in Nebraska and for a term taught school there, being popularly known as the gifted daughter of J. L. and Mary Flint, now of Fowler, who have had four children. The happy young couple made the thirty-acre ranch near Selma their home until 1911, when they also moved to Fowler. Mr. Wells built a large house, barns, fences, etc., and sunk wells, and now he owns two fruit-ranches—one a forty-acre farm near Fowler, which he bought already improved. He has prospered wonderfully, and these two fine farm properties are worth more than \$50,000.

Mr. and Mrs. Wells have three children: Lyal Logan, a member of the Class of 1918 at the State Normal School at Fresno, and who was a student at Berkeley for a while, and graduated from the Fowler High; Alta, who is a senior in the Fowler high school; and Adna, who has just finished the grammar school here.

Mr. and Mrs. Wells are members of the Christian Church at Fowler, of which Mr. Wells is also a trustee, and both are exemplary citizens. Especially as a city official, applying business methods to the administration of public trusts, is Mr. Wells honored, and no wonder, for he takes great pride in the civic affairs of Fowler, and rejoices in its growth and progress as one of the wide-awake and growing towns of Fresno County. He helped to incorporate the city in 1909, and also to root out the saloons and questionable resorts, so that the Fowler of today is a clean and wholesome community, with ten churches and excellent schools and business houses, as well as fruit-packing concerns and warehouses—a part of the natural equipment of Fowler as a center of a great fruit district. He favors temperance and the adoption of a national prohibition amendment.

Mr. Wells places principle and men of principle and public spirit above party considerations; and it is not surprising that, with such sentiments influencing his official life, Fowler now owns its water-works system. It has also its own sewer system, and the telephone system is a cooperative, shareholding affair. The city is also contemplating the acquisition of its electric-lighting plant, as well as other municipal and public utilities, and, with this awakened public spirit, Fowler will grow very rapidly. The city's bonded indebtedness is small; it has an abundance of the best water for domestic, fire and irrigation purposes; it has, in fact, better and cheaper water than any other city in Fresno County, a minimum of only one dollar per month being charged, allowing the householder to use 4,000 cubic feet.

**FRANK M. ROMAIN.**—How much of the prosperity of a great business concern depends on the make-up of its leaders, and especially on the personality, as well as the varied capacity of those actually managing the details, may be deduced from the perusal of the biography of Frank M. Romain, at this writing manager of the California Packing Corporation. He is a Canadian who has helped to swell the vast number from over the border and among the most enterprising developers of California and her countless interests.

Frank M. Romain was born at Toronto, on September 4, 1861, a son of W. F. Romain and his good wife, formerly Ann Chisholm. They gave him every advantage within their reach and he was educated in the very thorough public schools of Upper Canada, and completed his studies at the Upper Canada College in Toronto, taking a business course. His motto was to learn a subject from A to Z, and to finish a work if it was once begun.

In his first brush with the practical world, he secured employment with the Canadian Pacific Railroad. He liked the work, and stuck to it for the term of five years. From the railroad office in Canada to the great outdoor life of Riverside, Cal., was a big spring, but Mr. Romain took it, and landed in a post of responsibility at the disposal of the Griffin & Skelly Company. He went into the packing house, in a modest place at the start, commencing as it were with the lowest rung of the ladder and slowly climbing to greater usefulness; and in one year he had charge of the Riverside plant. He looks back upon his days there with that satisfaction which one always feels who has done his duty.

It was the great, booming year of 1887, when all California, and especially the southern and central parts, was alive with a wave of new life and unparalleled development, that Mr. Romain fixed upon for his entry into Fresno; and once in this most favored section, he established the Griffin-Skelly Company's plant. It had to begin in a small way; but through his experience, enterprise and hard work, his care to details and his satisfactory manner of doing business with others, Mr. Romain built up the business to immense proportions as a dry fruit-packing plant, employing 500 people during its busiest season. He installed the most approved methods and apparatus, and made it an enterprise of which Fresno may well be proud.

On November 1, 1916, the Griffin & Skelly Company was merged with the J. K. Armsby Company and the California Fruit Canning Association, together with the Central California Canning Company and the Alaska Packers' Association, and the great California Packing Corporation was brought into existence, with Mr. Romain as manager and director of the sixteen packing houses in the San Joaquin Valley, employing, in their total, several thousand people.

During his residence at Riverside, Mr. Romain was married, in April, 1892, to Lelia Quinn, a lady of unusual charm and a sweet personality not soon forgotten, who closed her eyes upon the scenes of this world on February 6, 1917.

Partaking of such social life as his busy career permits, Mr. Romain is a welcome member of the Odd Fellows and the Elks, and has been president, too, of the Sunnyside Country Club. He is also a member of the Sequoia and the Commercial Clubs, and is high in the councils of the Republican party, under whose banner he has steadily marched for years. In matters of professed religion, Mr. Romain is an Episcopalian.

**SIGMUND WORMSER.**—Since leaving his home in southern Germany, where he was born December 11, 1859, Sigmund Wormser has traveled extensively over the globe. While acquiring his education he received the advantage of the excellent schools of his native country, and as a youth worked in a mercantile store in Ulm, Germany, later going to Ireland, where he attended college. In 1879, when not quite twenty-one years old he arrived in Pittsburgh, Pa., where he followed the mercantile business for three years. From thence he went to Cape Colony and the diamond fields, South Africa, looking for work but was unsuccessful, and from there he went to Sydney, Australia, going from there to the South Sea Islands where he followed the mercantile business.

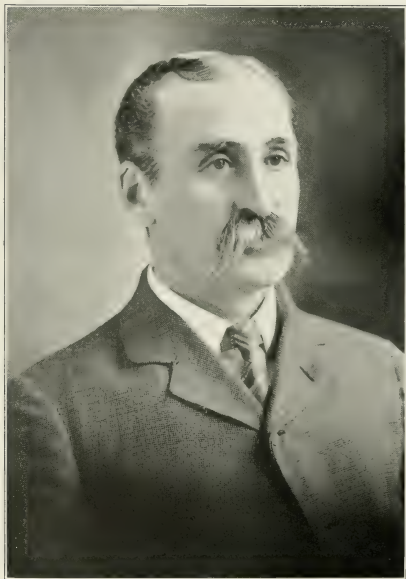
He arrived in San Francisco, Cal., in 1886, and after a short sojourn there finally located in Kingsburg, Fresno County, and opened a mercantile store, which he conducted for twelve years. He was also the owner of a forty-acre vineyard. In 1889 he located in Fresno and for five years speculated in oil and real estate. He was one of the organizers of the Oil City Petroleum Company (now the Standard Oil Company, Section No. 28) of Coalinga. He also drilled for oil in the Bakersfield district, and sold out to the Associated Oil Company.

Mr. Wormser owns a 120-acre ranch at Stone Canyon, which was unimproved when he purchased it, upon which he developed water and set the land to oranges, vines, olives and figs. It is now one of the best fruit ranches in the county. In 1904 he opened a furniture store at 1022 J Street, Fresno, in connection with which he operates a large three story and basement warehouse, 50x150 feet. In 1918 he made substantial additions to his furniture store, which is now the largest store of its kind in the San Joaquin Valley and one of the largest in the state, and does the leading furniture business in Fresno. He has always taken an active part in civic affairs, and was one of the organizers of the Merchants Association of Fresno, of which he was a director. His greatest activities, however, have been devoted to charity work, in which he takes great interest, and for the past twelve years has been actively and successfully associated, and done grand work with the Humane Society, the Citizens Relief Association and the County Relief Commission.

He married Anna Jacobson, a native of San Francisco, Cal., and, they are the parents of one child, a daughter, Elka, who is the wife of Emil Gundelfinger. In his fraternal associations Mr. Wormser is a veteran Knight of Pythias, being a charter member of the lodge at Kingsburg, Cal., which he joined thirty-two years ago. He is also a member of the Commercial Club and of the Chamber of Commerce.







*Thos. T. Barrett.*

**THOMAS T. BARRETT.**—Future historians of Fresno County cannot fail to accord due honor to the well-known pioneer brick contractor, Thomas T. Barrett, who has been a decided factor, since 1883, in the upbuilding of the county. Not only is he a direct descendent of one of the historic families of Revolutionary times, of interest to every patriotic American, but he himself is widely esteemed for his many good qualities, while in brick construction work—his particular field—his judgment is unquestioned.

Thomas T. Barrett was born at Rockport, Knox County, Maine, on January 22, 1853, the son of Amos and Julia (Tolman) Barrett, and the grandson of Daniel Barrett, and a great-great-grandson of Colonel James Barrett, of Revolutionary fame. The family originally came from England and settled in the Bay Colony of Massachusetts in 1680, where they became leading citizens of that commonwealth. The old Barrett house is still standing at Concord, one of the most prominent there, although too far from the center of the town to be seen by the average tourist. Colonel Barrett, its proprietor, led a company to the historic bridge, and his undeniable courage, when the fate of the Colonists hung in the balance, is commemorated by the following inscription on the boulder at Battle Lawn, close to the gate of the Concord Bridge:

"From this hill Colonel James Barrett, commanding the Americans, gave orders to march to the bridge, but not to fire unless fired upon by the British. Captain Nathan Barrett led his company to defend the bridge, pursued the British to Charlestown, and, though wounded, captured Major Pitcairn's horse, saddle and pistols, and returned home with his trophies."

Daniel Barrett, who was born at Concord, Mass., went to Camden, Maine, in the winter of 1792-93, and on the fourth of August, 1794, he married Rena Grose. He served in the War of 1812, and on returning to Maine bought a large tract of land on Beauchampneck, making the purchase from the General Molineux Estate. He then built a large, two-story mansion, near where he carried on farming on an extensive scale, and he also operated lime-stone quarries and burned lime on his place. Having been a ship-builder and an architect at Rockport harbor, he undoubtedly bequeathed to our subject some of that spirit of exactness and a desire to do things on the square, for which he is noted. Later he bought a large body of land on Mt. Megunticook and built the Camden and Megunticook turnpike road connecting Camden with Lincolnville, one of the most beautiful drives in the State of Maine. He was a man of great business acumen, force of character and executive ability. He died on December 1, 1859, at the age of ninety, having been, as was his wife, a disciple of Wesley for over fifty years. During that time, he gave the land for, and built the first Methodist Church at Rockport.

Thomas T. Barrett was reared in Maine and there attended the public schools and Kent's Hill College, from which he was graduated after a four years' course. He learned the trade of brickmason, worked at it in Boston and in Minneapolis, after which he returned to Maine, and from there, in 1883, came to Fresno; and here he has followed his trade ever since. In 1883 he built the Farmers' Bank Building on Mariposa Street; two years later, the Bradley Block; and later still the following structures: the Dunn Block, the Green Block, the City Water Works tower, the Fresno Brewery and bottling works and ice plant; the Lyons Block, the First National Bank Building; Macy's Hotel at Madera; the cellars of the St. George, Henrietta, Margherita and Barton wineries, and many brick residences in various parts of Fresno and Fresno County. He was also foreman of construction of the Fresno Flour Mill. These structures, of varied architectural design, are interesting as showing the development of Fresno and the country adjacent, and some are therefore landmarks, while many are of recent construction. In 1906 Mr. Barrett went to Sonoma County, to build the I. de Turk Winery, which was destroyed by the earthquake of that year, and to erect other buildings, from which it is

fair to assume that his fame as a builder is more than county-wide. It is no wonder, therefore, that patrons who have once sought his cooperation go no further on getting his carefully-prepared estimates.

Mr. Barrett has taken a prominent part in building up the labor affiliations in the State, and for some time he was engaged in organizing unions. He is very naturally a member of the International Bricklayers' Union; a charter member and president of the Bricklayers' Union of Fresno; and president of the Brick Contractors' Association of the same city. Aside from his other work, he has bought and sold lots and residence property in Fresno, and at one time owned twenty acres west of the town, which he later sold.

The first wife of Mr. Barrett was Lena Packard, the daughter of Capt. Cheney Packard, of Rockport, Maine, and two sons and a daughter were the result of the union: Maurice A., a merchant in Boston, is married and has a daughter, Helen, and they live at Weymouth, Mass.; Frederick died in boyhood; Marian married Arthur Haines, a banker in Boston; they reside at East Braintree, Mass., and have two children, Charlotte and Wendell. The second marriage united him with Miss Maria L. Dix, a native of Shasta County, and a daughter of William C. Dix who was born in Lexington, Rock-bridge County, Va., and who came across the plains to California in 1850, and was a miner and storekeeper in Shasta County.

Fraternally, Mr. Barrett is a Mason, belonging to St. Paul Lodge, Rockport, Maine. A man of sterling worth, and prominent in all good works in Fresno County, he has been the favorite candidate of many, although he never held out his hand for public office.

**MRS. LOUISA (DUMONT) SCHELL.**—A prominent place among the women who have left their impress on the development of California must be accorded Mrs. Louisa Dumont Schell, of Fresno County, wife of the late Hiram Schell, one of the foremost men of Monterey County, and later a well-known citizen of Fresno County. Before her marriage, Mrs. Schell was Louisa Dumont, a daughter of Samuel Dumont, a native of New York who removed to Ontario, Canada, in young manhood. He married Mrs. Mary (Sherman) Van Evry, who was also a native of New York, and was an own cousin of General Sherman. Samuel Dumont was a very successful farmer near Oxford, and his farm was one of the show places of Oxford County. His residence was a handsomely designed building, surrounded by beautiful lawn and gardens. Both Mr. and Mrs. Dumont died in Oxford County. They had nine children, of whom four are living. Besides Mrs. Schell, only one member of the family came to California, William Dumont, now eighty-five years of age, one of the pioneers of Church or Temperance Colony, who resided on a ranch adjoining that of his sister until 1916, when he sold out. He now resides in San Jose.

Louisa Dumont was born near Oxford, Oxford County, Ontario, on August 15, 1839. She received a good education in her native county, and was reared in an environment of culture and refinement, which influence has been felt by her friends and neighbors, for it is a part of her daily life. In Woodstock, Ontario, in 1858, Miss Dumont married Hiram Schell, born in Ontario in December, 1839. Mr. Schell had a brother Robert, who was captured by the Indians in Ontario and was being taken away when he made his escape and reached his home safely. Hiram Schell learned the blacksmith and horseshoer's trade and became a fine workman. Like other blacksmiths of the earlier days, he could make his own horseshoes and nails. He was a lover of fine horses, and could doctor their various ailments. Once when treating a horse for glanders he caught the disease, but the treatment given by his physician and the careful nursing by his wife brought him back to health. According to medical journals his was the second case on record in medical science where a person recovered from glanders taken from a horse. This was in 1892.

A sister of Mr. Schell's had moved to California and was living in Santa Clara County; and in 1862 Mr. and Mrs. Schell embarked from New York on the steamer Ariel for Panama, and while enroute to their destination the vessel was captured by the Alabama. The late Colonel Forsythe of Fresno was also a passenger on the Ariel. After being detained for a time, the steamer was allowed to continue on its journey. In due time the passengers arrived in San Francisco.

Mr. and Mrs. Schell made their way to Santa Clara County, but soon afterwards went to Virginia City, Nev., where Mr. Schell worked as a blacksmith for a time and later was a tool dresser at the Norcross Mine, from which place he went to the Empire Mine in the same occupation. During the time he lived in Nevada he had his residence on Gold Hill. After spending seven years in Nevada the Schell family came back to California and located in Salinas, where Mr. Schell established a horseshoeing shop and kept a livery stable. Salinas was then a stage station, and he cared for and shod the horses belonging to the stage company as well as doing a general horseshoeing business. He was also interested in a shop in Monterey. Mr. Schell became a well known and successful man in Monterey County and was a straightforward and honest workman.

Mrs. Schell's brother, William Dumont, had located on a ranch in Fresno County, and Mrs. Schell's son Ed. had bought a twenty-acre tract here, which is now owned by Mrs. Schell. She was looking for a different climate from that found in the Salinas Valley and came to Fresno on a visit, to look the county over with a view to locating here. Her impressions were favorable and she decided to remain and make it their home. In July, 1880, with her daughter Ethel Lena, she bought the twenty acres owned by her son, to which she later added another twenty acres. In the meantime Mr. Schell had built a horseshoeing shop in Fresno and was carrying on a successful business. He died in Los Angeles in May, 1907, mourned by a large concourse of friends. Since his death, Mrs. Schell, assisted by her daughter and son-in-law, has carried on the ranch with profit.

Mrs. Schell became the mother of eight children: Thaddeus Seymour, formerly a miner, but now in charge of the electric light plant at Big Creek; Edwin Herbert, a resident of Visalia; Nettie, who died at the age of three years; Andrew, who died in infancy; Frank, who passed away at the age of thirty-seven; Hiram Lewis, a miner, residing at Fowler; Warren, who died at three years of age; and Ethel Lena, Mrs. Charles Lee O'Brien. The Schell brothers mined on Hughes Creek and took out some \$50,000, after which they sold the mine.

Mr. and Mrs. O'Brien manage the Schell property. Mrs. O'Brien was born in Salinas, but was reared and educated in Fresno County, graduating from the Fresno High School at the age of seventeen, after which she took up the study of viticulture. Her husband, Charles Lee O'Brien, was born in Louisville, Mo., and was reared to the life of a farmer. He came to California in 1898 and for twelve years was superintendent of the Wallace vineyard, and in the meantime assisted Mrs. Schell with her property. Their vineyard is very productive. In 1917, from twenty-six acres, they obtained fifty tons of raisins, all from muscat grapes. Mr. and Mrs. O'Brien are members of the California Associated Raisin Company. They have two children, Warden Lee and Wilma Mary. Mr. O'Brien is a member of the Masons, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Knights of Pythias and the Modern Woodmen of America. Mrs. Schell and the O'Briens belong to the Methodist Episcopal Church of Fresno.

**ARTHUR W. ALLEN.**—One of the young and prosperous ranchmen of the county is Arthur W. Allen, the viticulturist. Mr. Allen is a stepson of Jacob Hinsberger, who is mentioned elsewhere in this work. He was born at Chico, in Butte County, on February 16, 1879, the son of William and Sadie Allen; another son, still younger, is Herbert Allen, who is with the

Sugar Pine Lumber Company of Madera, where he is an expert master mechanic in the mills. When two years of age, Arthur Allen came to Fresno Flats with his parents, and in 1887 to Fresno, where they settled in the Scandinavian Colony. He worked on his father's ranch and attended the district public school; and while thus assisting his parents, he learned the ins and outs of vineyarding.

On March 26, 1908, Mr. Allen took possession of his present place, a fine tract of about forty acres that was purchased about fifteen years ago by Mr. Hinsberger, whom he assisted from the beginning to improve the land. It was stubble and hog-wallow, located in the Wolters Colony, some four and a half miles north of Fresno, on the Virginia Way; but it was soon made to bear in luxuriance both muscats and wine grapes. He sunk a well and installed an eight horse-power gasoline pumping plant, with a four-inch pump, which provided perfect irrigation, and he also had service from the Gould ditch. He built a residence and the usual out-houses; and to his vineyarding he added the raising of alfalfa.

On the same date that he entered into the proprietorship of his present home, Mr. Allen was married to Miss Ida Anderson, a native of the Scandinavian Colony and the daughter of Fred Anderson, who was born in Sweden. He was a cabinet-maker and carpenter who came to San Francisco and there followed his trade; and he was one of the first of the Scandinavians who formed their colony in Fresno County. He improved his vineyard and had a fine place, and both he and his wife died there. Mrs. Allen was educated at the excellent public school, and has had two children, Blanche Bernice, whose untimely death, on January 12, 1918, when she was only eighteen months old, fell as the heaviest of blows on the devoted parents, and the baby born on February 6, 1919.

Mr. Allen is an active member of the California Associated Raisin Company, and in connection with that live organization advances all the interests allied to his field of work. Mrs. Allen joins her husband in participating in all that makes for the upbuilding of the community.

**SAMUEL SAMELSON.**—A renowned musician whose fine talents and superior professional accomplishments contributed to his attractive qualities as both a husband and a father, was the late Prof. Samuel Samelson, a native of Ulster County, New York, where he was born on the Fourth of July, 1838, of German parentage. He was naturally a musician and, having studied music as a young man, he became the leader of an orchestra at Poughkeepsie, N. Y., and there taught music, making the violin a specialty. In 1856 he came to California by way of the Isthmus of Panama, and for awhile ran a store in North San Juan, Nevada County, at the same time teaching music. He was one of a family of ten children, all now deceased except a sister, Pauline Schwerin, who is living in New York; and doubtless his family ties drew him back to New York State in 1866, when he returned to Poughkeepsie and again taught the violin, mandolin and guitar, and conducted his own orchestra.

In 1889, a year or two after the great real estate boom in this part of the country, Professor Samelson returned to California and bought eighty acres of vineyard in the Perrin Colony No. 1 in Fresno County. He lived there until 1896 and when he sold out he moved to Fresno. Here he taught music and turned out some fine violin players. He became prominent in musical circles of the city and had much to do with directing the musical taste of Fresno.

On December 12, 1861, Professor Samelson was married at North San Juan to Alice M. Prior, born in New Zealand. Her parents were John A. and Alice D. (Moat) Prior, both born near London, England, but became early settlers of New Zealand, where three of their children were born. Mr. Prior was a '49er in California, arriving on a sailing vessel that cast anchor







*Lottie McCreary.*



*Wm. McCreary*

in San Francisco Bay. He mined in Nevada County and when he decided he would make this state his home he sent for his wife and three children. There were five more children born in California and of these only one, George W. Prior, now of South Bend, Wash., is living. For fifty-seven years Mr. and Mrs. Samelson lived an ideal life as a married couple, happy in the enjoyment of a large circle of friends.

Three children were born to this estimable pair; two sons, Samuel J. and William L. have both identified themselves in an enviable way with Fresno, while a daughter, now deceased, was Mrs. Alma L. Scheppegegrell. She left five children: Mrs. Alice Burchard, George, Samuel J., William and Mrs. Luella Richardson. These children were reared by their grandmother after the death of their mother. William L. Samelson has one son, William Gilbert, who for six months was in the service of the United States government at Fort McDowell, during the war. There are nine great-grandchildren in the family, and as Mrs. Samelson has always been a home-loving woman she has both endeavored and succeeded in giving those dependent upon her the most motherly and conscientious care.

**WILLIAM MCCREARY.**—The building of a community, as well as a nation, depends, for success and permanence, on the foundation laid. All through the history of the development of the New World, and in every chapter of the history of the United States, this great truth has been shown. In no other state has the importance of the early settler, the forerunner of civilization, the maker of paths and highways, and the builder of homes and schools, been so much emphasized as in California.

In the true value of his foundation work, William McCreary, the well-known resident of the Reedley section of Fresno County, has shown himself to be such a community-builder. He is one of the few pioneers who are still living to enjoy the full fruits of their labors. He was born near Belleville, Ala., on March 31, 1861, a son of Lorenzo I. and Elizabeth (Autrey) McCreary, also Alabamans, and parents of seven children, five of whom are still living, and all residents of California. The family removed to this state in the early sixties, locating in what is now Madera County, then Fresno County. Lorenzo I. was an extensive landowner and stockman, having at one time over 3,000 head of sheep. He continued in the sheep business for over fifteen years, during which time he homesteaded 320 acres of Fresno County land, subsequently purchasing 160 more, besides owning some fine property in Fresno. He died August 2, 1890, on his 160-acre ranch near Parlier, which was valued at \$160,000.

William McCreary was reared and educated in Fresno County, and from a small lad has grown with the country. He worked at various things from time to time, followed ranching and stock-raising, as did his father. He hauled the first load of lumber onto the Reedley town site, which was used in the construction of the first building in the town. He has seen the country grow from a desert to a garden spot, has endured many hardships, suffered privations, and has worked hard in order to accumulate a competency; and he rejoices to see land increase in value from \$2.50 to over \$1,000 per acre. He owns sixty acres of fine productive land, which he has developed from hogwallow grain-land into a vineyard of Thompson seedless, Muscats and Emperor grapes, and white Adriatic figs are being set out on part of the ranch. He built his fine home and outbuildings sufficient for his needs, and he farms in the modern way with all the improved machinery and implements that are available. He has lived on his present place, three miles northeast from Reedley, since 1912, and his place is well-known as McCreary's Corners. For a few years he has been preparing land and planting trees and vines for others, and he holds the record of having graded, for irrigation, more land than any other man in the Reedley section, his services being much in demand because of his experience and reliability.

The marriage of Mr. McCreary took place June 4, 1889, when Miss Lottie Fairweather, daughter of John and Mary (Rippen) Fairweather, became his wife. She was born in England, April 28, 1871, was brought to the United States when a child and was reared in Ohio, where her education was obtained. She is the mother of six children: John Lorenzo, a rancher and the husband of Lucilla Belknap, by whom he has a daughter, Margaret Olive; Minnie Ethel, who married Alex Rankin, and is the mother of two daughters, Minnie and Marian; Elizabeth M., lives at home and is attending the Fresno State Normal school; Irma A., married C. E. Venard, a rancher, and they have a son, Charles William. These children are all residing in Fresno County, where they were born and raised. Minnie Ethel and Irma A. hold teachers' certificates from the State Normal. Two children, Naomi and William Irvin, died at the ages of thirty months and seven months, respectively.

In politics Mr. McCreary is a Democrat in national affairs, but in local matters he supports men and measures regardless of party lines. He has served as a trustee in both the Hills Valley and Sand Creek school districts. He was one of the organizers and is a director of the Reedley branch of the Federal Farm Loan Bank Club of Berkeley, to supply home-makers with capital on long-term-payment plan. He is a member of the California Associated Raisin Company and of the California Peach Growers, Inc. and believes in everything that is progressive. He is a member of the Woodmen of the World and of the Odd Fellows. He is sociably inclined, big-hearted and true, the maker of friends, and enjoys the confidence and esteem of all who know him, and with his good wife dispenses a true California hospitality at their home.

**WILLIS D. WEAVER.**—A pioneer of Fresno County, and also a pioneer in the line of business he still follows, that of fruit buying in the San Joaquin Valley, Willis D. Weaver is the representative of that business in this section of the state, and is now the highest salaried fruit buyer in the valley, as well as one of the best known and most successful. A native son of California, he was born in Redwood City, March 23, 1868, a son of Jacob Weaver, a native of Pennsylvania, and Nancy (Squires) Weaver, a native of Missouri. The father crossed the plains to California by ox team in the days of Fortynine, and ran a store and sawmill near Redwood City. He later engaged in coal mining in Sonoma County, near Mark West Springs, then returned to Redwood City, and in 1880 located in Fresno, his family joining him the following year. Here he bought three blocks on the edge of Fresno, and farmed on a small scale, later buying forty acres of land near Calwa, where he set out a vineyard. He retired, in Fresno, in later life, and died there, at the age of seventy-eight. To this pioneer couple were born nine children, viz.:—John F., now of Richmond, Cal.; Simon J., of Selma; James B., of San Luis Obispo; Mrs. Mary McDonald, now deceased; Mrs. Emma Austin, deceased wife of J. R. Austin, of Fresno; Jacob, died early in life; Nannie, deceased wife of W. C. Guard, of Fresno; Willis D., of this review; and Walter Elmore, deceased.

Willis D. Weaver was educated in the Fresno schools, and then entered the employ of his brother, John F., who ran a hardware store in Fresno. In 1893 he began his career in the fruit packing business, and has since that date been engaged in this line. He first entered the employ of the Cutting Fruit Packing Company, and remained with them until 1898, when he went with the Golden West Fruit Packing Company. In 1899 he went with the Fresno Home Packing Company as fruit buyer; then was with the J. K. Armsby Company in that capacity, and now is with the California Packing Corporation, his territory extending from Bakersfield to Merced.

In the midst of his business activities, Mr. Weaver has found time to interest himself in public affairs, and served as a member of the Republican County Central Committee from 1896 to 1902. He was also one of the three members of the Horticultural Committee of Fresno for two years, from

1900 to 1902, his experience and knowledge in that branch of the county's development making him an important factor in this work throughout the valley, and he stands ready at all times to give of his time and knowledge in promoting the resources of Fresno County.

The marriage of Mr. Weaver, on August 6, 1893, united him with Miss May Osborn, a native of Tennessee, and three children have been born to them:—Landis O., was a student at Stanford University at the time of his enlistment for service in the World War, January 3, 1918. He was sent to the Ordnance School at the University of California, at Berkeley, and after graduating from there was ordered to the special school at Benicia Barracks, and when he had graduated was sent to Tours, France, where he was assistant to the chief ordnance officer, in charge of the telegraph desk; Helen Estelle, is a student in the University of California at Berkeley; and Esther Leah, is attending Stanford University.

Fraternally Mr. Weaver is a member of Fresno Lodge No. 439, B. P. O. Elks, and of the Odd Fellows. It is to such men as Willis D. Weaver that Fresno County owes her phenomenal progress and development, men who have worked loyally and constantly for the advancement of their home county.

**JOHN R. AUSTIN.**—Among Fresno's retired pioneers is John R. Austin, who came to California in his vigorous young manhood and who, in his declining years now enjoys the fruit of his industry. Of Southern extraction, he was born in Jackson County, Ala., February 7, 1851. He received his education in private schools and as a young man followed the occupation of farming. Removing to western Missouri in 1868, he continued to farm, and in 1875, allured by the future possibilities of the great West, came to California where he worked on grain ranches in Merced County. After two years he returned to Missouri, remaining there five months, but the call of the West was so strong that he again turned his face in that direction, this time driving across the plains with a team, making the journey in three months. He located in Walla Walla, Wash., and followed farming until December, 1879, when he came to Fresno and located. In 1882 he entered the grocery business in Fresno, continuing the business for several years. For many years he dealt extensively in Fresno real estate, buying and selling city property, and at one time was the owner of the land on which now stands the Republican building. He also owned the land where the Edgerly building stands and was an extensive dealer in vineyard property south of Fresno.

John R. Austin was married in Stockton, Cal., September 5, 1890, to Emma Weaver, one of the fair daughters of Redwood City, Cal., who was born at that place February 28, 1862, and who died in Fresno, September 30, 1916. One son was the result of this union, Lloyd C., the well known dentist of Fresno.

While living in Missouri Mr. Austin was made a Mason and has been a member of that order for the past forty-two years. He belongs to the Fresno Las Palmas Lodge, No. 366, F. & A. M.

**MILES WALLACE.**—Some of the ablest attorneys in California are located in the enterprising city of Fresno. Among those who rank high in the estimation of their fellow members of the bar is Miles Wallace, a native of Tennessee, born in Murfreesboro, February 19, 1861, a son of William H. and Caroline (Miles) Wallace. Mr. W. H. Wallace, was a minister of the gospel, and in that capacity was often privileged to speak comforting words to the hearts of those sorely bereaved who were mourning the loss of a dearly beloved one who had been claimed by death, the common enemy of all mankind. In due time Mr. Wallace also passed into the land of the unknown. His beloved wife followed him later, perishing with so many other of Galveston's citizens in the great disaster which came upon that city a few years ago.

Miles Wallace took an academic course at Russville, Kentucky, afterward taking a special course at Bethel College in Russville, graduating in high honor in 1880. He then entered the journalistic field as newspaper correspondent, but after a few years experience in newspaper work, believing that the law offered greater opportunities for an ambitious young man, he entered the Cumberland University law school at Lebanon, Tenn., receiving his diploma from that institution June 1, 1882. Seeing, as he believed, a good opportunity for a hustling young lawyer in Palestine, Texas, he opened an office there, and the steady increase of his practice during his four years sojourn at that place proved that his judgment was correct. After settling his affairs in Palestine and turning over his clients to a fellow attorney, he returned to Murfreesboro, Tenn., the place of his birth, where he remained three years and again built up a large practice, but getting a severe attack of California fever, in February, 1889, he came to the Golden State and located at Fresno, where he again entered the practice of the law. In 1891 he removed to Madera where he was employed by the county preparing transcripts, and while there made many friends among the legal fraternity and the people generally, and was elected district attorney, holding that office until 1894, when he returned to Fresno, where he resided at 482 Glenn Street until his death February 24, 1917.

His widow was formerly Miss Anna Dickenson, to whom he was married December 16, 1894. Her father, J. J. Dickenson, was a California pioneer, crossing the plains in 1846 by the ox team route and settling in Fresno. Mr. and Mrs. Wallace have two children, Cuba and Lee.

Mr. Miles Wallace was an influential member of the Democratic party, was president of the Chamber of Commerce, and United States Commissioner, and always deeply interested in the development of Fresno.

**JAMES W. SMITH.**—One of the pioneer contractors of Fresno, James W. Smith was born at Kempt, Hants County, Nova Scotia, November 23, 1844. He learned the ship carpenter's trade, and worked as ship joiner at Windsor and Halifax, N. S. In 1867 he came to Boston, Mass., and there worked at ship building for F. H. Flynn and Kirby, the ship builders.

In 1868 Mr. Smith came to California, via the Isthmus of Panama, on the old side-wheeler steamer Sacramento, leaving New York on September 30 of that year and arriving in San Francisco just one month later. In San Francisco he followed carpenter work, in the shop of A. A. Snyder, and worked on the building of the Baldwin Hotel Annex, and other large buildings being erected at that time. From there he went to Yuba County, and for seven years worked as carpenter for the Excelsior Water and Mining Company.

Mr. Smith first came to Fresno on August 3, 1880, and has since that date made his home here, becoming prominent in the business and social life of the city, and is still actively engaged as a contractor and builder at the age of seventy-four years. He bought twenty acres of land near town and for four years farmed this property to grain and alfalfa and vineyard. He later sold the property to O. J. Woodward and that twenty acres is now a part of the Woodward Addition, a real estate subdivision. In 1884 Mr. Smith erected his own home at 807 M Street, which location at that date was called "out in the country." In early days in Fresno Mr. Smith worked at the carpenter trade for Fred Banty and also for M. R. Madary in his planing mill, which had just started. He engaged in planing mill construction and ownership and built and ran the first Mechanics Planing Mill; this was destroyed by fire and he then built the second Mechanics Planing Mill and the California Planing Mill and operated both mills. Later he engaged in contracting and building in Fresno and among other work he built the Masonic Temple, Risley Block, First Presbyterian Church; First Methodist Church, Elm Street School and other buildings too numerous to mention. He also





*Mrs. R. A. Bonfield*



was foreman in the building of the Barton Opera House, in Fresno; and built the Presbyterian Church at Fowler.

The marriage of Mr. Smith united him with Mary M. Murdock, a native of Nova Scotia, and six children were born to them, as follows: Laura F., the wife of Albert Alexander and mother of three children, the eldest son, George Alexander, now being in the United States Aviation Service in France, having joined General Pershing's forces soon after our entrance into the war, and was the first man to be picked from California for this service; Mrs. Lillian A. Scott; Herbert A., in the mill business at Westwood, Cal.; Ernest E., a sign painter of Fresno; Viola, wife of Herbert Collins and mother of two daughters; and James H.

While taking a prominent part in the development and upbuilding of Fresno's business interests, Mr. Smith has at the same time given of his time and interest to the fraternal organizations of the city. He is a Thirty-second degree Mason, being a member of Las Palmas Lodge, F. & A. M., of Fresno; also of the Fresno Chapter and Commandery; and of the Consistory and Shrine. He is also a member of the Fresno Lodge of Elks, and of the Odd Fellows.

**MRS. REBECCA A. BONNIFIELD.**—One of the very oldest settlers of the Round Mountain district in Fresno County, who can relate most interesting stories of early days, is Rebecca A. Bonnifield, who was Rebecca A. Parsons before her marriage. She was born in Tucker County, W. Va., on January 25, 1843, the daughter of Job and Sarah (Losh) Parsons, natives respectively of Randolph County, W. Va., and Rockingham County, Va. Job Parsons was born in 1789 and served in the War of 1812, and was a farmer in Tucker County, where he was also elected magistrate. He died in 1883, aged ninety-four, while his wife passed away in 1903, in her ninety-fifth year. Eight children came to bless this worthy couple, and among them Mrs. Bonnifield was the third in order of birth.

Her childhood was spent in Tucker County, where she attended school in the primitive log schoolhouse with its slab benches and puncheon floor, and on November 23, 1860, she married Thomas B. Rummell, a native of Randolph County, W. Va., who was an attorney at law. In April, 1861, he enlisted in a Virginia regiment, and served until he was captured while home on furlough. He afterwards took the oath of allegiance and went to Kansas City, where he resumed the practice of law, but he was soon shot down in cold blood.

Rebecca Parsons Rummell resided in Tucker County during the War, and went through all the hardships of those heartless days when crops were devastated and stock taken. She had many unpleasant as well as interesting experiences, among them that of saving the old family horse: it was the last left them and had been seized by a Buckeye Yankee boy, but he was choked and made to yield up his prize. She has other stories to tell, and being a good conversationalist, never wants for listeners.

In 1867, Mrs. Rummell married again, this time becoming the wife of Arnold T. Bonnifield, also a native of Tucker County, where he was reared until 1859. Then he came to California by way of Panama, but in 1866 he returned to Virginia. After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Bonnifield came to California, following the route of the Isthmus; and after a short stay in Marin County, they removed to Napa County. In 1869, they came to Fresno County and located on Dry Creek, where they homesteaded and engaged in farming and stock-raising. The county seat was then at Millerton, on the Overland stage route, and provisions and freight were brought from Stockton. In the seventies, the Bonnifields sold out and purchased land in Round Mountain district, where they owned a ranch of 640 acres. It was then all range land, where cattle and antelope roamed—very different from the well-kept vineyards and orchards of the district of today, a wonderful transformation having been effected in a short time.

The Bonnifield family still owns (for Mr. Bonnifield died while on a visit in Texas), 300 acres, under irrigation from the Enterprise Canal, with orchards of peaches and figs, and vineyards of malagas, emperors and muscat grapes.

Of Mrs. Bonnifield's first union, two children were born: Garnetta, who died in infancy, and Icilina, now Mrs. Carlisle of Lemoore. By her marriage to Mr. Bonnifield, she had three children: Joseph Elliott died in his eighteenth year; Lizzie May is the wife of M. G. Vernon, who is a prominent rancher in the Round Mountain district. He is a native of Boone County, Iowa, and was left an orphan at twelve years of age. Nevertheless, he managed to reach California and Fresno in 1886, when he was eighteen. He married in 1889, and is now farming the Bonnifield lands. He is a member of the California Associated Raisin Company and the California Peach Growers, Inc. They have had ten children, nine living: Bonnie B., deceased; Gladys, who is Mrs. Martin and has one child; Raymond G., a rancher and viticulturist in this district, as is Leroy T., who served in the United States Army during the late war; Morris G., assisting his father on the home ranch; Earl V., attending the University of California; Clinton B.; Charles Oliver; Milton Maxwell; and Robert Lee. Emma, the third child, was Mrs. Patton, and resided in Salinas until her death, in 1897, leaving three children: John Vernon, of Gilroy; Frances Irene, Mrs. Bubar, who has two children; and Earl, who resides in Salinas.

Mrs. Bonnifield is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church South, and a member of Kings River Rebekah Lodge, No. 51; is a Past Noble Grand and has been a delegate to the Grand Lodge. Since coming to California she has made two trips back to her old home in Tucker County, W. Va., in 1881, and in 1900, but each time on returning to California was more than ever pleased with her environment.

**JAMES E. BURNS.**—Born May 29, 1843, at Wellsburg, W. Va., James E. Burns was brought up in Morgan County, Mo., where he attended the country schools and later at Versailles Academy, Missouri. At the beginning of our Civil War, with characteristic loyalty to his country and enthusiasm for the cause, he responded to the call for volunteers, enlisted August 18, 1861, in Company A, Thirty-ninth Indiana Volunteer Cavalry, and was mustered in at Indianapolis. He had the honor of taking part in the first skirmish in Kentucky at the beginning of the war and served with distinction up to the time of the firing of the last shot of the war in North Carolina. He had an unusual record in that in all the time of service he was never ill, wounded or captured. Mr. Burns was a member of the Army of the Cumberland and took part in the battles of Shiloh, Perryville, Stone River, Chickamauga and Missionary Ridge. In 1864 he was appointed military agent of the state of Indiana. He and an assistant had entrusted to their care the granting of furloughs to 27,000 soldiers. Later he was assigned to the headquarters of Gen. J. F. Miller, Post Commander at Nashville, and took part in the battle of Nashville. He was also with Sherman in his famous march to the sea, and participated in the battles of Bentonville and Averysboro, where his regiment suffered severe losses. During these eventful years he held the offices of corporal, sergeant and hospital steward and was mustered out at Indianapolis, Ind., August 8, 1865, after which he returned to his old Missouri home and became deputy county clerk under his father.

In 1868-70 Mr. Burns located at Iola, Kans. He also owned a farm in Wilson County of that state. In 1876 he entered the grocery business in Iola, Kans., and from 1880-82 was deputy clerk and deputy county treasurer of Allen County, Kans. In 1886 he was traveling salesman for a hardware and implement company and in 1888 became deputy county registrar of deeds.

In 1889 Mr. Burns removed to Oklahoma and on April 22, of that year, became city clerk of Kingfisher. He was privileged to take part in the exciting scenes attending the rush for government land in Oklahoma, and obtained a claim for 160 acres in Cimarron township, Kingfisher County, where he farmed for ten years and in January, 1898, was appointed officer in the

United States Land Office at Kingfisher, serving eighteen months. Afterwards he became salesman for the W. H. Mead Agricultural Implement Company. In 1898 he was elected county clerk of Kingfisher County, and in 1900 reelected to the position, and again reelected in 1902 on the Republican ticket. He was also chairman of the Kingfisher County Republican Central Committee. James E. Burns came to Fresno, November 1, 1906, and purchased a 20-acre ranch near Kerman, selling it after 1½ years, and then retiring.

Mr. Burns is an active member of the G. A. R. Post, joining the organization January, 1866, at Versailles, Mo. This Post was the fifth G. A. R. Post organized in the United States. He joined the McCook Post No. 51, at Iola, Kans., in 1880, and was also a member of the Kingfisher, Oklahoma G. A. R. Post, No. 8, of which he is Past Commander. In 1891 he was appointed Adjutant General of Department Territory of Oklahoma, and was later raised to the rank of colonel. He has been on the staff of two National Commanders of G. A. R. and was Department Commander of the Oklahoma Post in 1901-2.

In his domestic relations he was united in the bonds of holy matrimony, September 7, 1865, to Sarah A. Duff, a native of Miami County, Indiana. The children resulting from this union are: Rhoda, wife of L. C. Gould of Lassen County, Cal.; Peter R., a commercial traveler of Canadian, Texas; Sarah E., wife of F. D. Jenkins, a rancher in Roosevelt Colony, nine miles west of Fresno; James A., deceased; and Elgie L., at home.

Mr. Burns is adjutant of Atlanta Post G. A. R. No. 92, of Fresno. This post was started in October, 1885, and the first commander was C. A. Fuller, who was appointed to serve until January 1, 1886, when Fred Banty was elected the First Commander. There are six charter members of this lodge living, namely: Henry Banty, Fred Banty, Frank P. Love, L. Kenepper and Frank Miller. The officers for 1918 are: John M. Ryan, Commander; G. W. Collins, Senior Vice Commander; F. M. Briggs, Junior Vice Commander; Leroy Taylor, Officer of the Day; F. P. Love, Quartermaster; William Freese, Clerk; G. W. Clark, Officer of the Guard; J. E. Burns, Adjutant. The Post has a membership of eighty, and through their efforts have secured a modern breech-loading cannon from the United States Government, which they have placed in the new plot of the G. A. R. Cemetery. The Spanish War Veteran Lodge has received Atlanta Post No. 92 as honorary members.

Mrs. Burns is very active in the order of Ladies of the G. A. R. She is past president of the local circle of Fresno and past president of the Department circle of Oklahoma for two terms. She is at present patriotic instructor of the Ladies G. A. R. of Fresno. During her stay in Oklahoma she attended all the Department Conventions, eighteen in number, and has attended all of the Department Conventions in California but one.

The Ladies of the Fresno G. A. R. at present have eighty members. In order to become a member one must be either wife or blood relation of a veteran. The present officers for 1918 are: Mrs. Jennie Stevens, president; Mrs. Josephine Mackrill, senior vice president; Mrs. Thomas F. Williams, junior vice president; Mrs. Hattie Richter, treasurer; Mrs. Mary McDaniel, chaplain; Mrs. Sarah A. Burns, patriotic instructor; Miss Jennie Walganott, secretary; Mrs. Lottie Pollar, conductor; Mrs. L. Clark, assistant conductor; Mrs. Eva Miller, guard; Mrs. Bessie Jackson, assistant guard. The society has done grand work in conjunction with the male members of the G. A. R. Post in improving the G. A. R. cemetery. They raised \$100 for a coping around the old plot, put an iron fence around the new plot, assisted in putting the cannon in position and have also worked for the Red Cross and organized a social club called the B. A. Custer Circle, No. 18.

In her church affiliations Mrs. Burns is a member of the Presbyterian Church. Mr. Burns stands high in Masonry. He was a member of the Versailles, Mo., Blue Lodge, No. 117, and is now a member of Oklahoma Blue Lodge, and also a member of the Chapter, the Commandery, the Consistory and Scottish Rite. He is a Shriner and a member of the Eastern Star.

**HENRY GRIES.**—A successful horticulturist and viticulturist who had resided in Fresno County for more than thirty years, and who was one of the most prosperous and highly respected residents of the community southwest of Sanger, was Henry Gries, a native of Germany, where he first saw the light of day on August 10, 1846, a son of Claus Gries. His early boyhood days were spent in his native land where he received his education and remained until he attained the age of sixteen years, when he choose a seafaring life and became a sailor, and while on one of his trips around Cape Horn journeyed as far north as San Francisco, making his advent into the Golden State in 1868, when about twenty-two years of age. For two years he served as a sailor on the revenue cutter Reliance which plied along the Pacific coast. After discontinuing the sea life, Mr. Gries made his home in San Francisco until 1886, where he was engaged in various pursuits for which he was by nature and education best fitted, and during this time he saved sufficient money to warrant an investment in land.

In 1887 special inducements were being offered to settlers in the San Joaquin Valley, which attracted Mr. Gries to Fresno County, where he purchased eighty acres in the Bethel school district, near Del Rey. When this land was first purchased, in August, 1887, it was in its primitive state, but Mr. Gries was fully determined to develop the property into a prosperous fruit ranch and vineyard, and set to work at once to accomplish his aim, which he lived to see consummated. The wonderful results of those long years of hard labor and untiring efforts can be better appreciated by observation than by description. His land is devoted to raising peaches, prunes, malaga and muscat grapes. The appearance of the ranch bespeaks thrift, prosperity and efficient management, and it is adorned by a modern and commodious residence with all conveniences.

In 1902, Mr. Gries was united in marriage with Mrs. Ella S. Berry, widow of John Berry and the mother of a son, Wilbur T. Berry, who served his country, during the World War, ten months on the Steamship Seattle, attached to the Naval Reserves, receiving his discharge after the signing of the armistice.

Mr. Gries always promoted the organization of the fruit and raisin growers, and was a member of all the raisin associations and also of the Peach Growers, Inc. He was a patriotic citizen, highly esteemed for his good qualities and integrity, and had served as a trustee of the Bethel school district. His motto throughout life was to live up to the tenets of the Golden Rule.

Mr. Gries died at his home, south of Sanger, Friday night, July 25th, after an illness of several months. This marks the passing of another old pioneer of Fresno County. Mrs. Gries survives her husband.

**C. TELIN.**—A very industrious, frugal, and steadily successful ranchman who, starting without money or influential friends, has nevertheless attained to a comfortable position such as many a person might well envy, and who has also intelligently worked for the best interests of himself and other fruit and raisin growers in this vicinity, is C. Telin, the always entertaining Swedish-American agent of the Fancher Creek Nurseries of Fresno, of which George C. Roeding is the president and manager. In all his work and responsibilities, as indeed in all his pleasures, his good wife, also a native of that famous Scandinavian country, shares his lot; and together they are actively interested in the common welfare, on which account they have the good will of everybody.

Mr. Telin was born in Sweden, on June 3, 1854, and grew up there, while he attended the common schools. He also attended the Lutheran church, and at fourteen, according to national custom, was confirmed in its rites and beliefs. When old enough to learn a trade he was apprenticed to a tailor; and at twenty-one, he joined the Swedish Army, in which he served for seven years, receiving at the end an honorable acquittal and praise for meritorious



*Henry Gries*



service. He had first served two years in the primary military school, starting with the expectation of following a military career; then he was sent to the regular military school at Carlsborg, and in the fifth year of his service, he became a corporal.

Before it was too late, however, Mr. Telin came to the conclusion that such a profession did not offer a sufficient remuneration for the future; and the best alternative before him appeared to be a voyage to America and a trial of his luck here. He therefore bought a ticket from Christiania to San Francisco, by way of New York, Chicago, and the Southern Pacific route, and, leaving Norway, he arrived on the Pacific Coast in the fall of 1883. The first year he worked as a common laborer in San Francisco, and then he went up to Mendocino County, where he was in the employ of the Gualala Mill Company for four years. Misfortune stalked across his path at this juncture of his experience in the land of opportunity, and he was taken to the hospital at Oakland, almost dead from asthma. In a short time, he spent all his spare money doctoring, but he could get no relief. Fortunately he had a friend, Mr. G. Jonason of Washington Colony, and the doctor advised him to make a visit there. He did so and arrived at his longed-for destination near Easton, in Fresno County, in 1889. He came to Fresno that June, sick and with only fifty cents in his pocket, and was about as much "down and out" as any man could be. Luckily, three days after he came to the Washington Colony he had no more wheezing, and a month later he could do light work. In a short time, he got well enough to work in the harvest field, and since then he has never had the asthma. His experience is the same as has been that of thousands, demonstrating that Fresno County is favorable to a cure of this dread disease.

Before leaving Sweden, Mr. Telin was married to Jennie Matilda Volleen, by whom he had one child, Sophia, who was only six months old when he left Sweden. This devoted wife died while the daughter lived to be twenty-two; and having married, she left a child, Erik, who is still living in Sweden. Later, Mr. Telin married a second time, in California, choosing for his bride Miss Annie Person of Minneapolis, but who originally came from Sweden and then worked in Minnesota eight years before coming farther west. They have had three children, one of whom died in infancy; and those living are Moody, who married Bertha Johnson and is a farmer at Orland, in Glenn County; and Jennie, now the wife of Andrew Christensen, the well-known rancher near Kingsburg. They have three bright children, Helen, Ernest, and Wallace.

Mr. Telin improved twenty acres in the Washington Colony, then sold out after a discouraging experience, and finally came to his present site north of the incorporated limits of Kingsburg. There he bought fifty-two acres fifteen years ago, and since then he has sold twelve acres, leaving him forty. He has twenty acres in peaches, five acres in apricots, five acres in plums and eight acres in vines; while two acres are devoted to yards and a corral, and to his handsome house and good outbuildings. All that he has of living things, he has planted with his own hands, so that he may be pardoned for feeling unusually proud of the result.

A decade and a half ago Mr. Telin became interested in the nursery business, mainly for the reason that he wished to secure tested and reliable nursery stock for himself and neighbors. He has built 2,000 feet of concrete pipes, and can now irrigate every foot of his land. He has two wells and adequate pumping-plants, and also belongs to the irrigating system known as the Consolidated Ditch. This triumph and reward has come after years of hard work and many sore trials and reverses. He sold raisins during the panicky years for one cent a pound, and received only fifteen dollars a ton for malagas. He worked hard to build up the company operating the packing-house at Easton, and also the company operating the creamery and the packing-house at Kingsburg, and now he is an active member in the California Raisin Grow-



ers Association, the California Peach Growers Association and the Prune and Apricot Association. His bitterest experience was at Easton. After spending many years to improve his twenty acres, the drainage formed a kind of pond in the center of his ranch; and when he had struggled for ten years against the increasing hindrance, paying in the meantime ten per cent. on the purchase price, he was forced to sell his twenty acres for only \$3,000. Thus he had much less than \$1,000 with which to start on his home-place, now a highly-improved and valuable ranch of forty acres on Grand Avenue, adjoining Kingsburg.

For the past thirteen years Mr. Telin has been agent for the Fancher Creek Nurseries, and in representing them he sells only the very best of thoroughly reliable nursery stock in healthy condition and thoroughly tested. The superiority of this output has long and widely been recognized, and the result is that Mr. Telin is kept moderately busy in this field of enterprise.

About the same time that Mr. Telin assumed this responsibility, he made a trip back to Sweden. He found many changes, and not all of the old-time friends and relatives; he passed pleasant hours, and was glad of the experience, but he was more than ever satisfied to get back to California. Mr. and Mrs. Telin are members of the Swedish Methodist Episcopal Church at Kingsburg, and delight in doing good whenever and wherever possible.

**GEORGE WAMPOLE HORN.**—A specialist in the feeding and raising of hogs, who was a successful stock-raiser in Kansas and Iowa, and who now owns eighty acres, part of which is devoted to raisins and peaches, is George Wampole Horn, whose wife is well known for her advocacy of certain school reforms, notably the consolidation of the Eschol and Kingsburg districts. He was born in Clearfield County, Pa., on January 7, 1851, the son of Elias W. and Nancy Jane (Smith) Horn, with whom he came west to Illinois, after which he went to Iowa, where he grew up. His school facilities were limited, but he made the best of them. Still later he moved to Kansas, in which state, as well as in Iowa, his father farmed. The latter moved back to Iowa, and there he died, at the age of sixty-nine. George's mother had died when he was only three years old, and his father married again, having, by both marriages, twenty children; eight were of the first wife, George's mother, and two of his own brothers were in the Union Army; and twelve were children by the second wife. George is the only one now in California.

The month of January, 1877, first saw him at Fresno, and then he went up to Tollhouse and worked until the following August, when he shifted to the Eschol district. For five years he worked for wages, and then he took up a homestead of forty acres southeast of the town. Now he has eighty acres and is engaged with remarkable success in mixed farming.

In the meantime Mr. Horn had married Miss Ella M. Hoffman, who was born in Calaveras County, the daughter of Simon E. and Phoebe E. (Allen) Hoffman, who came to California with ox teams from Minnesota in 1859. Mr. Hoffman was born in Germany, and he came to New York with his parents, who settled in Illinois. Later he removed to Minnesota, and there he was married. In 1871 Mrs. Horn came with her parents to Tulare County, and in Calaveras County her father was both a farmer and a fruit-raiser, and set out the first muscat vineyard there. In Tulare County, on the other hand, her father followed grain-farming and stock-raising, and became quite a large landowner ten miles southwest of Tulare city. After having made his home with the subject of this sketch, he died two years ago, aged eighty-seven. Mrs. Hoffman also made her home for part of the time with the Horns, although she lived for the most part at Tulare, and there she died, at the age of eighty-two, on March 3, 1918, and was buried at Selma beside her husband. There were eleven children in the Hoffman family, one of whom died in infancy; and all the ten still living were at the mother's bedside at her death, and attended the funeral. Mrs. Horn is the only one living

in Fresno County, although she has brothers and a sister in other parts of the state and in Oregon. She is a member of the Baptist Church at Selma. Mr. Hoffman's part in educational matters has special interest. He came here in 1880, when the Franklin was the nearest school, five miles distant. Desiring schooling for his children, he was the mainspring in organizing the Eschol district, and he suggested the name of Eschol, since he had every faith that this country would be as productive as the Eschol of Holy Writ.

Mr. Horn now has ten acres in muscats and ten acres in Thompson seedless, eight acres in peaches, and the balance in grain, hay and pasture. He has twenty-three head of cattle, six horses, and twenty-four Poland China hogs. He was the first to plow with a bull-team in this part of the county, and in various ways gave an impetus to agriculture. He worked for John Humphries when he first came down from Tollhouse, and he brought down for him 400 hogs and so made \$8,000 for his employer. How to care for these he learned many years ago, for when as a young man he moved back to Iowa from Kansas, he became a cattleman, and fed and finished cattle for nine years, making thereby some of the good money that he brought to California. He went into mining operations, using hydraulic power on Dry Creek; and there he lost all that he had. He started over again, has worked hard, and has met with reasonable success.

In 1912, Mrs. Horn was elected trustee of the Eschol school district, and she is still serving on the board. This district was consolidated with Kingsburg, and the move—one of great moment for the section—was enthusiastically supported by Mrs. Horn. There is an excellent grammar school with ten teachers, and the children are gathered up, taken to school and brought back to their homes by an auto bus, driven by one of the teachers.

Mr. and Mrs. Horn have eight children; Phoebe is the wife of Charles Lambert of Modesto, a blacksmith known for his skill, and they have three children—Elton, Fern, and Fay; Irene is Mrs. George Lambert, an orange-grower near Honcut, in Butte County, and they have two children—Dorris and Elvin; Mary is at home; Nellie is Mrs. C. C. Culbertson, on a ranch near Selma; Alfred married Goldie Cook, in the Eschol district, with their one child, Evelyn; Andrew is at home and manages the ranch; George is a mechanic and works for L. H. Byron in the Ford Garage at Lemoore; and Ella is in school.

**JAMES MARSHALL McDONALD.**—The efficient manager of the California Associated Raisin Company's plant, at Biola, Fresno County, James M. McDonald is especially qualified for this important post. He is a native of the Buckeye State, born between Bellefontaine and Urbana, Ohio, July 9, 1870, the son of John B. and Lydia (Marshall) McDonald. His father was a native of Virginia, being of Scotch and Scotch-Irish descent; his grandmother's maiden name was Patterson. John B. McDonald was a farmer and during the Civil War was a captain in Company Eight, Berdan's New York Regiment of sharpshooters. At one time he held the prominent military post of Lieutenant Colonel in the Ohio National Guards. His mother in maidenhood was Lydia Ann Marshall, a native of Vermont, and in March 26, 1903, she passed away at Fresno. In 1886 the father migrated to California, locating at Fresno where he was employed in the post-office, until his death on October 20, 1904.

James was their only child and he came with them to Fresno in 1886. At first he learned the trade of an upholsterer, with Mr. Jones, at G and Tuolumne Streets, remaining with him about three years, leaving to enter the post-office when Mrs. Hughes was postmaster; afterwards he was a mail-carrier under N. W. Moody.

James McDonald has the distinction of being one of the old volunteer firemen of the city of Fresno and served as a driver of hose company No. 1. Upon the organization of the first paid fire department of the city, under

Chief Higgins, when the chemical engine was introduced, he was the first engineer. Afterwards he served on the police force under Chief Morgan, for about one year, when he resigned and started a private detective agency. His new enterprise developed into a large and extended business, employing about ten detectives, the field of his operations extending as far as Alaska. After successfully conducting this enterprise for about ten years, he disposed of it and engaged in the real estate business at Fresno.

In September, 1913, Mr. McDonald became the superintendent of the Villa Land Company, owners of the Biola townsite and Biola Acres. He located on the tract and became actively engaged in superintending its improvements, including the installing of a water plant, and has been in charge of the project ever since. The Villa Land Company constructed a packing-house for the handling and shipping of ripe fruits. The building was leased for two years, after which he ran the plant until 1915, when the California Associated Raisin Company leased the packing-house and engaged Mr. McDonald as its manager. The first year 1,500 tons of raisins were handled but, through his efficient management and organization, in the third year the shipments increased to 3,500 tons. In 1918 a new brick plant was built and equipped with the most modern machinery for packing and preparing raisins, the latest methods were introduced and electric power installed.

On December 24, 1894, James M. McDonald was united in marriage with Miss Ollie V. Richter, a native of Illinois, daughter of Charles R. Richter, an early settler of Fresno County, the ceremony being solemnized in Fresno.

**WILLIAM A. EDGERLY.**—An interesting, energetic man, always bent upon improving and enhancing the value of things, and resolved to contribute in some way or other to the progress of the world, is William A. Edgerly, who, with his brother, has made the Edgerly vineyards, now among the oldest in the county, so valuable. He is the son of a pioneer, Asa S. Edgerly, who was born in New Hampshire, in March, 1834, and was educated in the public schools there and in New Hampton College, from which he was graduated. For nineteen years he taught school, a part of the time in the South; after the close of the war he returned to Massachusetts and taught at Monument and Sandwich. He next became state agent for the Continental Life Insurance Company in Vermont. In 1872 he removed to Nebraska and bought 720 acres of land near Palmyra, Otoe County. In 1874 he moved into Lincoln and was engaged in the hardware business for three years, when he sold out and began erecting houses for rent. In time he owned five buildings, the site of which was afterwards sold to the Young Men's Christian Association for their building.

In 1887, A. S. Edgerly came to California and in Fresno County bought 280 acres of land on what is now Blackstone Avenue, then a trail through the hogwallow, and with the aid of his son William, began improving the place. He also embarked in the real estate business with T. C. White and William Harvey, and they bought eighty acres and laid out Belmont Addition. In laying out the tract, Mr. Edgerly named Blackstone Avenue, owing to the fact that several lawyers lived on the street. He burned his own brick on the present site of Zapp's Park, and in 1888 built the Edgerly Building, at the corner of J and Tulare Streets, now one of the oldest buildings in Fresno. He was an energetic dealer in property, and after a time traded the building for a ranch near Yountville, Napa County, where he resided a few years; then he lived a short time in Oakland, and afterwards spent two years in Los Angeles as manager of an apartment house, then returned to Fresno. He was proprietor of Hotel Portland until he sold it and bought lots at the corner of Kern and M Streets. Later he erected three buildings at Tulare and O Streets. In 1909 he retired, since which time he made his home on a part of the original Edgerly ranch. In his retirement he was still planning improvements, but he was forced to refrain from much active work. This enterprising old pioneer passed to his reward in June, 1918.



W. A. Edgerly.



Mrs. Edgerly was Lydia Crowell before her marriage, and she was born at Sagamore, Cape Cod, Mass., June 28, 1837. She came from Puritan stock, and was able to trace her family back to the Mayflower, 1620. She is still living, the mother of six children, four of whom have grown to maturity and are living: William A., the subject of this review; Nellie E. D., who is Mrs. Wheeler; Lillian M. R., who is Mrs. Gardner; and Charles D., all farming on a part of the original Edgerly ranch.

Born at Springvale, Ga., September 5, 1860, William A. Edgerly was educated in the different states in which his parents resided, especially Massachusetts, Vermont, and Palmyra, Nebr., where he went to school in a dugout. He later attended the high school at Lincoln, and after completing the courses there studied for a year at the University of Nebraska; then he spent a year teaching school near Lincoln. He then tried the sheep business and was in Colorado, Kansas and Indian Territory, during which time he lived in a wagon for about seven years, traveling with the band as a sheep-grower through the various states and territories. He had many stirring frontier experiences, and made his headquarters for four years at Harper, Kans. To show the low prices prevailing for stock during some of those early years, we may mention that one season he bought sheep as low as from twenty cents to thirty cents a head, which he shipped to Topeka, where the wool was secured and tallow saved, and fertilizer was made out of the carcasses.

In 1887, Mr. Edgerly came to Fresno County and bought an interest with his father in ranching and this caused him to turn his attention to ranch work and fruit-growing. With the aid of his brother he began to set out vines and fruit trees, and in time the entire 200 acres at the corner of Blackstone and McKinley Avenues were improved, and it is now owned and occupied by the two brothers and two sisters. He also owns a twenty-acre peach orchard north of the Normal school. Mr. Edgerly is president of the Edgerly Company, Inc., which owns the property on Tulare and O, and Kern and M, in Fresno, now occupied by business buildings, all built up by members of the family. As with so many other pioneers, the early fruit-growing business proved uphill work for some time, and Mr. Edgerly was compelled to raise grain and hay to keep things going, but he won out, gave his support liberally to the various fruit associations, and has been from the first a member of the California Associated Raisin Company.

At Eureka Springs, Ark., in 1888, Mr. Edgerly was married to Miss Carrie L. Rice, a native of Illinois, but reared in Kansas. Two children have come to bless this union: Pearl I. is Mrs. A. J. Smith, and resides near Fowler; and Lyman E. is ranching near Tulare. Mrs. Edgerly is a member of the Methodist Church, and in its circles labors for the advancement of the community. Mr. Edgerly is a Republican in national politics. He is affable and friendly by nature, and is a member of Fresno Lodge, No. 343, I. O. O. F., and of the Woodmen of the World.

**CYRUS BELL McCUTCHEON.**—A self-made man, in the best sense implied by that term, is C. B. McCutcheon, who was born in Wayne County, Iowa, on April 21, 1855. His parents were John and Mary (Akers) McCutcheon, both natives of Indiana, but who migrated to Iowa where they were engaged in farming. During the year 1865, the McCutcheon family decided to move farther westward, having the Golden State as their ultimate goal. Other families were also enthused with the project and joined with the McCutcheons. With ox teams, cows and horses, their caravan started on its long and perilous journey across the deserts and Indian-infested plains. A very sad incident occurred while crossing the plains, the father, John McCutcheon, passing away. Their immigrant train finally reached Salt Lake City, Utah, where the party remained during the winter and in due time resumed its journey westward. After reaching California, the McCutcheon family resided for one year at Los Angeles, but later finally settled at Marsh

Creek, Contra Costa County, in 1866. Mr. and Mrs. John McCutcheon were the parents of six children, three of whom are living. Some years after the death of her husband, Mrs. Mary McCutcheon was married to B. H. Kerrick, and they became the parents of three children, one of whom is now living. The family removed to Tulare County, where Mr. Kerrick was engaged in the sheep business and in which he was very successful. At one time he owned from 4,000 to 6,000 head. He continued in the sheep business fourteen years.

C. B. McCutcheon received his early education partly in Iowa and partly on the plains en-route and finished his schooling after coming to California. In 1888, C. B. McCutcheon was united in marriage with Miss Annie Stayton, the daughter of John F. and Martha Jane (Hawkins) Stayton. John F. Stayton served in the Mexican War, a member of the Scouts who blazed the Santa Fe trail. He came to California in 1849, settled in San Joaquin County and engaged in ranching and stock-raising, and was the planter of the first wheat there. His stock range extended to Los Angeles and he became one of the wealthiest men in California. He owned 1,200 acres bordering Porterville townsite, and crossed Kings River many times, and put in a brush dam at the present location of Emigrant Dam below Kingsburg; he crossed Kings River at Reedley townsite in 1850. In 1872 he went to Arizona, New Mexico and Utah, and engaged in mining, but was not successful in this. After thirty-nine years he returned to California and died within a week, at Kingsburg, December 30, 1911, aged eighty-seven years, eleven months and five days. Mr. and Mrs. McCutcheon had two children, one of whom survives: Clifford W., a most worthy and dutiful son, born at Springville, Cal., June 27, 1896.

C. B. McCutcheon, with but a meager beginning, has by perseverance, thrift and industrious efforts succeeded in making, practically from virgin land, a most productive ranch, and in building a delightful home which is surrounded by modern conveniences. He has owned his present ranch since 1905, and it is devoted to raisins, peaches and other fruit. He belongs to the California Associated Raisin Company.

**ANDRES C. HANSEN.**—Among Fresno County's enterprising and progressive Danish-American citizens is A. C. Hansen, who lives on his ninety-acre ranch located on McKinley Avenue, fourteen miles west of Fresno. He was born in Sjaelland, Denmark, in 1859, and is the son of a carpenter and shipbuilder. He is the only member of his family in America. Brought up on the farm and educated in the public schools of Denmark, until the age of fourteen, Andres C. was then apprenticed to the blacksmith trade for three years. He afterwards returned to the farm and engaged in farm work until nineteen years of age, when he enlisted in the Danish army. After serving the required time he was honorably discharged, when twenty-two years old. In 1881 he removed to Skane, Sweden, where he continued the occupation of farming. He went thence to Smoland, Sweden, and engaged in the same vocation, but not meeting with success, after five and one-half years spent in Sweden he returned to his native country where he was employed in Copenhagen until he came to the United States.

In 1890, Mr. Hansen came to Fresno County, Cal., and went to work on a ranch near Selma, afterward working at Fowler. He spent eighteen months in the two places, then became foreman of the Briggs ranch near Kearney Park, retaining the position for two years. In 1893 he located in the Empire district, and purchased twenty acres of land, a part of his present place. He made all the improvements on the place, leveled the land, checked it, sowed it to alfalfa and engaged in dairying. He also rented land and raised grain. He was not successful in grain-raising, but his dairy paid out all the losses he incurred in grain-farming. He also set out an orchard and vineyard, still continuing the dairy business. He purchased more land and is now the owner of ninety acres all in a body, thirty acres of which are planted to



Thompson's seedless vines and fifteen acres are in peaches; the remainder is planted to alfalfa and grain.

Mr. Hansen was married in Denmark to Anna Sorensen, a native of that country, and their union has been blessed with the birth of three children: Christian, who died at the age of four; Ernest S. T., a prominent rancher and horticulturist at Empire; and Mary, the wife of J. P. I. Black, a large rancher at Empire.

Mrs. Hansen was an experienced buttermaker before she came to this country, and she and her husband established a creamery in the Kerman section. She was employed by the largest creameries in Denmark and was the highest salaried buttermaker in that country, holding the medal for the best butter in the English market at that time. She was repeatedly offered positions in her line of work from creameries in the United States and Russia. She started one of the first cooperative creameries in Denmark and also tried one of the first De Laval separators when they were introduced in that country. In 1896 she established a creamery on their ranch in Empire and made butter, purchasing milk from the Sycamore ranch. She first handled milk from thirty cows, and in 1905, when they discontinued the creamery, they were handling the milk from 150 cows. She deserves great credit for her enterprise and public spirit, and much food has been produced, as well as a great deal of wealth created, from the establishment by her of the Empire Creamery, the first creamery in the Kerman section.

Mr. and Mrs. Hansen made a trip to Denmark in 1910, also visiting Sweden and Norway during their eleven months' absence from their California home. Mr. Hansen was one of the first stockholders of the Kerman Telephone Company that built telephone lines in the farming sections of Empire and Kerman, and he was trustee of the Empire school district for several years. In his political affiliations he is a Republican. He is a member of the California Peach Growers, Inc., the California Associated Raisin Company, and the San Joaquin Milk Producers Association. He and his wife are highly respected and enjoy the friendship of a large circle of acquaintances.

**GRANT D. G. SAY.**—The representative of a family which settled in Fresno County fifty years ago, Grant D. G. Say is a native son of California and was born in Mendocino County, September 24, 1866. His father, the late James H. Say, was born in Venango County, Pa., February 14, 1834, and when only eighteen years of age landed in San Francisco. He went to the mines in Placer County and later engaged in the hotel business as proprietor of the Nine Mile House, on the road to Placerville. He was married in 1863 to Laura J. Coates, who was born in Platteville, Wis., a daughter of George I. Coates, a well-to-do miller of that place. In 1862, with his wife, formerly Loretta Jones, two sons and six daughters, Mr. Coates crossed the plains to California and made this his home the remainder of his days. One son, Henry, came west after having served in the Civil War.

After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Say conducted the hotel for a few months, then sold out and moved to Mendocino County, where Mr. Say worked at the carpenter's trade and farmed for nine years. In 1872 the family settled in Fresno County, then almost a desert country. Here Mr. Say homesteaded 160 acres of land and later took up a timber claim of a like amount, proved up on both and held them awhile and then sold at a fair profit. He bought 160 acres of railroad land in the Parlier district, improved a good ranch and was one of the pioneers in setting out vines and trees. He sold off eighty acres of the land, retaining the other eighty, of which fifty-five acres are set to vines and trees. In 1884 he erected the Renfro House in Selma and ran it several years, living in town to give his children the advantages of the good schools for which Selma has always been noted. Here he died on October 15, 1902, leaving a widow, who still makes her home in Selma, and six children: William H., a prosperous rancher of Fresno County; Grant

D. G., of this review; Elenora, wife of William Matlock, of Selma; Luther, a fruit-grower in the Parlier district; Maude, Mrs. George Fred Otis, of Oakland; and James Holton, a rancher near Selma.

Grant Say was but a child of six when his parents came to Fresno County to make their home. He attended the school in the Parlier district and finished his education in the Selma High School. He grew to manhood on the ranch and became familiar with horticultural pursuits at an early age. This interest has developed and today he is one of the prosperous fruit-growers and alfalfa-raisers of the county where the greater part of his life has been spent. He has watched with growing interest the progress made towards bringing Fresno County to the van of California's counties and firmly believes that this is the best section of the state in which to make money. In 1890 he started out for himself and now owns eighty acres of the old home place near Parlier, which is planted to vineyard and orchard; the former produced, in 1917, an average of two and one-half tons of grapes to the acre. He owns a section of land south of Kerman which is being developed into a fine alfalfa ranch, over 120 acres already having been planted. Mr. Say also owns 320 acres of land sixteen miles south of Fresno, and four and a half miles southeast of Caruthers, and this is being developed, 100 acres now being in vines and thirty acres in alfalfa. This activity shows what can be accomplished by a man who sets out with the determination to succeed.

When called upon to aid projects for the betterment of conditions of the citizens or the advancement of the prosperity of the county, Mr. Say readily responds with his time and means, for he realizes that contented home-builders are the bulwarks of the future, and they must have encouragement to succeed. Mr. Say is a self-made man and holds the respect and good will of all with whom he has had business or social intercourse. He has four interesting children: Gladys Leonora, Elgie, Marvin, and Ferol.

**W. C. BEATY.**—Midway between Sanger and Del Rey, on a sixty-acre ranch of rich and productive soil devoted to peaches and grapes, resides the subject of this review, W. C. Beaty, a well-known and highly respected citizen of Fresno County. He is a native of Missouri, where he first saw the light of day on January 24, 1857, his parents being William and Martha (Templeman) Beaty, also natives of Missouri, who were the parents of five children, three of whom are now living: John W., Milisa, and W. C., the subject of this sketch and the only member of the family living in California.

W. C. Beaty migrated to California in 1881, locating at first in Tulare County, where he rented ranches for ten years, and in 1891 removed to Fresno County, where he has since resided, having lived twenty-two years on his present ranch.

On February 13, 1879, W. C. Beaty, was united in marriage with Miss Mary E. House, a native of Missouri, and the daughter of Thomas and Sarah (Clark) House. Mr. and Mrs. Beaty were blessed with seven children: Ida M., the wife of P. W. Carr; Lillie E., who is now Mrs. J. H. Williams; Joseph R.; William E.; Thomas E., who served his country in the World War for the liberty of all peoples as a member of Company F, Three Hundred Sixty-fourth Infantry, and saw active service abroad, going over the top three times; Eva G., the wife of James McPike; and Alice G., now Mrs. Lee Cobb.

Thomas House, the father of Mrs. Beaty, was born in Edgar County, Ill., in 1823. He was twice married, his first wife having been Hannah Coleman. For his second wife he chose Sarah A. Clark, and the ceremony was solemnized on September 12, 1854. This union was blessed with five children: George A.; Mary E., who is now Mrs. W. C. Beaty; Mrs. Fannie Ceaser; Emeline, who is now Mrs. Rost; and Mrs. Caroline Daily. Thomas House served gallantly in the Civil War for four years as a member of Company D, Merrill's Horse, U. S. Army.





*Lt. S. M. Swanwick*

William Beaty, the father of the subject of this sketch, also saw service in the Civil War; he was commissioned Captain of the Home Guards, and proved to be a very courageous and patriotic soldier. In 1864, during the sickness of one of his little children, he returned to his home to see the little one before it passed away, and while he was there the house was surrounded by rebels, who shot and killed him before he could make his escape.

W. C. Beaty's ranch consists of sixty acres of rich and productive soil, but when he purchased it, in 1891, the land was practically in its virgin state. Since then he has bestowed much labor and has expended considerable money upon the place, and has brought the land up to a high state of cultivation. It is now devoted to grapes, peaches and alfalfa. Twenty-eight acres are set out to Muscats and twenty acres to Thompson's Seedless grapes, the average yield being one and one-half tons of the former and two and one-half tons of the latter variety.

Mr. and Mrs. Beaty are enjoying the afternoon of life in their pleasant and convenient home, surrounded by modern comforts and highly esteemed by a large circle of friends in the community where they have lived for the past twenty-two years.

**WALTER S. MCSWAIN.**—A noble hearted and truly good man, a kindly and helpful neighbor, a patriotic and public-spirited citizen, and a conscientious, efficient officer who faithfully discharged the duties of his important office, was Walter S. McSwain of Fresno County. He was born on October 4, 1865, fourteen miles west of Merced, on the Merced River, the fifth in a family of ten children. His parents were A. C. and Sarah (Cox) McSwain, who had settled on a ranch on the river in 1854, when conditions were rather primitive in California. Few of the present day can fully appreciate the value of the work accomplished by the pioneers in building wisely and well in order to insure the present conditions by which we are surrounded. Such was the work done by this pioneer rancher and his good wife.

Walter S. McSwain spent his childhood on the ranch and grew up amidst the primitive conditions of the place and period. In 1876, when eleven years of age, he accompanied his parents to Tulare Lake, and there the father engaged in the sheep business. The next move made was to Huron, where, with the aid of Walter S., the father erected the first house in that town and became one of the prominent citizens until he removed to Lemoore. Still later the family resided at Selma, and in 1882 came to Fresno; and here the son, then twenty-one years of age, associated himself with John Zapp in the transfer business. On August 23, 1897, he was appointed a special patrolman on the Fresno police force, and a year later became a regular patrolman under Marshal M. L. Woy. On July 16, 1901, he was installed as a regular member of the police force, by Mayor Stephens.

While performing the duties of a patrolman, Mr. McSwain was severely wounded in September, 1901, by a Japanese murderer who had killed one of his countrymen in Chinatown. Mr. McSwain was pursuing the murderer when he turned very suddenly and shot the officer, the bullet passing through his hand, which he had thrown up for protection, into his chest, just grazing his lung. The bullet was later extracted from beneath the shoulder-blade. After lying near death's door for some time, Mr. McSwain finally recovered and returned to duty as a special officer. It should be added, in connection with the shooting, that officer Frank Nelson pursued the man who shot his brother officer, and shot and killed him within a few blocks of where Mr. McSwain fell.

On January 3, 1903, Sheriff J. D. Collins appointed Mr. McSwain as one of his deputies, and he served until 1906, when he was elected constable. In the fall of 1910, he was elected on the Democratic ticket to the high responsibility of sheriff of Fresno County, and he served with such satisfaction that he was reelected to the office in 1914. While discharging the

duties of the office he died, on December 6, 1915, mourned by all who knew him. Mr. McSwain was a self-made and self-educated man. While his educational advantages were somewhat limited, he was well-read and had a wide education in the hard and stern school of experience, which thoroughly fitted him for the strenuous and difficult work pertaining to the office he held. He acquired some valuable city property and a 200-acre ranch that is devoted to a vineyard and peach and lemon groves.

The marriage of Walter S. McSwain and Miss Susie Hartigan was celebrated on December 2, 1892. She was born in Davis, Yolo County, a daughter of John and Ann (Traynor) Hartigan, who were among the worthy pioneers in Yolo County. Mr. Hartigan died on his ranch near Davis, and later the family moved to Fresno. One child, a daughter, Annie Irene, blessed the union of Mr. and Mrs. McSwain. She is attending Miss Hamlin's School in San Francisco. Mr. McSwain was a member of the Knights of Pythias, the Woodmen of the World, the Odd Fellows, and the Native Sons of the Golden West. He was also a member of the Commercial Club in Fresno. In line of his office he was a member of the Sheriffs' Association of the State of California. At the first meeting of the association after Mr. McSwain's death, the members passed resolutions of sympathy which were extended to the widow in her bereavement. These resolutions were inscribed in a handsomely bound volume and are prized very highly by Mrs. McSwain. Mr. McSwain was one of the volunteer firemen of the city, and in that service alone might be found the key to his idea of duty as a plain citizen. At every opportunity he performed his duty to the best of his ability. Since the death of her husband, Mrs. McSwain continues to reside in Fresno and look after the interests he left to her keeping. She is a cultured, refined woman, and is highly esteemed by her many friends. She is a member of the Native Daughters of the Golden West, the Degree of Honor, and the Ladies' Auxiliary of the Spanish War Veterans.

**GEORGE FEAVER, SR.**—Prominent among the highly intelligent and equally industrious horticulturists of Central California, who have become extensive owners of choice land and are now enjoying the rewards of their years of hard labor and fortunate foresight, must be mentioned the family of George Feaver, the early settler near Fowler and perhaps the wealthiest representative of his famed fatherland. Unlike many who came from across the ocean to cast their lot here, both Mr. and Mrs. Feaver were well-to-do in England and brought considerable means with them to Fresno County at a time when it was not over inviting here, the country then being much like a wilderness. Since coming here, however, they have worked hard to help develop the country, and much of the comforts of modern life now enjoyed must be credited to such pioneers as these.

Mr. Feaver was born in Somersetshire, England, the son of William Feaver, a free-holder and farmer, who lived and died in England, as did his wife, Ann Sealey, also of a well-known Somersetshire family. He first saw the light on April 16, 1836; and his boyhood was that of the typical English lad who enjoys many advantages, especially in regard to sport, not found perhaps in other countries. He was brought up in the Church of England, and is today a stanch Episcopalian. He remained on the farm of his father until he was twenty-six, when that beloved parent passed away, and then he farmed for himself. In 1867 he was married at Wells, in Somersetshire, to Miss Ellen Andrews of Wells; and he continued to farm there. In some way, he became interested in Texas and its land attractions, but through the efforts of the land department of the Southern Pacific Railway, his attention was diverted to California. Seeing the railway's advertisement, he went to London to meet the agent, and being assured that the products he saw did not grow under glass but flourished in the open, he bought forty acres of land

without further ado—a tract that proved a part of M. J. Church's holdings.

Thereupon he sold his Somersetshire property and came on to California and Fresno County with his family. It may be imagined that the move was not easy to make on account of their ties to the Old World, for Mrs. Feaver's father was a distinguished English gentleman, and was known as Magistrate Albion Andrews of Wells. However, Mr. and Mrs. Feaver and all the eight children sailed from London to Antwerp and then went by French steamer to New Orleans, where they landed in May, 1884; and on the thirteenth of the same month they arrived at Fresno. Mr. Feaver at once commenced to farm; and as the great task of clearing the way for the founding of an empire still remained to be done, it may well be said that he bore his share of the burden and heat of the day. Now it is a great satisfaction to their many friends that the pioneer is so bright and active despite his advanced age, and that both enjoy such widespread respect.

Mr. and Mrs. Feaver have had eleven children. George is a rancher near Fowler; Ethel is the wife of Frank Bennetts and resides at Monmouth; Eleanor Ann died in England when she was a little girl; May is the wife of Charles Bennetts, a rancher at Bowles; Ernest is a rancher at Hanford; and John has a farm near-by; Claude is also there following farm work, and Cecil, whose review is printed elsewhere, farms near Fowler; Maurice has a ranch near Cecil; Lillian, who married Ernest Hefflebower and lives at Dinuba; and Helen K. is at home.

Mr. Feaver, who has entered into both the privileges and the responsibilities of citizenship in his adopted country, is a stanch Republican, but in local measures he knows no party lines. The Feavers have long been identified with the best movements for advancing the community and commonwealth of which they are a part.

**WILLIAM DAVID WRISTEN.**—A pioneer of California who crossed the great plains with teams and became a man of importance in the various places where he made his home was W. D. Wristen, a native of the Blue Grass State. He became a large grain and stock farmer near Davis, Yolo County, later removing to Oleander, Fresno County in 1881 where he continued his chosen occupation. He dispensed a typical Southern hospitality at his residence for many years. Eventually he retired and moved to Los Angeles, where he died March 5, 1901. His wife was in maidenhood Agness Dew and she was a member of one of the prominent families of Virginia, where she was born. Mr. and Mrs. Wristen were members of the Methodist Church, South. The children now living who were born to this worthy pioneer couple are Mrs. O. B. Olufs, of Fresno; Josie, the wife of W. E. Cook, of Los Angeles; Elizabeth, wife of E. H. Bentley, also residing in Los Angeles; Anita, wife of Theo. Schmidt, of Chicago; and William Lee, in California. Mrs. Mary Graham and Mrs. Nellie M. Waters, two other daughters, are deceased. Mrs. Wristen died in Los Angeles, January 3, 1913.

**HANS JORGEN NIELSEN.**—A hard-working, successful ranchman and an excellent citizen, of honest and upright character, is Hans Jorgen Nielsen, who has a fine home place of thirty acres one mile south of Del Rey. He was born at Jylland, Denmark, on March 21, 1860, attended the thorough Danish public schools, and was duly confirmed at the age of fourteen in the Danish Lutheran Church. Soon after reaching his majority, he sailed from Esberg, Denmark, on the Cunard line, and landed at Boston on February 17, 1882. He had taken three days to cross the North Sea to Newcastle; and having journeyed across England, he waited three days longer at Liverpool before he could sail. His ticket read from Esberg to San Francisco; but Fresno County was from the first his point of destination, the fame of Central California having reached the Danish kingdom and had been the theme of many a chat by fireside and in the tavern.

As has often happened with those from foreign shores who have steered their way to America and been guided locally by the presence here, in ad-



vance, of one or another near of kin, so the fact that he had two uncles in Fresno, established in the tailoring trade, conditioned to a great extent his coming hither. He reached Fresno on March 3, and soon found employment. His first engagement was with I. W. Byington, the foreman on the old Expositor office in Fresno; and on his ranch he worked for four years. In the fall of 1886, when the great boom was beginning to grow, he bought and again sold forty acres, at the same time continuing to work out. He next went to the Scandinavian Colony and there bought twenty acres, which he improved and sold, the following year, at a good profit. This successful operation did not prevent him from accepting an offer from J. M. Shannon, who then lived in Alameda, and for whom he worked for four years, also in the Scandinavian Colony.

In 1890 Mr. Nielsen married Miss Louisa Nielsen, a native of Denmark, but in nowise related to him save by name. Three years later he bought his present choice place. For a time he continued with Mr. Shannon; but since 1897 he has lived on his home place altogether. It was merely a wheat field and a marsh when he took hold of it; but he has so improved it, bringing it under the Garfield ditch, erecting buildings, and properly tilling the soil, that he now has sixteen acres of Thompson Seedless grapes, two acres of young Thompsons, one-fourth of an acre of sultanas, and two acres of muscats, while he devotes ten acres to the growing of alfalfa and to the purposes of an orchard, as well as for buildings and a yard.

Four children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Nielsen. Maren Christine, is now the wife of George Jepsen and resides in Del Rey; Maria Louisa married George Madsen, and resides with him at Bowles; Henry F. was formerly the proficient bookkeeper of the Raisin Association at Fresno, having graduated with honors from Heald's Business College, and now he is an aviator in the service of his country, and is stationed at Camp Green, N. C.; while Theodore N., twenty years of age, is a successful rancher near Del Rey. Mr. Nielsen and family attend the Danish Lutheran Church, of which they are members, and Mr. Nielsen is the popular ex-president of the Danish Brotherhood. In politics he is progressive and aims only to support the best men and the best measures. Mr. and Mrs. Nielsen are, in their attitude as citizens, first, last and all the time American.

**DAVID F. APPLING.**—Although a comparatively new man in Fresno, David F. Appling has taken a position as one of the leading merchants of the city. As president of the Valley Hardware Company, he is at the head of a firm doing a large retail and wholesale business in that line of merchandise. Managed in an efficient and modern way, the business has increased over one hundred percent. in the last five years, and is the largest strictly hardware establishment in the San Joaquin Valley.

A native of West Virginia, Mr. Appling was born in Monroe County, June 11, 1877. He finished school at the age of thirteen, and has since made his own way in the world, his success in later life being due entirely to his own efforts and enterprise. On finishing his studies he went to Greenbrier County, W. Va., and started to learn the hardware business. He has ever since been engaged in that line of trade, and such concentration of effort has naturally resulted in a most thorough knowledge of the business in all its branches. He next located at Huntington, that state, in the employ of the Emmons, Hawkins Hardware Company, wholesale and retail. He went through all the departments of the establishment, as salesman and traveling salesman, and later became a member of the firm and manager of the retail department.

In 1910, Mr. Appling sold out his interest in the eastern firm, and came to Fresno, becoming manager for Donahoo, Emmons Hardware Company, until February 1912, when, with his brother, Fred A., he bought out the Donahoo, Emmons Hardware Company, and incorporated it as the





*Iver Iversen*

Valley Hardware Company. The two brothers own a controlling interest in the business, which is constantly growing and ranks as one of the important concerns in Fresno County.

The marriage of Mr. Appling united him with Catherine Huff, also a native of West Virginia, and three sons have blessed their union, Fulton B., Richard H., and Fred N., the two former native of West Virginia, and the latter of Fresno. Mr. Appling owns a small ranch, seven miles west of Fresno, on Olive Avenue. As one of the progressive business men of Fresno, he has been of no little help in furthering the many projects which have been promulgated for the upbuilding and prosperity of this section, and the advance of Fresno County has been of a rapidity no less than phenomenal, due to just such men as himself. Fraternally, he is a member of the Commercial Club of Fresno, the Knights of Pythias of that city, and the Modern Woodmen of West Virginia; and he also belongs to Huntington Lodge, No. 313, B. P. O. Elks, of that state.

**IVER IVERSEN.**—A pioneer who has done much, since he first came to Fresno County in the stirring late eighties, to improve his locality by the setting out of model vineyards, thereby contributing to the growth and wealth of the state as well as himself, is Iver Iversen, widely esteemed as a public-spirited and liberal Californian. He was born near Haderslev, Slesvig, Denmark, on May 31, 1869, the son of Just Iversen, who fought like a good patriot in the Danish-Prussian War of 1864. He had married Anna Sophia Skov, and they had a family of eleven children, all of whom grew to maturity, four coming to the United States and three settling in California. Just Iversen died about fifteen years ago; Mrs. Iversen passed away in 1916.

The sixth in the order of birth, Iver was brought up on a farm, while he attended the public schools; but much as he loved his native land, on account of military oppression he concluded to come to the United States. When nearly seventeen, therefore, he started for America; and on May 15, 1886, he arrived in Geneseo, Henry County, Ill., where he worked on farms, attending school in the winter. He was faithful in both his supplementary studies, as well as in the extension of his apprenticeship as a farmer, and having improved the moments, was ready when the time came to enter upon a larger and more important development.

In 1887 Mr. Iversen came west to Fresno, then a small town—so small, in fact, that the horse cars had just begun to be operated; for a brother, Andrew, had come to California four years before, and was a successful grain farmer north of what is now Rolinda. For a while he was employed at grain farming, and then he secured employment in a vineyard in the Scandinavian Colony, thereby learning the business of a viticulturist. Later he went to West Park.

About 1891, Mr. Iversen bought and leased lands, in partnership with J. C. Thompson, and for six years was engaged in the raising of grain, just west of Fresno. Unfortunately, however, the prices for the commodity were then very low, wheat selling at seventy-five cents a hundred, and barley at fifty cents; and only the last year did he make any money. Then he had a fair crop; and receiving \$1.40 a cental, he made a "good clean up."

One of the results of this turn in his tide of fortune was the purchase, in 1897, of his present place, then twenty acres of raw land, some four miles west of Fresno. Mr. Iversen was not the man to let such an investment lie in its crude and unprofitable state; so he set to work at once to make extensive improvements, setting out vines and orchards. He built a residence and barns, and improved his ranch; and soon he was raising the finest of apricots, together with equally superior muscat, Thompson and sultana grapes. Though he had a superior quality of products, prices for a time were so low that he could make no money. He has sold raisins as low as one cent a pound.

After a while, Mr. Iversen bought twenty acres on Belmont Avenue for \$800, which he improved as a vineyard, and three years later sold for \$6,400.

Then he bought forty acres on Kearney Avenue near Fresno, improved the same with vines, and sold it at an advance of \$4,500 over the purchase price. He next invested in forty acres on McKinley Avenue, for which he paid \$3,900; he improved the same by the planting of vines, and sold it after three years for \$12,000. At one time he owned 440 acres near Henrietta, but after holding this for several years, he sold it at a good advance. In all, he has improved 160 acres of vineyards, and he owns valuable real estate in Fresno. With his brother Andrew he owns eighty acres at Madera, set out to Thompson and Emperor grapes—a fine estate, handsomely improved; and he still owns 160 acres at Henrietta, which he bought for \$200 and which is now worth over \$5,000.

While in the Madison district, Mr. Iversen was married to Elisebeth Beck, a native of Slesvig, by whom he had four children. They are Sophia, Edna, Leland and Evelyn. The two oldest attend the Fresno High School. The children are all promising in their studies and show marked musical talent, being far advanced in the piano, their parents giving them every advantage within their means. Mrs. Iversen is the daughter of S. M. and Anna Beck, who brought their family to Fresno in 1892 and became viticulturists, improving a place on Church Avenue. Mr. Beck died in 1917, his widow surviving him, and she makes her home in Fresno. Of the seven children born to this worthy couple, Mrs. Iversen is the second oldest, coming to Fresno County when in her thirteenth year. She completed her education in the Fresno schools. Thus she has naturally seen the wonderful development of the county, she and her enterprising husband having done their share in its development, and she is very optimistic and sees a great future for the county.

Mr. and Mrs. Iversen are very patriotic and took an active part in the different war drives. She was an active member of the Danish Ladies' Auxiliary to the Fresno Chapter of the Red Cross, and both of them did all they could to aid in the successful prosecution of the war. For years Mr. Iversen has been a trustee in the Madison school district; he is an ex-president of the Danish Brotherhood as well as Dania; and is a member of the California Peach Growers, Inc., and the California Associated Raisin Company, and has been a supporter of all the fruit association movements. As adopted citizens of the American Republic, who have labored long for the growth and improvement of American institutions, Mr. and Mrs. Iversen are the kind of Californians of which the Golden State is always proud.

**WILLIAM H. VAN NESS.**—Of good old New England and York State stock, W. H. Van Ness has the further distinction of being the son of a California pioneer and of having been born in San Francisco, May 23, 1860, California's seaport metropolis and a city hallowed by memories of early romantic episodes.

Mr. Van Ness's father, Henry, was a native of New York city, and his mother, who in maidenhood was Mary Ann Elliott, was born in the old Bay State, at Pepperell, Mass. The father's love for adventure led him away from home, at the age of sixteen, to drive a boat on the Erie Canal. He afterwards chose a sea-faring life, and arrived in San Francisco in 1848, having sailed around Cape Horn. He tried his luck at mining for a time, then returned to San Francisco, and from 1849 until 1867 was a pilot on the Bay and coast. He was wrecked off Golden Gate on the Dancing Feather, and after swimming for a time was picked up. On April 6, 1867, while he was pilot on the Caleb Curtis, which was also wrecked off Golden Gate, he was drowned and his body was never recovered.

Mr. Van Ness's mother made her home in San Francisco and afterwards in Fresno County, later going to Madera, where she died August 21, 1908. Of her four children three are living. W. H. Van Ness, the youngest of the family, was seven years old when he was orphaned by his father's death. The

family then moved to Oakland where he was educated in the public schools and, later, in Stockton business college, in 1889. He worked on a ranch in Alameda County, later going to Point of Timber in Contra Costa County, where he and other members of the family bought a farm and lived on it six years. In 1885 he came to Fresno County, rented land near Round Mountain and engaged in grain-raising for two years. He then leased land in Madera County and raised grain for two more years, having as much as 730 acres in grain in a season. He afterwards moved to San Luis Obispo County and located a preemption near Creston. His mother and sister also homesteaded land west of Creston and proved up on it, and the family still owns the land. Mr. Van Ness, however, abandoned his place, and after three years spent in San Luis Obispo, returned to the San Joaquin Valley and engaged in grain-raising in Madera County on the Fresno County line. He then located a 160-acre homestead on Pine Ridge, which he improved and in due time proved up on it and sold it. He next bought forty acres in Wolters Colony, Fresno County, at the corner of Fresno Avenue and Clovis road, leveling and setting it to fig, peach, and apricot trees and vineyard. In the meantime he purchased forty acres on Belmont and Monroe Avenues, eight miles west of Fresno, in 1910, and with the aid of his sons leveled and checked it, sowed it to alfalfa, installed a six-inch pump and a sixteen-horsepower engine and engaged in dairying and raising Holstein cattle. This he sold, as well as the fruit ranch, and in October, 1918, bought 160 acres on Coalinga and California Avenues.

He was married in Fresno on April 6, 1890, to Miss Emma Frances Lewis, a native of Merced County, and daughter of David E. Lewis, an old settler and prominent stockman of the county. Of the ten children that were the result of this union H. Elmer is a farmer at Clovis, is married and has three children—W. Eugene, Wilbur Lewis, and Eleanor Frances; William H. entered the U. S. Army and was with the Ninety-first Division until his discharge on April 27, 1919; Albert F. served with the Sunset Division and was discharged May 10, 1919; Roy D. and Ray D., twins, entered the service in June and July, 1918, serving in the 159th and 160th Ambulance Corps, Roy returning in June, 1919, and Ray, in May, 1919, both from overseas duty; Vern F., Lila M., Cecil, Laurin M., and Lorena are at home.

A man of fine character, Mr. Van Ness is a great lover of books and has a large and well selected library. He has been a student for many years, and his extensive course of reading has given him an excellent knowledge of many subjects, making him an unusually interesting conversationalist. In politics he is a conservative Socialist in his views. He is a member of the California Peach Growers, Inc. Mr. Van Ness declares that he lives in the best section of California, the best State in the Union and the best country on earth.

**H. J. HANSEN.**—A successful viticulturist and a citizen of educational ideals, who warmly advocates the best possible educational advantages for children and youth, is H. J. Hansen, a native of Denmark who came to Central California in the middle eighties. He was born near Bons, Fyen, on July 21, 1870, and is a son of Iver Hansen, who owned his place and was in moderately comfortable circumstances. Preceded by two of his sons, J. P. and Nils C., Iver Hansen crossed the ocean with his wife Marie in 1884 and, making his way west to California, located with them in Fresno County, settling down in the Central Colony, where he engaged in viticulture. He owned several different places in succession, finally living at West Park, where he died. Nine children made up their family; and eight of these are still living. Nils, now deceased, came to California in 1882; Jens P. came to this state in 1880 and now resides near Melvin on a ranch of forty acres set out to wine grapes; H. J. is the subject of this sketch; Martin lives near Sanger; Carl is at West Park; Morton is deputy county assessor; Theodore lives at Sacramento; Thea is Mrs. Ostergard and lives on Whites Bridge road; and Marie is Mrs. L. J. Larsen, of Wolters Colony.

Having passed through the usual Danish public schools, H. J. Hansen came to Fresno when he was fourteen, and at once went to work assisting his father. He was early possessed of the ambition, however, to do for himself, and so in 1895 he bought an outfit and leased some grain land near Academy, where he engaged in grain-raising with his brother, J. P. Hansen. They had 800 acres, which they continued to till, with ups and downs, for five years. Their third year's crop was a total failure, but the average of the five years was reasonably good. Selling their outfit, in the fall of 1900 they dissolved partnership and Mr. Hansen bought his present place of twenty acres in the Wolters Colony. The land was rough when he took hold of it; but the soil was good and the location advantageous. With his own labor, early and late, he set out the vineyard and developed the property, on which a fine residence and other ranch buildings have been erected. There are four acres of peach orchard; and a fine acreage of wine-grapes, muscats and sultanas.

In Fresno Mr. Hansen was married to Miss Lowena Anderson, who first saw the light in Denmark; and by her he has had six children: Laura, Elsie, Louis, Walter, Martin and Carl. The family attend the Lutheran Church. Mr. Hansen is a Democrat in national politics, but by no means a partisan in local affairs. He has been a trustee of the Wolters school district for the past six years, and had much to do with the building of the well-lighted and well-ventilated school house, designed in the Mission style of architecture by Ernest J. Kump, and erected at a cost of nearly \$13,000. Mr. Hansen has long been a member of both the California Associated Raisin Company and the California Peach Growers, Inc. He used to be active in both the Dania and the Odd Fellows.

**ROBERT MCCOURT.**—Nothing, perhaps, has done more to place California in the foreground among progressive American States than the rapid, scientific development of her educational institutions, credit for which belongs to such far-seeing and broad minded educators as Robert McCourt, who has the remarkable record of more than twenty-three years as principal of the Columbia and Lincoln schools of Fresno, without the loss of a single day. As a matter of fact, many of the business and professional men of the Valley look to him with pride and gratitude as having given them the first inspiration to study and work, instilling in them the necessity of early choosing their career, and then encouraging them to strive to higher and greater things. Today he enjoys an enviable popularity, the highest and truest testimonial of the worth of his own life and work.

A native of Canada, Mr. McCourt was born in Ontario, on March 19, 1856, the son of James and Sarah (McGee) McCourt, who emigrated from Glasgow, Scotland, to Ontario where they passed the remainder of their lives. Robert received his early training in the common schools, and later he attended the advanced grammar school at Donegal, at which he prepared for teaching.

In April of the eventful Centennial Year of 1876, he came to California and located in Sacramento County, where he taught school for three years, and then he removed to Humboldt County, to which he was called to teach at Table Bluff and Fairhaven for a year and a half. Returning to Sacramento County, he taught for three years more, and following that he presided over a school for a like period in San Joaquin County.

In 1889, Mr. McCourt began his professional work at Fresno, a work that has proven of the greatest advantage to the thousands of pupils who have come under his care. His first seven years here were spent in teaching in the grammar schools, and then he became principal of the Columbia School and served there for a period of seven years, or until he was elected principal of the Lincoln School, of which he has been head for the past sixteen years. So well, too, has he performed the many and onerous duties of that position, that





*Robert McCourt*



he is now supervising principal, as well; and as both teacher and supervising principal, he has accomplished much towards bringing the schools of Fresno to their present high standing. Some of these desirable results have been possible because, having had the ambition to specialize in various branches, Mr. McCourt took courses in agriculture, manual training and drawing, through which he eventually graduated from the Fresno State Normal. Now he is a member of the Schoolmasters' Club of Fresno County, and is treasurer of the local University Extension course. He has also served most capably on the County Board of Education for ten years, two years of which time he was chairman. On the organization of the Fresno Chapter Junior Red Cross, Mr. McCourt was appointed as treasurer, in September, 1917, a position he filled ably, although it required much time and arduous work, until he was finally relieved in September, 1918, three months after he had sent in his resignation.

Near Lodi, San Joaquin County, on January 24, 1884, Mr. McCourt was married to Miss Martha J. Woodson, a native daughter, who was born near Lodi, and whose parents were B. A. and Mary A. (Bounds) Woodson, who migrated from Missouri, crossing the plains to California in 1852 by means of ox teams and wagons. The father followed mining, then teaming and lastly farming near Lodi, during which time three children were born to him and his good wife. Mr. and Mrs. McCourt, also, have three children: Irma May is the wife of C. L. Crow, roadmaster of the Napa division of the Southern Pacific Railroad, with headquarters in Vallejo. The second in order of birth is Chester Elwood, who managed a clothing store in Porterville until he enlisted in the United States Army; when he was honorably discharged, on May 30, 1919, he was stationed at Baltimore, Md., where he was a member of Company A, Repair Unit 311, M. T. C., with the rank of sergeant, and since his return he has resumed his former position, and has also become a member of the firm of Lamkin, McCourt & Co., with his brother, Hugh Harold, as a partner. The latter also enlisted for the War but was not called out; and now he is managing the clothing store in Tulare owned by this company. The McCourts are members of the Presbyterian Church. Mr. McCourt is also a member of Fresno Lodge, No. 186, I. O. O. F., of which he is past grand, and belongs to the Encampment, and with his wife is a member of the Rebekahs. Mr. McCourt has also been a prominent member of the Independent Order of Foresters, and has served two terms as Chief Ranger.

Mr. McCourt has shown his confidence in the future of the San Joaquin Valley by investing his savings in a quarter section of land near Lemoore; and in many ways he has loyally supported movements for the upbuilding of both the county and the state.

**ARCHIBALD W. CLARK.**—A successful rancher and dairyman who is enjoying prosperity as the reward of industry and right principles, is Archibald W. Clark, popularly known as "Archie," who comes of a good old Pennsylvania family, and who moved from South Dakota to California, and now owns and operates 110 acres of well improved land two one-half miles southwest of Riverdale. A self-made man, he came to the Dakotas when young, homesteaded and married in Day County, S. D., and rented Governor Sheldon's ranch for several years. A wealthy brother, Samuel, is living at Webster in that state, and there he helped to build the Mill Elevator Store, the creamery and other live establishments. Archibald W. became interested in Day County politics, and stood high in the councils of the Republican party. He brought with him, as the reward of his work, hardships and privations in South Dakota, a neat sum when he came to California, and now he is more than ever on "Easy Street."

A. W. Clark was born at Wilkesbarre, Pa., on January 25, 1870, and grew up in Pennsylvania until he was eighteen. His father, John M. Clark, was a Pennsylvanian farmer and an old Union soldier with stirring memories of

the Civil War, and he died at Harvey's Lake, Pa., on March 28, 1918, aged eighty years and six days. Mr. and Mrs. Clark went home to visit him and attend the birthday party on March 22, 1918—Archibald Clark not having seen his old home for thirty years—and then the old gentleman seemed hale and hearty, but he died in a few days, sitting in his chair. John Clark's wife had preceded him to the grave the year before. Her maiden name was Sarah Rhone, and her parents visited Fresno County ten years ago. They had thirteen children, nine of whom grew up. Five of these are now living, one of the sons, George Clark, owning a forty-acre dairy ranch lying immediately south of the subject's, in Kings County.

Mr. Clark attended the public schools, and when nearly through with his teens, went to Webster, S. D., then Dakota Territory, arriving at his destination on February 10, 1888. He threw himself into the Dakota game, and lived through all the blizzards, droughts and panics. He helped to build the first flour mill at Webster, a cooperative venture, in which he lost heavily. Next he homesteaded at Lily, in Day County, securing 160 acres and proving up.

After that Mr. Clark went to Pierpont, S. D., and there married Miss Mary Lawrence, who was born in Michigan, came to South Dakota a girl, and farmed at Pierpont when the subject was renting the Sheldon ranch of 640 acres. After marrying, he ran the ranch for four years, then sold out and came to Visalia, Cal., where he lived for a season and then moved up to the Laguna de Tache Grant, in Fresno County. This was in 1903, and he bought 120 acres and improved the same, erecting a house, in which he now lives, and a barn. He sold forty acres and bought another thirty, and now he has seventy acres of alfalfa, raises hogs and runs a dairy. All in all, he may well be numbered among the prosperous agriculturists of California. Mr. and Mrs. Clark have six children: Hazel was born in Day County, S. D., as were Beulah, and Ruth who married Roy Blackwell, a rancher now residing near Riverdale; and Florence, Lawrence, and Ethel were born in California.

Mr. Clark belongs to the Odd Fellows, and in politics is a Republican. He has not been active in politics in Fresno County, but, as has been said, while in South Dakota he took an active part in the politics of Day County and numbered among his personal friends such political leaders as Judge McCoy, who later became the Circuit Judge of the Fifth Judicial Circuit of the State of South Dakota; Judge Lund, who became County Judge of Day County, the late Frank Sears, prominent attorney; and Dave Williams, then the Republican boss of Day County, now the millionaire lumberman and banker of West Superior, Wis.

**WILLIAM C. HAGEN.**—A well-to-do and highly-respected rancher who, after many years of toil and varying prosperity, enjoys the fruits of a well-spent life, is William C. Hagen, the proud father of two sons who have loyally served in the World War, and two daughters, one a nurse, the other already beginning to attain distinction as a pianist. He owns a ranch of fifteen acres four miles northeast of Fowler, at the corner of Washington Avenue and the Giffen road, and there he lives with his second wife, in a happy household glad to do its own work.

Born in Pomerania, Prussia, November 9, 1852, the son of Carl Hagen, who had married Minnie Hopp, William C. was the oldest boy and the second in the order of birth of a family of nine children. His father was a stone-cutter, who made curbs and the paving for highways. He attended the public schools of his Fatherland, and was brought up in the Lutheran Church.

When only sixteen years of age, he bade good-bye to his parents and relatives and sailed from Bremerhafen on the old sailing ship, "George and John;" and after forty-seven days on the ocean, he landed at Castle Garden in New York, July 5, 1868, and almost at once proceeded westward to Chicago, where he had relations. For a while he stopped with his uncle, John Hopp, a tailor

on North Clark Street, in that city, and very gladly worked at anything he could find to do.

After he learned the English language, he became a brakeman on the Michigan Central and later, he "broke" on various roads until he went to Oregon in 1882, where he settled down as a farm laborer in Umatilla County. Two years of residence in Oregon, however, quite sufficed for him, and in 1884 he came to Fresno County, where he began to work by the month.

Here in 1891 Mr. Hagen was married to Miss Nettie Halburg, a native of Norway. Mrs. Hagen died in 1898, the mother of three children. Ernest served as a marine in the World War; Chester is in the artillery in France; and Martha served as a trained nurse in the Letterman Hospital in San Francisco.

Mr. Hagen's second marriage occurred in 1900, when he chose Miss Sophie Carson as his bride; she also was born in Germany, and they have one child, Minnie, the talented musician.

After his first marriage, Mr. Hagen worked out by the month; then for eleven years he rented land in the Oleander district. In 1898 he came to his present holding, where his house now stands, and bought fifteen acres of unimproved land, which he soon set out to vines and planted to alfalfa. By a subsequent purchase, he bought twenty acres more, and still later he added another twenty acres, until he had fifty-five acres, all in bearing trees and vines. For a man who had only sixty dollars to his name when he was married, this is a most creditable showing. When his sons enlisted in the regular army, Mr. Hagen found that he was endeavoring to manage more than he could well attend to, and he sold all but fifteen acres.

Besides vigorously supporting the cooperative programs of such associations as those for bettering the interests of the raisin and the peach growers, and thereby helping to advance the state of husbandry in California, Mr. Hagen has done his duty as a citizen, serving on juries and otherwise performing what he was called upon to do for the benefit of the community at large. Since 1895 he has been a member of Court Fowler No. 767, Independent Order of Foresters. He is a naturalized American citizen, and in political matters very properly holds himself an Independent.

**JAMES R. CLARK.**—A hard-working, progressive, patriotic and eminently successful rancher, whose modest holdings in land do not begin to represent the sum total of his achievements, is James R. Clark, justly respected and even popular among his fellow-citizens who know the extent to which he has been living and doing for others, and who are glad to call themselves his friends. He lives and labors three and a half miles southwest of Kingsburg, but follows with keen interest every stage of the development of Fresno County as a whole.

He was born in Massac County, Ill., October 29, 1851, the son of Wesley and Levina (Bailey) Clark, natives of Kentucky and East Tennessee, respectively, who were married in Illinois. When the lad was only two years of age, his father died, and before he had attained his seventeenth year, his good mother passed away. They had two children: James, the subject of this sketch, and William Wesley, who was born in 1853 and now lives at Selma, where he has made an enviable reputation as a machinist and engineer, with a specialty in well-boring. James was reared in Southern Illinois, where he had but limited educational opportunities, and was early compelled to apply himself to such hard work as the clearing of land. He lived close to the mouth of the Tennessee River, however, and so caught something of permanent value in his knowledge of life and the world from the river scenes daily before his eyes.

In 1881, and while still in Illinois, Mr. Clark was married to Miss Penola Moorehead, the daughter of Henry Moorehead, a native of Kentucky. He had married Jane Ann Metcalf, also of the Blue Grass State, and had come to be highly esteemed, with his lady, for personal qualities, the inheritance

of which has undoubtedly contributed happily to Mrs. Clark's known strength and amiability of character.

In 1886, Mr. Clark came to California with his wife and two children, and settled one and a half miles southwest of Selma, where he has improved and sold two ranches, and for ten years was on the west side in the bee business. In this field he led the way, and he still has seventy-five stands of bees. In 1908 he came to take possession of his present place, and now he is both a member and a stockholder in the California Peach Growers Association and in the Kingsburg Packing House.

Mr. and Mrs. Clark have had six children, four of whom are still spared to them, the others having died young. Artemas, a well-borer and land owner, resides at home, unmarried; W. H. married Josie Thornburg, and has one child, Ella Ellen. He is a rancher in the Eschol school district; James Robert, Jr. served in France, enlisting with the Twenty-sixth Engineers; he was trained at Camp Dix, in New Jersey, being transferred to the One Hundred and Fifty-third Depot Brigade, from which he was honorably discharged November 30, 1918; he has been married and has one child, Iva R., who lives with his grandpa and grandma; Viola, married Thomas R. Brown and resides on the Kettleman plains, twenty miles south of Coalinga, where he is homesteading. They have no children.

Mr. and Mrs. Clark have set an excellent example as citizens in first providing for their near of kin and for themselves, and then reaching out and doing what they could for others. They have shown, for years, the right kind of public spirit; and they and their family are always ready to cooperate in movements for the benefit of society, the raising of political standards, and the improvement of the neighborhood.

**FRITZ WEHRMANN.**—An American with an interesting and enviable record as a citizen who did his duty as a soldier, and a man who was a good husband and father, was Fritz Wehrmann, who died on February 26, 1908. He was born at Bromberg, Germany, on October 19, 1857, the son of Michael Wehrmann, who died when the lad was only sixteen years of age. Soon after, having remained just long enough in the Fatherland to profit by the best side of German life, Fritz came to America and to Chicago, and identified himself with the younger and freer Republic at such an age that he was able to imbibe fully the true spirit of Americanism. Growing up here, he twice volunteered for service in the American army, the two enlistments covering ten years. He first joined Captain Keller's Company G., Second Regiment Infantry, U. S. Army, being mustered in on January 19, 1871, and mustered out on January 18, 1876; and then he reenlisted at Columbus, Ohio, on February 1, 1876, when he joined Company H, Twenty-first Regular Infantry, of which he became first sergeant, and from which he was mustered out at Fort Canby, Washington Territory, on January 31, 1881.

Having thus done well by the country of his adoption, Mr. Wehrmann turned his gaze westward toward the broad Pacific and, coming to California, located in Fresno County. He went to work as a vineyardist in the Temperance Colony, and was there for many years as one of the most efficient and faithful of hands. Being observant by nature, and diligent by habit, he learned viticulture thoroughly.

While in Chicago, Mr. Wehrmann had met Miss Louisa Pettelkau, and on November 16, 1890, they were married in the Temperance Colony. She also was born near Bromberg, in the province of Posen, and was the daughter of Carl Pettelkau, a merchant tailor of that region; while her mother was Juliana Zoch before her marriage, a native of that section. Both parents of Mrs. Wehrmann died where they were reared, leaving three children. One of these is a brother, Gustav, who was a resident of Chicago until his death, December 18, 1918. Mrs. Wehrmann, the youngest, spent some years in Texas, when she first came to America, and then went to Chicago.







*G. H. Weitz*

After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Wehrmann bought twenty acres in Kutner Colony, situated one mile north north-west of the present place, and began to improve it and to set it out as a vineyard, with muscat and malaga grapes; and there they built a good residence. Twelve years later they acquired the ten acres that have become the home place, now much improved with vines and peach trees, and also a nice residence and other needed buildings. The old place has been retained, and is set out as a vineyard and planted to alfalfa.

Six children, five of whom have grown up, were born to this worthy couple. Ernest assists his mother in the management of the estate. He served in the United States Army, Company B, Seventy-fifth U. S. Infantry, Thirteenth Division, until he received his honorable discharge. Lena has become Mrs. Warner, and resides in Fresno. Helka, now Mrs. Fuchs, has her home adjoining the old home. Clara and Edna are at home. Mr. and Mrs. Wehrmann were identified with the German Lutheran Church from its organization, and Mrs. Wehrmann still belongs to the congregation, which is one of the live spiritual bodies in Fresno. She feels a keen interest in all civic affairs and in movements calculated to improve the community, and is active in national politics, working usually under the banners of the Republican party.

**GEORGE H. WEITZ.**—A conspicuous example of what an energetic man can accomplish in carrying to successful completion projects that he has full faith and confidence in, is found in George H. Weitz, pioneer and founder of the Empire and Vinland Colonies and prominent in the general development of Fresno County.

Mr. Weitz is a native of the Buckeye State, and was born at Edgerton, Williams County, Ohio, April 17, 1853, and is of German parentage on the paternal side. His father, Adam, who was a native of Hessen-Darmstadt, Germany, came to the United States at the age of twenty-eight and settled in Ohio, where he was united in marriage with Miss Elizabeth Yeager, a native Pennsylvanian. The parents were farmers and lived the remainder of their lives in Ohio. Of their eleven children ten grew to maturity, and two of their sons served in the Civil War, and nine are still alive.

George H., next to the youngest of the family, was reared on the farm and educated in the public schools of his native state. A liberal education in those days was not as easily secured as it is today, and therefore Mr. Weitz supplemented his schooling by self-study and observation, thus acquiring a fund of knowledge and becoming exceptionally well informed. He remained on the home farm until he attained his majority, then went to Galesburg, Knox County, Ill., where he remained two years. At the end of that time he migrated west, going to Elk Creek, Johnson County, Nebr., where he engaged in the mercantile business. In 1882 he removed to Orange, Cal., then a part of Los Angeles County, but since the creation of Orange County a part of the latter county. Here Mr. Weitz became manager of the flouring mills known as the Olive Mills, and was employed in this capacity until 1891, when he located at Dos Palos, Merced County, and established a general merchandise business that he conducted for two years. In 1893 he located on his present ranch, which consisted at that time of twenty acres, where the Empire Colony was first laid out, being the first settler in the Colony. He was colonization agent for the California Bank Lands of the Bank of California at San Francisco, his jurisdiction extending over an area of 32,000 acres. He attended to leasing the lands for grain-raising, dividing it into convenient and suitable ranches for the purpose. He had charge of and laid out Empire Colony, which embraced three sections, and also was in charge of laying out Vinland Colony, which also comprised three sections, and the Barstow Colony, which was sold in large tracts. The land was rich and level and has been improved, and is now covered with valuable orchards, vineyards and alfalfa

farms. While agent for the bank he was also superintendent of the ranch and of the water system, which he aided in perfecting. He planned the subdivisions, sold the land and collected for the company. During these years he also experimented in raising hemp, sugar beets, alfalfa and in orchard and vineyard varieties of fruit. He demonstrated that Thompson Seedless vines are the most profitable for vineyard culture and that peaches and apricots do well also. He disposed of 7,000 acres while agent for the lands, the remainder being sold to the Fresno Irrigated Farms Company. He remained with this last company for one year, then resigned his position, having been agent for the lands for a period of fifteen years, from 1893 until 1908. In the meantime he had improved his ranch in the Empire Colony, setting out an orchard and vineyard, and planting alfalfa. He was also engaged in raising stock. He added to his acreage by the purchase of more land and has now sixty acres in a body, all well improved, ten acres of which are set to olives and the remainder planted to Thompson's Seedless vines.

He was married at Olive, near Orange, Cal., to Miss Mary R. Dillin, a native of Iowa and daughter of Capt. Thomas Dillin, who was captain of an Iowa regiment in the Civil War, and a miller by trade. Captain Dillin disposed of his flour mills in Iowa and located at Orange, Cal. He built the Olive mills, where he manufactured flour until he disposed of his interest in them and located in Los Angeles, where he spent the closing years of his life. Mr. and Mrs. Weitz became the parents of two children: Mabel Edna, who is now Mrs. C. C. Johnson of Glendale, Cal.; and Fern Eva, deceased.

Mr. Weitz built an artistic bungalow on his ranch in 1917, elegant in its appointments, designed by himself. He was one of the organizers of Empire School District and served as trustee of the school for thirteen years. He was also instrumental in organizing the Vinland School District. In politics he is a Republican, is prominent in the party and has been active in County and State conventions. He is a Life Member of the Modern Woodmen of America. Mr. Weitz is a large man of fine physique and has a strong personality. He is highly respected and well liked by all. An enthusiastic booster for Fresno County, he is convinced that its soil and climate are among the best in California for horticulture and viticulture.

**E. M. NORD.**—A highly successful son of a well-known pioneer and himself a very influential pioneer Californian who is particularly active in the councils of the California Raisin Growers Association, having been one of the leaders in its organization, is E. M. Nord, the oldest living son of J. P. Nord. He was born in Sweden, September 19, 1884, and left there at such a tender age—when he was only three and a half years old—that he has but little, if any recollection of the country. It was then that he sailed from Norköping with his mother and two brothers in 1888 to join their father, who had preceded them to America; and they found him at Fresno, where he had been temporarily established for a year. In 1889 they came to the Kingsburg Colony, and with this part of California they have been identified ever since. J. P. Nord still lives on the twenty acres he then acquired, and he is hale and hearty in his sixty-second year. Mrs. Nord, who was Susanna Charlotte Timan and also a native of Sweden where she was born in 1862, died here in her fiftieth year.

Four children blessed this happy marriage. Edward M., the subject of this sketch; Ivar J., died August 3, 1917, lamented by many to whom he recalled some of the finest traits of his mother; he had reached his thirty-first year, and had never married. Fritz H. E. Nord resides on his own ranch near the Clay School House; and Alfred, the youngest, who died in babyhood.

Coming here so early, Edward Nord has seen the wonderful developments of this county from the time it was in wheat stubble; and having been very intimate with the late Judge F. D. Rosendahl, whose life story we give elsewhere, he came to have a very active part, too, in helping to develop the

country. As a lad he attended the Harrison district school, and then he took a business course at Heald's & Jones Business College at Stockton. He began farming at twenty years of age, operating for himself; and later he rented land.

Mr. Nord has planted and improved several orchards, and his vineyard of twenty acres presents the finest Muscats for miles around in the San Joaquin Valley. He built a dryer in 1916, and it proved to be the first erected in the Kingsburg Colony. It marks the man as a person of unusual enterprise, for he has introduced an improvement that is sure to be generally adopted. He is a prime mover in the California Associated Raisin Company, and is its regularly appointed correspondent for his home district, as he is its local solicitor. He has signed up every acre in his home district comprising a territory of 960 acres, or one and a half sections. Not only is he a stockholder in the Raisin Company, but he is a member of the California Peach Growers Association and also of the California Prune Growers Association. He was the president of the Farmers Union at Harrison School House, which was the forerunner of the Raisin Association, and occupied that complimentary and responsible position for three years.

In 1912 Mr. Nord was married to Miss Sophia Bengston, of Kingsburg; and their happy union has been blessed with two children—Howard R. and Adeline C. Both Mr. and Mrs. Nord take a very active interest in welfare work in the vicinity and are always to be counted upon to encourage and assist in those movements necessary and desirable, but generally begging for willing workers.

Besides the twenty acres of prime muscats above referred to, Mr. Nord owns another tract of ten acres, a snug little ranch in itself, and in addition he rents his father's ranch of twenty acres and another ten acres belonging to a neighbor; a total of sixty acres, requiring, as may be imagined, some very careful and persistent oversight. He attends to the various transactions, however, personally, keeping one hired man steadily and adding to his force whenever such a demand may be necessary.

Although a steadfast Republican, Mr. Nord supports President Wilson and the administration in its great crisis, and has bought Liberty Bonds and otherwise demonstrated his practical patriotism to the full extent of his ability.

**ALEXANDER HAMILTON BARRINGER.**—It is interesting to meet and greet a Fresno County pioneer, a man who in his younger days entered the wilderness and helped to reclaim the desert lands and experienced the hardships incident to the life of a frontiersman, and one who has witnessed the wonderful transformation in the county, and rejoices in its present high state of development and is proud of the fact that he aided in this development—such a man is Alexander H. Barringer, the successful rancher residing six miles northeast of Sanger.

Mr. Barringer is a Southerner by birth, a native of Marshall County, Miss., where he was born near Holly Springs on September 28, 1855. His parents were W. F. and Nancy A. Davis Barringer, natives of North Carolina and Tennessee, respectively, who had two children: Martha J. and Alexander H., the subject of this review and the only one of the family now living. The father, W. F. Barringer, served in the Civil War in the Confederate Army, and fought bravely for those principles which he conscientiously thought were right. He enlisted at Fort Sam Houston and was a member of the Company under Kirby Smith, and after four years of valiant service he returned to his peaceful vocation, "a whole man," as his son described him. After the death of his wife, which occurred in 1866, W. F. Barringer, with his two children, returned to the old home in Mississippi where he resided until the fall of 1871, when he brought them to California where he arrived November 7, 1871; he preempted 160 acres of land in Round Mountain district, Fresno County, which is now the property of Alexander H. Barringer. For a number of years after his settling in California, W. F. Barringer fol-

lowed stock-raising, but after the discovery that his land would grow grain abundantly he engaged in raising hay and grain till he retired; he died here in 1907, at the age of seventy-five years.

Alexander H. went to school in Texas, then in Mississippi, till he was sixteen years old. Then he came to Fresno County. Here he went to work to assist his father, so school was omitted from that time on. He remained home and when his father retired he took entire charge of the ranch and in time came to own the place. For years prior to the death of his father, Alexander had active charge of the affairs of the place and was engaged in raising stock, grain and hay. He became interested in fruit-raising, setting out the first vineyard and first orange orchard in the district. He now has a nicely improved place. The ranch is irrigated from the Enterprise Canal, having one of the first water rights.

At the bride's home January 1, 1884, Alexander H. Barringer was united in marriage with Miss Amanda H. Elliott, a daughter of Joseph S. and Jane B. (O'Connell) Elliott, pioneers of California, who came from Massachusetts and Maine respectively. Mrs. Barringer was born in Napa and came to Fresno when she was three and a half years of age, receiving her education in the Round Mountain district.

Mr. and Mrs. Alexander H. Barringer were blessed with two children: William W., who in 1905 married Edna F. Hazelton, a daughter of Henry Hazelton, and to them were born three children, Allen H., Leta A. and Winifred W.; the other child is Anna Josephine, who is now the wife of L. H. Williams, on the Barringer ranch, and they have two children, Mildred Maxine and Donald Hugh.

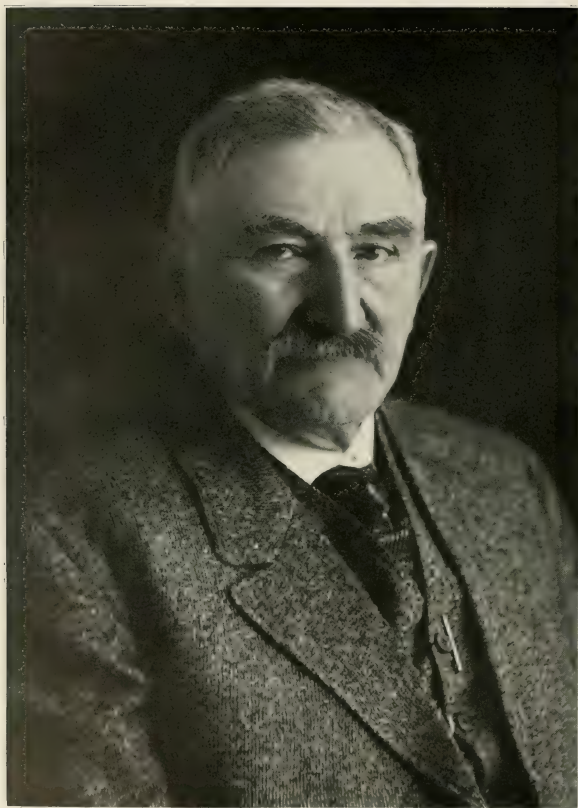
At the age of twenty-one, Mr. Barringer became a member of the school board of Round Mountain district, and served in that capacity for over twenty years, part of the time as clerk. School was started in an old shack, then a thousand-dollar building was built by assessment, and still later, in 1906, the new school building was erected. The Barringers are now among the oldest settlers in the district. Mr. Barringer remembers when the county seat was moved from Fullerton to Fresno, in 1874. He took an active part in supporting the different raisin associations, and is now a member and stockholder in the California Associated Raisin Company.

**REDDICK NEWTON CARTWRIGHT.**—The Cartwright family originated in England. They were all wagonmakers, wheelwrights and mechanics, and because of their mechanical genius and their occupation they received the name Cartwright. A genealogy of the family has recently been compiled and is being published by State Senator G. W. Cartwright, of Los Angeles, a brother of R. N.

The father, John Cartwright, born in Coles County, Ill., was a blacksmith and wagonmaker, and ran a small farm in his native county, but in May, 1858, moved to Boone, Boone County, Iowa, where the son, R. N., was born October 22, 1858. John Cartwright was the son of Reddick Cartwright, who was a second cousin of Rev. Peter Cartwright, one of the pioneers and "circuit riders" of Central Illinois. There are four brothers and two sisters in the family of John Cartwright: J. E.; R. N.; G. W.; J. M., who is the manufacturer of the celebrated Cartwright Pruning Shears; Mrs. F. M. Cook, of Orosi; and Mrs. Mamie Roach, of Malaga.

The story of the Cartwright Pruning Shears is an interesting one and indicates the mechanical genius that has made the name famous on two continents. It was about twenty-five years ago when the orchard and vineyard development began in Fresno County. The growth of the trees and the vines soon showed the need of pruning, and the only tools with which this could be done were heavy and unwieldy, weighing five or six pounds. One day the father called to his son, who was known as Newt, "Newt, let us make a pruning shear that will work." And they did. After talking the matter over, they





In Seoy



together selected pieces of steel and, as they were both blacksmiths, they made their first pair of shears in their shop on the old John Cartwright home farm, two miles west of Malaga. They tested it and found it did the work neatly and easily. They pruned their own trees and vines, and then the neighbors found it out and borrowed the tool. It was a practical success, and as a result a great demand sprang up in the neighborhood for the shears, and the Cartwrights were kept busy making shears. Such a necessary tool could not long be hidden, and the business grew to large proportions. R. N. Cartwright helped build up the business, but sold out his interest to his brother, J. M. Cartwright, several years ago.

R. N. Cartwright owned a fine ranch of twenty acres adjoining the old home place, on which he lived for thirty years and which he improved from a weed patch to one of the most valuable tracts of land in that section. He sold it in April, 1919, and then bought twenty acres in the Nees Colony School District, which he has planted to fig trees and intends to develop it into a home ranch. Mr. Cartwright was married in May, 1890, to Emma N. Hyden, daughter of Rev. John Calvin Hyden, a Methodist preacher for many years and who died at the home of his son-in-law about 1907, aged eighty-two years. Mrs. Cartwright was born in Virginia. Mr. and Mrs. Cartwright have two children: Mary, Mrs. W. F. Tommer, the mother of two children, Marie and Newton William; and Lucille, a graduate from the Fresno State Normal and a teacher in the schools of Fresno County.

Mr. Cartwright has seen the county grow from grain fields to fine productive orchards and vineyards. He helped organize the Malaga School District and served as a trustee for several years. He also, helped to build the roads in the early days, as well as the bridges over the canals and creeks, the county furnishing the lumber for same and the ranchers doing the work. He was a booster for the various associations of the ranchers, in order to establish a market for their raisins. He is a Democrat in national politics. Since he sold the old ranch he is making his home in Clovis until the new ranch is made suitable as a home place.

**M. LEVY.**—A capable, farsighted and successful man, interested in numerous business enterprises, a pioneer of California, and a well and favorably known citizen of Coalinga, is M. Levy, the subject of this review. Although born in Alsace, France, June 3, 1837, over eighty-two years ago, only fifteen years of his long and eventful life were spent in his native land. He arrived in New Orleans, La., in 1852, having crossed the Atlantic Ocean in a sailing vessel from Havre, France, being sixty-nine days en route. After his arrival in the United States he went to Port Gibson, Miss., and was engaged in the mercantile business until the outbreak of the Civil War.

In 1861, Mr. Levy enlisted in the Sixteenth Mississippi Regiment, Infantry, and was in several noted battles, including the Second Battle of Bull Run, Fredericksburg, Winchester, Antietam, and through the Shenandoah Valley. During the battle of Antietam nearly all of his regiment were killed, only thirty-three men surviving, out of more than one thousand who entered this fearful combat. After this battle the regiment was disbanded and Mr. Levy was placed on guard duty at Germania Ford, on the Rappahannock River, and here he was captured and taken to Washington and later to Philadelphia where he was paroled.

In 1863, Mr. Levy started for the Golden State, coming to California via the Isthmus of Panama, and arriving in San Francisco in June, 1863. He made a trip to Oregon but soon returned to California, and lived at what is called Old Sonoma, where he became acquainted with General Vallejo, a notable man in the early days of the commonwealth of California. Mr. Levy engaged in the butcher business at Sonoma, continuing until 1880, when he moved to Fairfield, Solano County, where he ran a shop for four years, after which for a short time he returned to Sonoma. His next move was to Tulare

and afterwards to Lemoore, later on going to Visalia, where he engaged in the butcher business.

In April, 1900, Mr. Levy located in Laton, Fresno County, where he started the first butcher shop, at the time of the opening of the Rancho Laguna de Tache, to settlers. The business was conducted under the firm name of M. Levy & Company. In 1905 the company purchased the Crescent Market at Coalinga, from the Kreyenhagen Bros., and they have built up a large business and have the confidence of a growing patronage. They incorporated as the Crescent Meat Company, with M. Levy as president; Albert Levy, director and manager; and J. H. Zwang, vice-president. In addition to the Crescent Market this firm owns and operates the Coalinga Market.

Messrs. Levy, Levy and Zwang are extensive sheep operators, raising, buying and selling on a large scale and for this purpose they have a ranch in Warthan Canyon. M. Levy is also interested in and is a director of the Hayes Cattle Company, Albert Levy being the president, and Jacob Zwang secretary. This company ranges cattle on their ranch at Kirkland, Yavapai County, Ariz.

Mr. Levy was united in marriage at Portland, Ore., with Miss Gida Zwang, and they have had seven children, five living: Rose, who is now Mrs. Ellis of Coalinga; Carrie, is Mrs. Sweet of Dinuba; Felix, who is engaged in the cattle business in Stockton; Albert, a city trustee of Coalinga and a partner in the Crescent Market; Blanche, now Mrs. H. C. Williams, residing at Coalinga. Mrs. Levy passed away in 1903, at Laton.

Fraternally, Mr. Levy is a member of Coalinga Lodge, No. 187, I. O. O. F., of which he is a Past Grand; he is a pioneer Odd Fellow, having joined the order fifty-six years ago at Philadelphia, where he was a member of American Lodge, No. 25. He was a charter member of Laton Lodge, No. 148, I. O. O. F., and is a member of Hanford Encampment and the Coalinga Rebekah Degree Lodge, and is highly esteemed as a valuable citizen in his community.

**WILLIAM O. BENADOM.**—A pleasing life-history, and one wherein justice seems to have been meted out by the Fates, is that of William O. Benadom, one of the oldest settlers here and a veteran in a prolonged struggle with pioneer conditions, but who now owns a splendid vineyard in Fresno County, and who has in his talented wife a helpmate and companion who is esteemed by all who know her. Mr. Benadom was born in Brownsville, Johnson County, Nebr., in 1863, the grandson of William Benadom, a native of Ohio, who came as a pioneer to Iowa and with his family settled there. One of his sons, Frank, was the father of our subject and was born near Columbus, Ohio, coming out to Iowa; he grew to manhood and there married and then he migrated to Nebraska. Near Brownsville he became a well-known farmer and stockman, and later he located a homestead of 160 acres which, with characteristic enterprise, he improved.

Frank Benadom had an uncle, Joshua, in California, and in 1874 he followed him to Waterford, Stanislaus County, where he worked a year and then brought his family to California. He rented the Dallas farm on the Tuolumne River and ran it for two years, and then he moved to Merced County, where he leased, from Miller & Lux, the Canal Ranch which, for seven years, he farmed to grain and stock. Passing the winter at Kingston, he next went to Hanford in which place he conducted the hotel until May; and then, with wife and children, he resumed ranch life at Lemoore until fall. In 1883 he located at the foot of Mount Campbell, Fresno County, where he farmed seventy-six acres under the ditch, and there he and his son William divided their interests. The father rented land for many years and finally bought some ranch acreage; but his good wife dying, he disposed of his land and thereafter resided with his children until, in April, 1916, he died, nearly eighty years of age.

It was while he was in Iowa that Frank Benadom married Eliza Moyer, a native of Ohio and the daughter of William Moyer of that state, who had brought his family to the Hawkeye State; and a better wife the sturdy rancher could not have found. When she died, near Mount Campbell, she was the mother of eight children, five of whom are now dead: Martha, who died at three years of age, in Nebraska; Albert died in Stanislaus County; Henry passed away at Hanford; and Lovina, who became Mrs. McDonald, died at Reedley; Mary is Mrs. Hines, of Richmond; Jane became Mrs. Minkler, and resided at Minkler until her death, June 9, 1918; J. A. Benadom lives at Dunlap, Fresno County; and William Otterbine, the second oldest child; the subject of sketch.

Brought up on the prairie of Nebraska, William O. attended the public schools and, in 1875, when his father had secured a foothold in the Golden State, came to California, where he continued his schooling in Stanislaus and Merced Counties. From a lad he had driven teams in the grain fields; and as he grew up he had a chance to enlarge his experience, even taking part in the management of as many as forty-four head of horses on a single giant harvester. He assisted his father in different places, and profited by his foresight and enterprise.

On October 13, 1882, at Merced, Mr. Benadom was married to Miss Della Whealan, a native of Tiffin, Ohio, and the daughter of William Whealan, an Ohio farmer whose wife, B. King before her marriage, also an Ohioan, died there in 1863, leaving an only child. In November, 1863, the father came to California, and having settled down as a farmer in Napa County, married again, this time choosing for his bride Cynthia Holtermann, also an Ohioan. He moved to Merced where he was joined by his daughter Della, who came in 1876; and near Merced he farmed to grain until he retired to live in that town. And there he died on December 1, 1915. Having attended the public school in Ohio, Mrs. Benadom in the Centennial year came to visit an aunt, Miss Anna King of Vallejo, and for two years attended St. Vincent's Academy, finishing her schooling in Merced. Then, for a year, or until she was married, she taught San Luis School, in Merced County.

In 1883, Mr. and Mrs. Benadom began farming in the Mount Campbell district. They bought forty acres there and on part of the land set out one of the first vineyards in that section, continuing until October, 1899, during which time they raised much grain. In that year they sold their farm and located on their present place. They bought 126½ acres from the Gray estate, and when they first settled here there was not a tree or a shrub in sight. They also rented land, and sometimes worked as much as a thousand acres at a time. The land they bought is now splendidly irrigated from the Enterprise Canal, and having planted vines in 1903, they now have the finest of vineyards. Besides numerous improvements that have added greatly to the value of the ranch there are sixteen acres of peaches, and 103 acres of vineyard, including muscat, wine, malaga and sultana grapes, while the balance is alfalfa. Mr. and Mrs. Benadom are proud of their property, representing as it does so much of personal labor and sacrifice, and it is natural that he should take an active part in the work of the California Associated Raisin Company and the California Peach Growers, Inc. He was, in fact, probably the second to sign up under the old Kearney Association, and was also early in supporting the work of the present organization. An idea of what can be accomplished by energy and application can be seen when it can be stated that the stubble field he bought for \$23 an acre by intensive farming has now reached a value of more than \$1,000 an acre.

Nine daughters, all of whom are still living, have added to the happiness of the Benadom household: May is Mrs. Gaskin of Sanger; Dena is Mrs. McElroy of Oregon; and the other sisters are Mrs. Ollie Atkinson of Perrin Colony, Fresno County; Mrs. Elsie Taylor of Round Mountain; Mrs. Grace Herman of Gray Colony; Emabel, a graduate of the Fresno State Normal, is

a teacher in this county; Floy, attending Heald's Business College, Fresno; Stella, in the Sanger High School; and Wilma, in the local grammar school.

Always a public-spirited citizen, Mr. Benadom has served twelve years as trustee of the Frankwood district school, and is now a trustee of the Gray Colony school. Mr. and Mrs. Benadom actively support all movements for the advancement of the community.

**ALBERT P. BROOKS.**—A California pioneer whose established reputation for clean, upright living, and plain, honest dealing brought him the honors of responsible office and made him prominent in Fresno and this entire revenue district, is Albert P. Brooks, whose interesting association with California began on August 9 in the great boom year of 1887. He was born at Laurens, S. C., the son of William J. Brooks, a native of that place and a farmer who enlisted in General Kershaw's brigade in July, 1862, and served until he was killed on Sunday, December 13, 1862, on Mary's Heights at Fredericksburg. Mrs. Brooks was Sarah J. Miller before her marriage, and she also was a native of Laurens County, S. C., in which state she was reared on a farm. She married a second time, and with her husband, J. H. Anderson, and her four children by the first union and three children by the second, came to Fresno. The children of the first marriage are Albert P., J. B. and W. W. Brooks, all of Fresno, and Frances M., who became Mrs. Martin of Fresno.

Born on New Year's Day, 1857, Albert Brooks was reared on a farm and attended a private school, remaining at home until he was sixteen years of age. He then went to the high school at Cokesbury, S. C., for a couple of years, after which he returned to farm work. Later he leased a farm and engaged in the raising of cotton, corn and stock; and he is today well posted on cotton culture. January, 1885, he went to Nashville, Howard County, Ark., and for a couple of years worked as a bookkeeper in a hardware store.

In August, 1887, Mr. Brooks came West direct to California and to Fresno, having here an uncle, D. J. McConnell, widely known as a worthy old settler; and soon he was appointed deputy tax collector under Jim Mead. He served for about eight months, and was then made deputy superintendent of schools under B. A. Hawkins. From 1890 until the beginning of 1893 he was bookkeeper to the firm of McConnell & Hague, merchants on Mariposa Street. In August, 1894, he was named for the office of United States gager, for the first district of California, extending from San Francisco to San Diego. He was appointed by John G. Carlisle, Secretary of the Treasury, and made his headquarters at Fresno. He continued to serve under President McKinley; and in 1907 he was made United States storekeeper gager of the first district by Leslie M. Shaw, under President Roosevelt. In September, 1909, after a service of fifteen years and a month, in which he had been repeatedly honored for his exemplary administration of office, he resigned. During this time Mr. Brooks had become interested in horticulture; and having improved an orchard at the corner of Palm and Olive Streets, he built an ornate residence, and finally sold the property at a good profit. Then he bought the corner of Chittenden and McKinley Avenues, and improved the same by planting vines and sowing alfalfa. He had forty-four acres of stubble field and hog wallow; but he worked hard and steadily at it, and finally developed it into a vineyard thirty-seven acres in size, devoted to muscat and Thompson grapes, while on the remaining acres he raised alfalfa. His resignation from public office was due to his desire to give closer attention to his viticultural interests.

Mr. Brooks has been married four times, each marriage bringing its measure of happiness. The first ceremony took place in South Carolina in 1879, when he was joined to Nannie Shell, who died on January 13, 1882. His second marriage occurred at Fresno, in September, 1890, when he chose for his bride Miss Dora Harbison, who was born in Johnson County, Ill.,





*John Condon*



*Mrs. S. A. Condon*

and by whom he had three children: William Arthur, who is a bookkeeper at the Concoran office of the San Joaquin Light & Power Company; Audrey, a stenographer with the Smith Lithograph Company; and Charles Bartlett, who is with Bixler Cleaning Company in Fresno. Mrs. Brooks died in 1900. At his third marriage Mr. Brooks led to the altar Mrs. Carrie B. Gillispie, of Washington County, Pa., who breathed her last in 1912. His last marriage took place at Orosi in February, 1916, when Miss Winnie Liebau, who was born in Elk County, Kans., became his wife. She is the daughter of William and Minnie (Weide) Liebau, and came to Tulare as early as 1904, when her father engaged in viticulture. She was educated in Kansas, and bespeaks all the graces of the women of that state. Mr. and Mrs. Brooks belong to the Methodist Church South, on whose official board he has served for some years.

Mr. Brooks was made a Mason in Recovery Lodge, No. 31, F. & A. M., at Greenville, S. C., on May 6, 1878, and since 1887 has been affiliated with Fresno Lodge, No. 247, F. & A. M. He was made an Odd Fellow at Nashville, Ark., and at the same place joined the Knights of Pythias. After he had settled in Fresno, he became a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen, and also joined the Woodmen of the World through Manzanita Camp, No. 160, at Fresno. A Democrat, and working spiritedly as such in national politics, Mr. Brooks has always loyally supported local movements irrespective of party lines.

**JOHN CONDON.**—An old Californian, who had been an early settler in various parts of this wonderfully developed State, was John Condon, who was a pioneer in Grass Valley and also in the Coalinga section, and who left the record of his activity, for the benefit of the communities as well as for himself, wherever he lived and toiled. He was born in Ireland about 1842, and when only two years of age came to the United States and Massachusetts with his father. He was reared in an old New England family in Boston, and while there was educated in the public schools.

He first came to California in the early sixties; but great as was the lure of the Golden State, he was still more attracted back to Missouri, where he was married, at Shelbyville, in 1867, to Miss Susan A. Mitchell. She was born in Marion County, Mo., the daughter of William W. Mitchell, a native of old Virginia. He came to Missouri with his parents and was reared as a farmer. He married Miss Elizabeth Jane Slaven, formerly of Kentucky, and both parents died in Missouri. They had nine children, and Susan was the fourth oldest.

In 1867, Mr. and Mrs. Condon came to California by way of the Isthmus of Panama, having sailed from New York City, and they arrived in San Francisco, landing from the Henry Chancey. They went to Grass Valley, and Mr. Condon engaged in the dairy business, working with his brother, Henry, as a partner. Two years later John moved to Hollister, where for twelve years he was a packer in a flour mill; and then he settled at Paicines, in San Benito County, and went into a stock-raising enterprise. After that he moved to Pacheco Hills above Pleasant Valley, near Millerton, where he took up land and continued his stock-raising. He ranged on government land, and the days were lively, for wild panthers and grizzly bears roamed over the hills. He built a stone house and improved the land, but afterward he moved and made still another home. He tried his luck in Merced County, but it was not until he came to Fresno the second time that he was really satisfied.

In 1897, Mr. Condon bought his present place of forty acres on North Avenue, near Coalinga road, and by applying again the fruits of his past experience and his customary hard labor, he improved the land so that it was valuable for the raising of alfalfa and the setting out of a vineyard. There are now seventeen acres in Thompson seedless and muscat grapes,



and there is also a first-class dairy. He belonged to the California Associated Raisin Company, and was a stockholder in the Danish Creamery.

Mr. Condon died on September 15, 1918, in his seventy-sixth year. Eight children still survive: Mrs. Elizabeth Sarah Rhodes is with her mother; John Henry is also at home; Minnie A., is Mrs. H. Swan, the wife of the foreman of the Thornton Ranch; Ollie M. has become Mrs. L. Huff and lives on Jensen Avenue; S. Estella is in Fresno; Homer D. is a dairyman on California Avenue; Viola I. is Mrs. Henry Elam and resides near Kerman; and Vernon C. is with his mother. Since the death of her husband, Mrs. Condon and her sons still carry on the business started by Mr. Condon. They keep abreast of the times and use modern methods in their work.

**JOE E. FOSTER.**—An Ohioan who came to California and began as a farm hand, and who has since then "made good" to such an extent that his services are today sought as an expert in land values and for knowledge of the raisin business, is Joe Foster, one-third owner in the Gartenlaube ranch on the North McCall road, about one mile west of Del Rey, and also one-third owner of the Fortuna ranch, five miles to the east, often called the old Kimball ranch. In addition he owns an eighty-acre ranch entirely in his own right, in Fresno County.

He was born in Jerusalem, Monroe County, Ohio, on February 21, 1868, the son of J. B. Foster, a farmer who had married Lydia A. Gatchell. The parents continued to live in Ohio; but the mother, after two of her sons and three daughters had come to the Pacific Coast, came to California to visit; and here, in 1914, at the advanced age of eighty, she passed away. Her husband was two years younger when he died.

One of eleven children, and the seventh in order of birth, Joe passed his early life upon his father's farm in Ohio, where he attended the public schools. In 1888, at the age of only twenty, he came to California and has made his way successfully and creditably, step by step. He came to Del Rey, where he has remained ever since.

At first he went to work on a ranch, in harvest time. Then for a year he was raisin and fruit-buyer for the Phoenix Fruit Packing Company of Fresno and Fowler. Later he was a farm-appraiser for the Union Trust Company of San Francisco, and he still acts as the appraiser for the Farmers National Bank of Fresno.

With Bert Katz of San Francisco and Berthold Guggenhime, Mr. Foster owns the Gartenlaube and the Fortuna ranches, already partly described, both of which are in a very high state of cultivation. The soil is unusually fertile, lying in the very heart of the Thompson seedless grape belt of California. The Gartenlaube ranch is highly improved, and is said to be the best 320-acre ranch in California. Mr. Foster lives upon the Gartenlaube ranch in the fine ranch-house recently constructed at great cost. The ranch is devoted to Thompson and muscat grapes, and to peaches and figs; and the Fortuna is planted to prunes, walnuts, peaches, shipping plums and muscats. Already known for unusually valuable experience, Mr. Foster entered on his duties as manager of the ranches in 1910.

The buildings on the Gartenlaube ranch are very good, and were built by the present company. There is a two-story Japanese camp, declared by the state inspector to be the best laborer's camp in the state, completed in hard-wood finish; for Mr. Foster takes pride in the welfare of his laborers, and his oak houses, with their dining-rooms, sleeping apartments and shower baths, testify to the practical application of his principles and sympathies. Everything is clean, highly sanitary, cheerful and of such a nature as to induce a man to work, and when he has finished his labors there, he goes away the better physically, mentally and morally for having cast his lot in that neighborhood. The old residence has been converted into a foreman's cot-

tage—a wise provision contributing to still better administration and dealings with a small army of workmen. On each ranch there is a dining-hall and kitchen, and each establishment is thoroughly up-to-date. Reading-rooms provide for the men's mental needs, and the other arrangements enumerated insure their health and leisurely rest. From six to one hundred men are employed on the Gartenlaube ranch, according to the season, while from half a dozen to two hundred are given profitable work on the Fortuna. Besides mules and horses, Yuba tractors are used on both ranches, and to give some idea of the magnitude of the operations, it may be mentioned that on the Gartenlaube alone there are about \$22,000 worth of drying trays. These and all the other appliances, as well as all the machinery, are carefully housed from season to season, and this care of the outfit represents great labor and responsibility.

At Alameda, Mr. Foster was married to Miss Adelina Ross, a native daughter and a lady of accomplishments, who was popular in her Alameda County home. She is the daughter of Andrew Ross, who came to California on March 17, 1857, and is one of the earlier pioneers of the state.

**HERMAN F. SIERING.**—One of the best-known men in the so-called Highland district or colony in Fresno County is Herman F. Siering. Although this part of the county was settled at a comparatively recent date, it is now one of the best raisin and table-grape districts in the county. Mr. Siering was born in Berlin, April 25, 1870, but from the age of nine years was brought up and educated in San Francisco. The father was Herman Siering, and he was born in Germany, but escaped the tyranny of the Prussian aristocracy by coming to America, where he made for himself a name well known in early business circles in San Francisco, of which city he first became a citizen in 1850. He became extensively engaged in the retail and wholesale business, dealing in fancy goods, first under the name of Locan & Company, and later of H. Siering & Company. On account of the financial panic in 1880 this firm made an assignment for the benefit of its creditors, and the Siering accumulations of thirty years were all dissolved. The assignee, Frank Locan, withheld two sections of land in Fresno County in what is now the Highland district, from schedule, and this act resulted in almost endless litigation on the part of the heirs of Mr. Siering before the matter was finally settled. His financial reverses and legal troubles hastened his death, for at the early age of fifty-six he died in San Francisco. After his death, the widow brought an action to recover Mr. Siering's share in this land, with the result that after years of costly litigation 300 acres were set off for the benefit of the heirs of Mr. Siering. As this land again came into the possession of the family, the mother, brothers and sisters came to Fresno County and engaged in the improving of the property.

The mother's maiden name was Jennie Vieck, and she was born in East Prussia. She and her husband were married in New York State in 1849, and to them were born nine children of whom four are living: Robert Siering, a bookkeeper, and Henry Siering, a musician, both living in San Francisco; Jennie, the wife of Geo. E. Vockel and the mother of six children, now residing in Los Angeles; and Herman F., of this review.

In 1892, the mother deeded forty acres to her daughter Jennie; and prior to her death in San Francisco, in 1902, she deeded 220 acres to her four boys: Robert, Henry, Frank and Herman F. They began systematically to farm and improve their land and later the brothers incorporated under the name of "Siering Company, Inc." They farmed to grain principally, from 1892 to 1907. Then eighty acres were sold to Mr. Charles Pruess, and twenty acres to Arthur E. Gerner, while the rest of the land was divided among the four Siering brothers. Herman and Frank Siering received forty acres as their share.

On November 15, 1913, H. F. Siering married Mrs. Charles Pruess, whose maiden name was Katy Marcus. She was the widow of the Charles Pruess

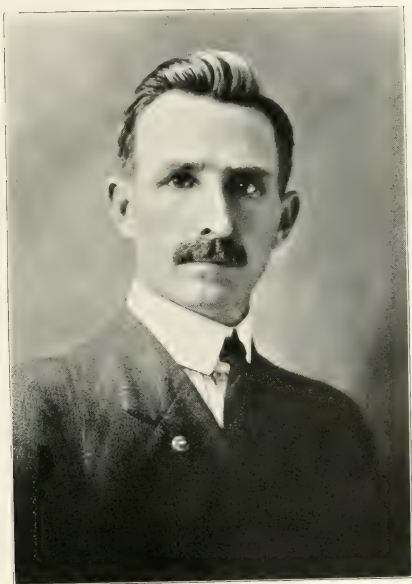
who is mentioned on another page in this history. Mr. and Mrs. Siering have had four children born to them: Frank; Jennie; Katy; and Herman, who died in infancy. Mr. Siering lives with his family on the eighty acres belonging to his wife. They have a commodious residence of the bungalow type, built by Mr. Pruess, and also barns and other ranch buildings. The ranch is irrigated from the Fowler Switch Ditch.

On Mr. Siering's own property of forty acres he has ten acres of malagas, four and one-half acres of Thompson Seedless and ten acres of muscats; and the balance is being set to malagas. Mr. Siering is a hard worker, is progressive in his methods of work and in his political views and belongs to the California Associated Raisin Company. He stands for the community good and is a man of honesty, integrity and honor, justly popular and highly respected. He is every inch a patriot.

**W. H. DAVIS.**—All sections of the world honor the pioneers, but especially is this the case in California where the wonderful developments of the present are due to the fearless pioneers who faced the hardships of an overland journey across the Indian infested plains and endured the trials and privations incident to life on the frontier, that civilization might march westward and that farms and homes might come into being in the great unknown country. With due appreciation of the brave men of the days of '49, we speak their names with pride and respect.

W. H. Davis, Sr., the father of the subject of this sketch, was an Argonaut of '49. He was born in Arkansas in 1830, descended of a prominent old Southern family. He crossed the plains to California and soon after his arrival found the Indians on the warpath, and volunteered in a company under General Beale, following the Indians into the Yosemite. An old Indian stated that they were the first white men who had ever been in the Yosemite Valley. After the Indian war was over he followed mining in different localities with more or less success and then went to El Monte, Cal., to visit his sister, Mrs. Whistler, where he met Miss Sarah Jane Ellis whom he married on October 28, 1858. She was born in Tippah County, Miss., October 29, 1838, the daughter of Rev. T. O. Ellis, M.D., a native of Perry County, Mo., born in 1808, and descended from an old Virginian family. T. O. Ellis was educated in an eastern college and was ordained a minister in the Methodist Episcopal Church, South; he was also a graduate doctor of medicine. He married Elizabeth Long and resided in Tennessee where he was a prominent minister and physician until he removed to Texas, where he actively followed his profession until 1857, when he crossed the plains, bringing his family by an ox team train to El Monte. After teaching school for a year he became presiding elder of the Visalia district for a year and then located in Mariposa County, practicing medicine until 1865, when he located on a ranch which he purchased on Kings River, Fresno County. He was elected superintendent of schools and became very prominent in educational affairs in the county. Rev. Ellis was a learned and cultured man of philanthropic disposition and assisted many young people to get a start. After twelve years' service as county superintendent he lived retired on his ranch until his death, aged seventy-one. His wife survived him and died in August, 1914, aged ninety-three years.

After his marriage, W. H. Davis, Sr., followed mining in Mariposa County for some years. In 1867 he located in the Academy district, Fresno County, engaging in stock-raising until his death, in 1871. After his death his widow purchased a ranch of 520 acres in that vicinity, where she reared her family and has engaged in farming and stock-raising ever since. She lives in her comfortable home and is looked after by her children. The six children living are: W. T. and J. E., stockmen in this county; Mary F., who is Mrs. Baird of Fairview; Eugene G. and J. O., stockmen in this county; and W. H., Jr.



*J. H. Davis*



W. H. Davis, Jr., the subject of this sketch, was born in Centerville, Fresno County, on September 30, 1871, and in his native county he was reared and received his education. Following the example of his pioneer father, he took up agriculture as his vocation, in which he has been very successful, engaging in stock- and grain-raising, later becoming extensively interested in the culture of grapes. He is the owner of a seventy-acre ranch in Round Mountain district, which he devotes to fruit and raisins, and upon which he has erected a substantial and pretentious residence, with a picturesque environment.

In Fresno, in the year 1900, Mr. Davis was united in marriage with Miss Mary Hilton, the daughter of F. T. and Alice (Whitney) Hilton, who is a native of California, having been born in Kern County. Her parents came, with their parents, to California when they were children, the father coming from Yarmouth, Nova Scotia, when sixteen years of age, and the mother when twelve years of age, from the state of Maine. Mr. and Mrs. Hilton have been residents of Fresno County since 1888. Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Davis are the parents of eight children: Frederick H. and Mary June, in Fresno High School; Alice A.; Elizabeth A.; Walton L.; Shirley Jane; Chester B. and Dorothy May.

Fraternally Mr. Davis was a charter member of the Fresno County Parlor of Native Sons (not now in existence); he is a member of the Independent Order of Foresters in Fresno.

**ALEXANDER McNEIL.**—Since a youth seventeen years of age Alexander McNeil's fortunes have been cast in Fresno County, and he has witnessed the various stages of development through which the county has passed, from the old days of sheep-herding and stock-raising through the eras of grain-farming, horticulture and viticulture. The old picturesque border life has given place to an era of culture and refinement, and Fresno County now holds first place among the counties of the state for the wealth of its inhabitants, the richness of its productions and the salubriousness of its climate.

This pioneer of Fresno County was born in Waukesha County, Wis., May 15, 1860, and is the son of James and Louisa (Daws) McNeil, the former a native of New York State, the latter of England. When Alexander was a small child the family moved to Minnesota, and in the fall of 1876 came to California. They arrived in Fresno February, 1877. Alexander McNeil is the oldest child in a family of four children, all of whom are living. James H., the next oldest, lives in West Park, Fresno County; William J. resides in Barstow Colony; and George P. is a resident of Sacramento. Upon arriving in Fresno the father purchased a section of land two miles north of Fresno, a part of the old Gould ranch, now known as the McNeil ranch (although the property has passed out of the family). This ranch was planted to pears, peaches, apricots, almond and walnut trees, alfalfa and grain. The orchard was one of the first planted in Fresno County. Nursery stock was raised, and many of the large orchards now producing in Fresno County were started from stock raised on this ranch. As this was the only fruit ranch for miles around, people in the early days drove there from all over the valley to buy their supply. The father remained on the ranch six years, and then returned to Minnesota. There he remained for several years, later returning to Fresno, where he died. After the father gave up the ranch it was carried on for some time by his brother, George L., and was later sold. Alexander McNeil, a boy of nearly seventeen when he arrived in Fresno, attended the only school at that time in the place, which was located in a small frame building on Tulare at the corner of L Street. After completing his schooling he took up teaming, driving an eight-mule team from Fresno to Pine Ridge, hauling supplies to the lumber camps, and returning with lumber. Later he followed dry farming, raising grain and hay in West Park

district. He also rented land in Dry Creek district and on a large scale in San Joaquin River district. Giving this up later, he entered partnership with his brother-in-law, H. E. Burleigh, and bought a quarter section of land in West Park district, seven miles southwest of Fresno, and engaged in the dairy business. For the past few years he has been acquiring more land in that section, and is now the sole owner of 1,428 acres. He has developed one of the best dairy ranches in the valley, milking 200 high-grade cows of the Holstein breed, and keeping registered bulls. He is gradually building up a thoroughbred herd. He is raising cattle, mules, horses and alfalfa and also has a twenty-acre vineyard. He was one of the organizers of and a director in the San Joaquin Valley Milk Producers' Association. This association is on the cooperative plan, to facilitate the sale of, and to standardize, dairy products.

Mr. McNeil was married in Fresno, March 27, 1889, to Sadie E. Burleigh, who was born in Kansas, the daughter of J. M. and Harriett (Pervier) Burleigh, natives of New Hampshire who joined the throng from New England that rushed to Kansas in 1854 to make it a free state. They located on Deep Creek near Manhattan, where the family remained until 1874, when they came to Fresno, which had just been made the county seat. J. M. Burleigh was in business for a time, and also served as deputy sheriff. He and his wife both passed away at the old Burleigh home on I Street. They had four children: Frank, who fought the Indians in Kansas and Colorado during the Civil War, and who was a grain merchant in Fresno for many years; H. E. and F. L., who reside in West Park, this county; and Sadie E., who received her education in the public schools of Fresno, her first teacher being Prof. R. H. Bromlet. Mr. and Mrs. McNeil are the parents of three children: Charles B., associated with his father in the care of the ranch; Harriett, a graduate of the Fresno State Normal and a teacher in Longfellow School, Fresno; and Mollie E., also a graduate of the Fresno Normal and now the wife of F. J. Harkness of Fresno.

Mr. McNeil's fraternal relations include membership in Manzanita Lodge, No. 160, W. O. W., the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and the Eagles. He is thoroughly loyal to Fresno County, taking an active interest in all that pertains to its advancement, is public spirited to an extreme degree, and is justly entitled to the esteem in which he is held by those who know him.

**ZENAS WOLGAMOTT.**—A worthy and honored pioneer who recently passed to his eternal reward, and whose memory will long be cherished by an appreciative and grateful posterity, is Zenas Wolgamott. He was born in Holmes County, Ohio, January 30, 1831, the son of Jonathan and Jane (Boone) Wolgamott. His father came from Hagerstown, Md., where he was born on June 24, 1800. Later, he came with his parents to Ohio, and grew up to be a very successful farmer. With his wife and family he removed to Jefferson County, Iowa, in 1844, and fourteen years later went to Scotland County, Mo. During the Civil War he joined the Union Army, and for several months saw service under Colonel Glover. He spent his last days in Lompoc, Santa Barbara County, where he died in 1881. Jane Boone was born in Adams County, Pa., May 12, 1804, and early settled in Ohio with her father, George Boone, who was in the War of 1812. His family was closely related to that of Daniel Boone, the hero of Kentucky, a circumstance of which Mrs. Wolgamott was justly proud. She died near Unionton, Mo., on March 23, 1862. Both Mr. and Mrs. Wolgamott were pillars of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Zenas Wolgamott received a liberal education in Jefferson County, Iowa. In 1852 he and his brother George crossed the plains with ox teams as a part of a great pioneer train. The party was 169 days on the trip. When Mr. Wolgamott reached California he engaged in mining and farming with his brother George. The latter was stricken with cholera on the trip to Califor-



nia, and Zenas nursed him and brought him through. George later graduated as a doctor of medicine, and was a successful physician in Chicago, Ill., until his death.

In 1856 Zenas returned to his home in Iowa, traveling by way of the Isthmus of Panama; and in the spring of the following year he located in Scotland County, Mo. On November 20, 1859, he was married to Phoebe Elizabeth Breckenridge, a native of Anderson County, Ky., where she was born on June 30, 1837, the daughter of Robert and Elizabeth Breckenridge, who was closely related to the Hon. John C. Breckenridge, the distinguished citizen of the Blue Grass State. She came with her parents, in 1843, to Callo-way County, Mo., and in 1857 to Scotland County, where her parents died. She is the second youngest of eight children, only two of whom are living; and she had three brothers who came to California in pioneer days, but returned East. Mr. and Mrs. Wolgamott were blessed with eight children, six of whom grew to maturity. Harris Boone, is a business man at Moberly, Mo.; Dora B., was Mrs. Grassle, who died at North Platte, Nebr.; Lizzie L., is now Mrs. Hall of Fort Scott, Kans.; Ollie is Mrs. Gibbons of Fresno; Jennie is devoting her time to the comfort of her mother; and Daisy Grace, is Mrs. Paulding of Rockford, Ill.

For a while Mr. Wolgamott engaged in mercantile business in Unionton, and then selling out, in 1859, he took up farming, which he continued until 1866. During this time he served for a while in Company L, Second Regiment of Missouri Militia. In 1866 he again embarked in the mercantile business at Unionton, and in 1888 removed to Kirksville, Mo., where he soon retired. During this time he made three trips to California, and in 1894, with his wife and daughter, removed to Malaga. After settling here he bought forty acres of land, and devoted himself to viticulture; and having sold the property he located in Fresno in 1910. This was the period of his final retirement, and in anticipation of a pleasant and well-deserved rest he purchased the corner of Olive and Palm Streets, a tract of five acres. Much of this was later sold for building sites, but the family still have thirteen lots and a fine house. Mr. Wolgamott spent his last days here, and died on January 13, 1918, aged almost eight-seven years. He was especially honored by the Fresno post of the Grand Army of the Republic, to which he belonged.

**JUDGE J. B. CAMPBELL.**—Numbered among the inhabitants the Blue Grass State has furnished the slopes of the Pacific was the well-known pioneer Judge James B. Campbell, who died September 15, 1916. He was born on a farm in Christian County, and received his education in the country schools. As a young man he read law in the office of Colonel Buckner of Hopkinsville, and after his admission to the bar practised law in Hopkinsville for eight years. In the fall of 1860 he came to California via Cape Horn. His first wife, before her marriage, was Miss Martha Crockett, the eldest daughter of Judge Crockett of Kentucky, who came out to California in pioneer days and became a judge of the supreme court of California.

Judge Campbell was a well-known practitioner of law in Santa Rosa, Petaluma and San Francisco. He also spent some time in the mining region of Owens River, back of Visalia. Upon his return to San Francisco his wife died. He next located in Mariposa and was associated in the practice of his profession with Judge Buckhalter. He was elected district attorney of Mariposa County and served in that capacity two terms, also serving as tax collector. He was appointed district judge over four counties in the San Joaquin Valley and was later elected to that office for one term. While holding this office he held court in the historic old courthouse at Millerton. In 1880 he moved to Fresno and opened a law office with Samuel Hinds. Elected superior judge of Fresno County, he served one term and then retired from active

practice. He was a large landowner in Fresno and Tulare Counties and ran his ranches until his death.

Judge Campbell was a deep student and possessed a keen appreciation and love for the best literature. His second marriage, December 12, 1884, united him to Kittie Bell, of Hopkinsville, by whom he had one son, Garth B. In politics the Judge was a Democrat. In his fraternal associations he was a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and of the Knights of Pythias.

The late Judge's only son, Garth B., is a native of Fresno and one of the rising young attorneys of the state. He was born in the Grand Central Hotel, December 18, 1885. He graduated from the Fresno grammar school in 1900 and from the high school in 1904, and for one year was a reporter on the Fresno Evening Democrat. He graduated from the University of California in 1910 and from the Harvard Law School in 1912. During his vacations, from 1905 to 1912, he served as reporter on the Fresno Republican. He practised law with the firm of Sutherland and Barbour and served as deputy district attorney and United States commissioner up to 1915. Since then he has been in private practice of the law.

**ELBRIDGE MILES.**—It is the proud claim of E. Miles that he is not only a native son of the state, but a son of an honored pioneer as well. It is this class of men and women who are held in honor in all sections of the world, but this is especially true in California, where the younger generations realized that to the hardy pioneers are due the present wonderful developments in all lines of industry, and are conscious of the fact that such changes could never have been accomplished without the heroic work and great hardships of those who blazed the trail for a later civilization. Not all the pioneers who came deserve credit for the development of the state; many sought for gold and left the state never to return, but to those who remained and, with untiring labor, succeeded in making an unknown country the fruitful abode for later happy and contented generations, is the honor due.

Such a pioneer was E. Miles, Sr., father of our subject. He was a native of Maine who left that state when a lad of about sixteen, and with courage and determination migrated to California, via Cape Horn, about 1850. He located first in Placer County, where he was engaged in mercantile pursuits for a time, but later engaged in the stock-raising business, including sheep, in which he met with success.

In 1857, E. Miles, Sr., was united in marriage with Mary A. Waldren, and in 1864 they removed to Fresno County, where Mr. Miles became a large sheep-raiser. After two years here he went to Oakland, remained for a like period, and then returned to Fresno County, where he lived until 1872. He next moved to San Luis Obispo County, farmed and raised stock till his death, in 1899, at the age of seventy-eight years. Mr. and Mrs. Miles became the parents of eight children: Amanda, Mrs. Schneiderwind, in San Mateo County; Mary, Mrs. Boney, in Los Angeles; Elbridge; Martha, Mrs. Waters, in Los Angeles; Emma, Mrs. Hatfield, also in the southern metropolis. Three of the children are deceased: Ella, Mrs. Bobst, who died, leaving two children; William, also died, leaving a girl and a boy, who have been reared by their uncle, Mr. Miles of this review; and Homer, who died in young manhood.

It is reported upon reliable authority that in the early days of Fresno County the Miles family were the only Republicans in their section of the county and that the men were required to carry arms when they went to vote. The elder Miles was a man of striking personality and possessed a strong character. If he believed he was right it was impossible to swerve him from his purpose. Fraternally he was a charter member of the first Odd Fellow lodge organized in Fresno County. His wife, Mary Miles, was a loving mother and an unselfish and untiring worker in those strenuous days



*Ernie*



*Belle Miller.*



so full of hardships for the pioneer women. She came to California by way of Panama in 1855. She makes her home in Los Angeles and is in the enjoyment of the best of health.

E. Miles, Jr., was born in Placer County, January 8, 1860, and was reared in the city of Oakland, where he attended the public school until the family removed to San Luis Obispo, where he finished his education, supplementing his common school course by attending an Oakland business college. After reaching manhood he became interested in politics and while in San Luis Obispo County he served four years as deputy assessor. In 1886 he came to Fresno County and went to work for J. S. Jones, having charge of his grain warehouse at Traver, and later at Reedley, continuing so occupied until 1910. He served as a deputy sheriff under Jay Scott from the time the latter took office until he went out.

In 1905, Mr. Miles became a landowner when he bought twenty acres three miles east of Reedley. This was barren stubble land, and he set out every vine and tree, erected the buildings and sunk a well. He bought stock in the Raisin Growers Association before he had set out a vine and is now a stockholder in the present association, as well as in the Peach Growers, Inc.

On October 18, 1891, Mr. Miles and Miss Belle Apperson were united in marriage. She was a daughter of William L. and Elizabeth (Rucker) Apperson, born in Vallejo, Cal., April 16, 1869. She came to Fresno County in 1873 with her parents. Her father was born in Virginia in 1822, and came to California in 1849, crossing the Indian-infested plains in company with fifty immigrants driving ox teams. The journey took them six months. Upon his arrival in the Golden State he engaged in mining for six years, sometimes making a strike and at others sinking what he had already made. He finally decided to quit mining and go back to his trade of cabinetmaker. On September 14, 1865, he was commissioned Captain of the Alpine Rifles, Fourth Brigade of California, by Governor Lowe, to maintain law and order after the war. He was the first undertaker in Fresno County, manufacturing his own coffins in Fresno. He died at the age of ninety-four, on January 3, 1917. Mrs. Apperson was, in maidenhood, Elizabeth Rucker, a very talented woman, and for years was a school teacher. She was a sister of the late William Rucker, of Kingsburg. She finally met and married Mr. Apperson and their union was blessed with four children: Belle, Mrs. E. Miles; Hattie, Mrs. Calcote of Visalia; Walter, who died in infancy; and William, who died in 1912. Mrs. Apperson passed away in February, 1899, aged fifty-nine years.

Mr. and Mrs. Miles have had no children of their own but after the death of Mr. Miles' brother, William, they took his son and daughter, Djal and Velma, and have given them the same love and care they would give to their own children. Mr. Miles is a member of the Reedley Lodge of Odd Fellows and Rebekahs, his wife having passed the chairs of the latter order, of which she is an active member. He is also a member of the Woodmen of the World. They are Republicans on national issues, but in local matters they vote for the best men and measures. They are both strong advocates of the possibilities of Fresno County, where the greater part of their lives has been spent.

**MRS. HELEN KRUSE.**—What a woman can do in the business world when she is called upon to take the rudder and guide the tossing ship is illustrated in the case of Mrs. Helen Kruse, one of the ablest heads of an enterprise in Fresno County. She was born at La Chaux-de-Fonds, Canton Neuchatel, Switzerland, the daughter of William Brutsch, also a native of that place and a member of an old family there, although her grandfather came from Schaffhausen, in Switzerland, near the banks of the Rhine. Her father was a jeweler and watchmaker, and he married Sophia Neunschwanger, who was born at the same place, and died in 1886, the mother of

two children—Charles, who resides at San Jose, and Helen, the subject of this sketch.

In 1881 William Brutsch came to the United States, settling for a while in Chicago, where he managed a laundry, running the same on new and satisfactory lines for five years, and making of it a success. Soon after the middle of the eighties he resolved to move further westward and came to California; and once in this state, he was not long in learning that there was one county offering the best inducements to the stranger. In Fresno he started a laundry in the Darling Addition, under the name of the Cosmopolitan Laundry. In 1891, Mr. Brutsch's two children joined him, and later the father went to San Francisco, and thence to Santa Rosa, where he embarked in the hotel business, finally returning to Fresno to continue running a hostelry. Afterwards he bought a farm; but selling it later, he retired and now resides in Santa Monica.

Born the younger of the two children, and reared in Switzerland until her eleventh year, when she came to Fresno, in 1891, Miss Helen Brutsch was married in Fresno, in April, 1898, to Mr. Gustav Kruse, a native of Enger, Westphalia, and brother of Henry Kruse. The youngest in his family, he came to the United States and for two years lived and worked in Nebraska, after which he came to California, where he was soon busy as a vineyardist. First, he was foreman on the Anita vineyard, under Hector Burness. During this time, he bought various pieces of acreage, set the same out with vines, and otherwise improved the property. He began with twenty acres, bought twenty more, and later added still another twenty—the old August Halemeier place, onto which he moved. Now they have sixty acres given to a fine vineyard and alfalfa, and are growing table and raisin grapes, and getting several crops of alfalfa a year. This success in the viticultural field has led them to become active members of the California Associated Raisin Company.

Two children, Elsie and Wilma, both students at the Fresno High School, have come to add to the attractiveness of the Kruse home circle. Outside her home, Mrs. Kruse is most devoted to the affairs of the German Lutheran Church of Fresno and its Ladies' Aid Society, of which she was secretary and is now treasurer. Mrs. Kruse's life and work, therefore, presents the case of an all-around woman, well fitted for business, society or philanthropy, and acceptable wherever she appears.

**LAURITZ LAURITZEN.**—The life story of Lauritz Lauritzen has all the elements of a romance of today. In it is shown the building of a fortune, not by a miracle, a Scheherezade transformation, but by the steady day-by-day industry and thrift of an honest man, endowed with the foresight and business acumen for which the Danish race are noted. Lauritz Lauritzen was born October 6, 1867, near Apenrade, Schleswig, Germany, at that time a part of Denmark. His father, Laua Lauritzen, was a sailor, and came to America, the land of promise, crossed the plains to California, and engaged in mining in El Dorado County, together with three brothers. He met with success and, returning to his native land, bought a ship and engaged in coast trade until his death, at the age of fifty-two. His wife, formerly Mata Krag, was born in Schleswig also, and there her death occurred.

Lauritz Lauritzen was raised in the old seaport town of Gjenner, and was educated in the common school of his home city. At the age of fifteen he was apprenticed to the blacksmith's trade, and followed it in the old country. In 1889 he came to the United States, locating first at Racine, Wis., where he worked in the factory of Fish Brothers Wagon Company one year. At the end of that time, in 1890, he came to Fresno, landing here with but a few dollars left of his savings. He secured employment in the Scandinavian Colony, six miles east of Fresno, for seventy-five cents per day, walking to and from his work each day. Jobs were scarce and wages low in those days,

and the lad was glad to take any honest work offered him. Later he worked for H. Ahrensberg, the blacksmith, and then for G. Brainard, in a shop where now is located his present business. Determined to succeed, he buidled for the future, and was soon able to buy real estate, his first purchase being the lots on the corner of H and Fresno Streets, where he erected a building and, in partnership with H. Ahrensberg, ran a blacksmith shop. After seven years as partner, Mr. Lauritzen bought out the other half-interest, and formed the Lauritzen Implement Company. This business which was started twenty-three years ago, in 1896, in a little blacksmith shop on the corner where the present store now stands, has shown a steady and substantial growth with each year, until today it stands as one of the leading institutions of its kind in Central California. This phenomenal growth can be attributed to the personal efforts of Mr. Lauritzen, who from the very beginning adopted the policy of efficient service; and that this has brought results is best exemplified by the large and increasing business that is constantly being done. The new building, located at the corner of Fresno and H Streets, where the little blacksmith shop formerly kept the anvils ringing, was erected purposely for the business. It is of brick, has two floors and a basement, comprising more than 67,500 square feet of floor space, and is a model structure for a business of this kind. The company is engaged in the manufacture of farm implements of all kinds, auto bodies, etc., and is agent for the I. H. C. engines, Moline plow goods, Fish Bros. wagons and McCormick mowers and rakes. In the workshop, the company does general repairing of all kinds, and in the various departments in connection with the business sixty people are employed. A large and comprehensive stock of all goods handled is kept on hand at all times. During the past year the company's business showed an increase of seventy-five percent. over that of the preceding year, and reached a grand total of \$250,000. From present indications, even this figure will be increased in the season to come. The Lauritzen Implement Company is an incorporated concern, with the following officers: Lauritz Lauritzen, president and general manager; Robert Prather, vice-president; and Marie Lauritzen, secretary.

Besides his business interests, Mr. Lauritzen is engaged in horticulture, owning a thirty-acre orchard five miles east of Fresno, planted to figs, now three-year-old trees; and he also has other real estate interests in the city. Preeminently a self-made man, in the best sense of that often misused word, he has taken part in all movements for the upbuilding of Fresno; the growth of his business has kept step with the phenomenal growth of his city, and it has been a matter of pride with Mr. Lauritzen to be in the vanguard of progress in the community where he has "buidled his house." Fraternally, he is a Mason, a member of Fresno Lodge, No. 267, F. & A. M., and has gone through all the branches of Masonry, up to and including the Shrine of San Francisco. He is also a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, both lodge and encampment; and of the Dania Society of California, of which order he is past president. Together with the other leading business men of Fresno, he belongs to the local Chamber of Commerce.

The marriage of Mr. Lauritzen, which occurred in Fresno, October 6, 1892, united him with Anna Christine Jorgensen, a native of Shelland, Denmark. Nine children have been born to them, as follows: Louisa, an artist of ability; Laura, a musician of splendid voice and training; and Alice, Walter, William, Robert, James, Louis and Hubert—all born in Fresno. Mr. and Mrs. Lauritzen celebrated their silver wedding in 1917, after twenty-five years of happy married life. They and their family are among the representative citizenry of Fresno County. Since June, 1918, they have been domiciled in their palatial residence at Blackstone and Florodora Streets, where they continue to receive their many friends and dispense a wholesome old-time hospitality.



**BENJAMIN CASSIUS THOMAS.**—A very successful farmer and viti-culturist who was also in his time an expert carpenter, is Benjamin Cassius Thomas, who came to California about the middle of the eighties. He was born in Fulton, Callaway County, Mo., on June 21, 1855. His father, John P. Thomas, was born in Kentucky, September 4, 1834; and while yet a babe he came with his parents to Missouri, and grew up on a farm in Callaway County. In Missouri he married Elizabeth Craghead, a daughter of that state, of Scotch descent, and a member of a family well situated as farmer folk.

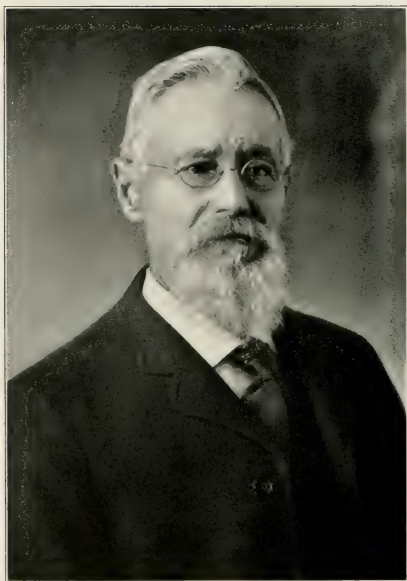
In 1863, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas, with their three children, crossed the plains in an ox team train, traveling to Austin, Nev. They stopped there intending only to rest their cattle, but they stayed twenty years. Mr. Thomas became interested in stock-raising and farming, and had three different cattle ranges where he owned the water. Under the brand T the Thomas ranches were well and favorably known. In 1883, Mr. Thomas sold out and came to Fresno County, California, where he had a brother-in-law, James Craghead. Through him he became interested in fruit-raising, and bought eighty acres situated four miles northeast of Fresno, for which he paid \$100 an acre. He gave this his time and his best efforts, and the first year put out about forty-five acres of vines, increasing the amount later until he had all his property in vines or alfalfa. He also set out five acres of peaches. In 1897 he went to Porterville, but later he returned to Fresno County, and then engaged in dairy ranching near West Park.

The year 1913 brought to Mr. Thomas' home its full measure of sorrow. On Blackstone Avenue, while driving to town alone, his devoted wife was killed in a railroad accident. After this tragedy Mr. Thomas sold his dairy and all his acreage except forty acres, and retired from active work, thereafter residing with his son, Benjamin, until his death on his old home place, on January 2, 1916. He was a highly esteemed member of the Methodist Church and popularly active in the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. Three children came to bless the home circle of Mr. and Mrs. John P. Thomas. Luella is Mrs. Hayes, of Porterville; Mattie T. has become Mrs. Williams, of Portland; and Benjamin Cassius is the subject of our story.

In his eighth year Benjamin Cassius Thomas crossed the plains with his parents, and helped drive the ox team, making the long journey into Nevada without serious Indian troubles. There he went to school, and in his spare time gave such attention to the management of horses that he soon learned to ride the range after the cattle, to lasso them, and to break the bronchos. He continued with his father until he was twenty-one, and was then appointed deputy sheriff. This was in 1877, and he was under J. C. Harper, the well-known county officer. Mr. Harper died and Benjamin Thomas was appointed to succeed him in 1879. In 1880, he was elected sheriff by a large majority, and he was the youngest sheriff who ever took the office in Nevada. He was a good officer, who went hard after evil-doers, and he made some notable captures. In 1883, too, he was sergeant-at-arms of the Senate in Nevada, and served the term.

Mr. Thomas located in Healdsburg in 1884 and bought eighty acres near Lytton Springs, where he set out a vineyard and orchard. Three years later he sold out and located in Fresno, where he assisted his father for a couple of years. He went to Merced County in 1889, and set out a big vineyard at Atwater for the Merced Land & Fruit Company. At the end of two years he returned to Fresno, where he was appointed a deputy sheriff under Jay Scott, which office he held for five years, or until the end of his last term. Then he went into the employ of the Church Ditch Company, at the same time acting as deputy under Sheriff Collins for a couple of years more. Returning to his trade of carpenter, he engaged in local contracting and building until the big fire in San Francisco drew him to the afflicted city. He was





*J. H. Musick*

one of the first foreman for building there, and soon went into contracting and building for himself. He erected many structures in San Francisco and Oakland, and resided in the latter place.

In 1914, Mr. Thomas came back to Fresno as the administrator of his mother's estate. After his father's death he was also administrator of his father's estate. He now owns thirty acres of the old homestead, and is interested in forty acres near West Park. He has ten acres of alfalfa, and the balance is in muscat vineyards. He has recently put in a splendid pumping plant with a twelve horse-power engine, and through its use he secures perfect irrigation. As might be expected, he is a member of the California Associated Raisin Company.

While in Nevada Mr. Thomas was married to Miss Mamie Eames, a native of San Francisco, by whom he had four children. Presley is in Sacramento; Kenneth was in the Ninety-first Division of the United States Army, serving overseas, and went through the Argonne campaign. After about one year's service, he returned home and was honorably discharged; and he is now again a member of the Oakland fire department. Margaret and Edith also reside in Oakland. Mr. Thomas is a member of the Knights of Pythias. In national politics he is a Democrat.

**JASPER NEWTON MUSICK.**—A pioneer of wonderful vitality and most exemplary character, in whose death Fresno County lost one of its most highly-esteemed citizens, was Jasper Newton Musick, who was born near Jefferson City, Mo., the son of Abraham Musick, of Scotch-Irish blood. The elder Musick hailed from Wayne County, W. Va., whence he removed, while yet a lad, to Kentucky. On coming of age, he became a citizen of Missouri, and at a period when St. Louis was a small trading-post, he purchased farm-land and so improved his holding that at the time of his death he had 400 acres under a high state of cultivation. He married Nancy Davis, a descendant of English ancestry and a native of Kentucky. A Democrat of the old school and a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church South, Mr. Musick did what he could to advance the high standard of American citizenship and also to raise the moral standards in ordinary, everyday life. He attained to ninety-three years, and his wife lived to be eighty-five. They had fifteen children, twelve of whom grew up. Jeremiah, after the Civil War became a stockman operating extensively and died in January, 1904, after laying out an addition near Fresno. Thomas, another son, died on one of Jasper's farms.

Jasper Newton was the sixth in the order of birth, and while being brought up on his father's farm, attended the old-time log schoolhouse. When seventeen years of age, he crossed the plains to California with his brother Chesley, and arrived in the Golden State in the fall of 1850. They traveled to Salt Lake with ox teams, but there swapped their slower means of locomotion for horses. They experienced an eye-opening surprise, however, on arriving at Hangtown, to find that the purchaser of the oxen had arrived several days previous, with his brown steeds in better condition than were the frailer horses.

Once somewhat settled, Mr. Musick tried his luck with the gold-miner's pick, and for six years in Amador County met with varying success. In 1856, he moved to what was at that time Mariposa County but soon afterward Fresno. His ambition to follow peaceful pursuits was rudely interfered with by a call to arms against the Indians, and he was among the first to volunteer to meet the redskins at the Tule River, where they were defeated and dispersed. After a while he took up teaming between Millerton and Stockton and the mines, making the round trip in ten days and receiving five cents a pound for his freight. In 1858 he had a contract to carry the soldiers from Fort Miller, but he soon gave that up in order to form a partnership with John G. Simpson in the stock business at Dry Creek. They had a meat market at Millerton and drove their cattle, as did so many stockmen of that time to

Sonora and the mines, as there they could command the highest prices. After a very successful partnership, Messrs. Musick and Simpson in 1865 dissolved, but Mr. Musick continued his sheep business at what later became the site of Letcher. He came to own some 800 acres, all finely improved, and devoted mostly to short-horn cattle and the growing of hay.

In 1892, Mr. Musick left the country and took up his residence in Fresno. He erected residences, came to own city land of value, and at Millerton owned certain acreage of more value because of some high-grade sulphur springs, on the road to the Yosemite, where he had a summer residence.

Mr. Musick was twice married. His first wife was Miss Rebecca Richards, and they were married at Dry Creek, where also occurred her decease. She was born at Millerton, and was a daughter of James Richards, a pioneer. Three of their five children reached maturity: Mary Effie became the wife of William Henderson of Fresno; Nancy Ann is Mrs. J. P. Fincher of Clovis; and Laura Isabelle is the wife of Benjamin Sims of Fresno. The second Mrs. Musick was Nancy Jane Messersmith, a native of Cole County, Mo., who survives him.

As a prominent and influential Democrat, Mr. Musick for two terms served as supervisor and as chairman of the board, and he was one of the foremost backers of the movement, carried out while he was in office, to change the county seat from Millerton to Fresno, contending that the seat of local government should be on the railroad. He also had an honorable part in the erection of the county court house. He was one of the sponsors of the fine private academy at Dry Creek, afterward deeded to the school district of which Mr. Musick was trustee for years. He was an Odd Fellow and a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church South.

Mr. Musick died at his home in Fresno, on June 4, 1918, in his eighty-sixth year, hale and hearty to the last, and attending to his business affairs until almost the hour he was called to lay aside earthly matters. He was known throughout the county, and particularly by the pioneers, as Uncle Jess, and was distinguished as one of the known eleven living, oldest in years and in continuous residence, of those that were in the territory before the formation, out of the mother county Mariposa, of Fresno County, in 1856. He felt that in early life his advantages had been limited, and probably this nerved him to that greater endeavor by which he became such a splendid example of successful American manhood.

**JAMES NATHAN MAXWELL.**—An interesting old-timer who for years operated one of the best west-side ranches and again and again showed his warm advocacy of local improvements, especially in the matter of better schools, is James Nathan Maxwell, a native of Pike County, Mo., where he was born on October 31, 1844. The father, William Maxwell, was a Virginian of a good old family, who became a pioneer in Pike County and died at the age of thirty-five. The mother was Polly Van Noy before her marriage, and she came from Tennessee. After the death of Mr. Maxwell, she married Benjamin Woodson. When she passed away, in Missouri, she was the mother of two children, by the first union and one child living of the second union. The oldest, Albert P. Maxwell, resides at Yamhill, Ore. William G. Woodson is a farmer of Borden, Madera County.

Thus orphaned, James Maxwell, the younger of the two children by his mother's first marriage, was brought up with an uncle, Edley Maxwell, a farmer, and attended the local school. In the beginning he worked on his uncle's farm, but at fifteen he began to work on the farms of other ranchers. Early and late, he was at his post of duty, and in time made such a reputation for intelligent, progressive enterprise, and for reliability and honesty, that he had no difficulty in finding engagements and opportunity.

While he was near Bowling Green, in Pike County, Mo., in 1873, Mr. Maxwell was married to Miss Mary E. Rutherford, a native of that section

and the daughter of James Rutherford, who came from an old Kentucky family. Her father arrived in Missouri as a young man, went through the pioneer stages, and married Margaret A. Van Noy, who was born in Tennessee. Later he came to Fresno County with his family, and at Lone Star he and his wife breathed their last. They were the parents of fourteen children, twelve of whom grew to maturity; and among them Mrs. Maxwell was the oldest.

After their marriage, Mr. Maxwell bought a farm ten miles from Bowl-ing Green, where he engaged in grain and stock-raising; but on account of his ill-health, he sought a change of climate, and in 1876 sold out and located in California. For a while he had a ranchita in Los Angeles County, where he raised corn; and succeeding, he bought a ranch of thirty acres. In 1884 he sold out and came to Fresno County and rented farm lands at Red Banks. In 1886 he homesteaded 160 acres forty-one miles west of Fresno, and there he carried on general farming. He dug a well, but the water being unfit for use, he was forced to haul water all the way from Firebaugh, twelve miles away, and at the end of seven years sold what he had for \$250. During this time, he worked out in grain fields and on farms with a six-horse team. On account of the dry years he finally gave up farming there, and moved to Big Sandy, where he followed stock-raising for a period of three years. Then he rented some alfalfa land near Fresno, and so got started. In 1898, he bought twenty acres in the National Colony, paying one hundred dollars down on the place, which cost sixty-five dollars an acre. The next year he set out a fine vineyard, and grew watermelons between the rows of vines, and thus in time managed to pay for the place. Some of the melons weighed sixty pounds. He grew wine grapes, Thompson's Seedless, Sultanas and Zinfandels; and nowhere for miles around could finer fruit from a vineyard be seen. He early identified himself with the California Associated Raisin Company.

Four children have blessed the union of Mr. and Mrs. Maxwell. William Elmer is ranching in this county; James Guilford also has a fine farm near here; and Myrtie Ellen and Ernest Edwin dwell at home with their parents, the latter having charge of the home place. The family attend the First Christian Church of Fresno. Wide-awake to every movement for the public good, Mr. Maxwell has found pleasure in serving as a trustee of the West Side school; that is, the school in the Penocha district. The schoolhouse used to be far below the standard; but Mr. Maxwell succeeded in bonding the district and having a new school building erected at a cost of \$2,400.

**ALBERT GRANT GIBBS.**—A very successful and enterprising rancher and vineyardist, in the Lone Star District of Fresno County, a self-made man who has risen, by indomitable energy and judicious management, from very modest circumstances to one of comfort and is now regarded as a well-to-do viticulturist and owner of one of the best forty-acre ranches in this district is Mr. A. G. Gibbs, the subject of this sketch. He is a native of Illinois, having first seen the light of day in Adams County, November 17, 1868. Jonathan Gibbs, his father is still living at the age of eighty and is the owner of a fifty-acre vineyard at Lone Star. His mother, who in maidenhood was Miss Elizabeth McGibbons, passed away ten years ago at Lone Star, Fresno County. Mr. and Mrs. Jonathan Gibbs were the parents of nine children, the subject of this review, A. G. Gibbs, being the third in order of birth.

The family moved from Illinois to Missouri and later migrated to San Francisco, Cal., where they remained eight years and it was in the big city by the Golden Gate that A. G. Gibbs passed that portion of his life between the ages of twelve and twenty years.

In 1888, in company with his father and family, A. G. Gibbs came to Fresno County, where at first they rented land, afterwards buying an interest

in a land company which they finally sold and purchased land separately. A. G. Gibbs purchased forty acres one and a half miles southwest of Lone Star where he has developed a splendid vineyard, having planted all of the vines himself, with the exception of ten acres. In 1908 he built an attractive bungalow and now he has a beautiful and cozy place. He and his brother-in-law own jointly eighty acres of land near Raisin City.

In 1896, Mr. A. G. Gibbs was united in marriage with Lillie Frances Armstrong, daughter of William and Millie (Stover) Armstrong, who own a twenty-acre vineyard at Lone Star. Mrs. Gibbs was born at Winterset, Iowa, and when nine years of age came with her parents from Missouri to the Golden State. Mr. and Mrs. Gibbs are the parents of one child; Roy Harold, a student in Fresno High School.

When Mr. Gibbs arrived in Fresno County he quickly realized the great opportunities this section offered to ambitious young men of good character who were not afraid to work and willing to practice thrift and economy in their daily lives. By adopting such a code of living himself, Mr. Gibbs achieved success and to his estimable wife, no less than to himself, should the praise of the achievement be ascribed.

Mr. and Mrs. A. G. Gibbs are highly respected in the community where they have resided for so many years, he being a member of the California Raisin Growers Association.

**MORGAN BAIRD.**—Conspicuous among the progressive and prosperous ranchers and stockmen of Fresno County, was the late Morgan Baird, a worthy son of an honored pioneer father, the late Alfred Baird. Benjamin Morgan Baird was a native of the Hawkeye State, having been born in Frankville, Winneshiek County, Iowa, on December 27, 1853, and when six years of age came across the plains with his parents and settled in Visalia, Tulare County, Cal. His early education was obtained in the public school of Tulare County, supplemented by special study under Father Date, and later completed by attending the San Jose State Normal School, and a course at the business college in San Jose, from which institution he was graduated.

Upon finishing his school-days he engaged in the sheep business with his father, but some years later became an independent sheep-grower in Tulare County. While sojourning in Tulare County, Morgan Baird sowed the first alfalfa in the vicinity and also set out a vineyard of fifty-five acres, the first in all that neighborhood. Another enterprise largely due to his efforts was the organization of a ditch company by which he secured water for irrigating his land. Upon selling his sheep he embarked in the grain business with John A. Patterson, and they were the first to place the Glide Ranch, in Stokes Valley, under cultivation; also the first ranchers to introduce the Shippey combined harvester, operated by sixteen horses. Under ordinary circumstances they would have reaped large profits from their cultivation of 4,000 acres, but poor crops and low prices combined to make their investment unprofitable so they finally sold out their holdings. Upon his return to Fresno County, Morgan Baird became interested in raising grain and cattle, which business he conducted upon his father's homestead.

On January 24, 1898, Morgan Baird was united in marriage with Mrs. Mary (Davis) Givens, a native of Fresno County, the ceremony being solemnized at Reno, Nev. She is the daughter of William and Sarah J. (Ellis) Davis, who were natives of Mississippi and Virginia, respectively. Her father, William Davis, an own cousin of Jefferson Davis, President of the Confederacy, crossed the plains to California in 1849, when eighteen years of age, and was among the pioneers of Millerton, where he became interested in sheep-raising. He was a brave and fearless pioneer having taken part in the Indian wars in California. Mr. and Mrs. Morgan Baird were the parents of five children: Addison, and Morgan, Jr., attending the University of California; Carroll, a student in Fresno High; Gordon, and Alfreda.







*D M Baird*



*Ma Megan David*



After the death of his father, in 1914, Morgan Baird was by his father's will made the administrator of his large estate, but was not privileged to manage the estate for a very long time as he was called to the Great Beyond on February 16, 1916, and in his passing the community sustained the loss of one of its most successful and prosperous ranchers and stockmen. Morgan Baird had watched with much gratification the wonderful development of the San Joaquin Valley and Fresno County, in which he had the honor of participating. He was a gentleman of fine personality and bearing and fraternally he was a prominent Mason of the Scottish Rite degree.

**MRS. MORGAN BAIRD.**—A splendid example of noble California womanhood and a lady of accomplishment and pluck, the worthiest possible representative of other worthy Americans long influential for great good in the communities in which they lived and amid the civilization that they helped to guide and develop, is Mrs. Morgan Baird, who has a fine home ranch in Fairview that she is bringing to a high state of cultivation. She is the widow of the late Morgan Baird, the honored descendant of the well-known pioneer, Alfred Baird, both of whose careers are also sketched in greater detail in this historical work.

At Reno, in Nevada, on January 24, 1898, Mr. Baird married Mrs. Mary (Davis) Givens, a native daughter born near Hornitos, Mariposa County, whose parents were William and Sarah J. (Ellis) Davis, natives respectively of Mississippi and Virginia. William Davis was a second cousin of Jefferson Davis, the great leader and president of the Southern Confederacy, and Mrs. Baird is the niece of Mrs. Mary (Davis) Lemberger, a lady remarkable for her advanced age (of over one hundred years) and her clear intellect. William Davis was among the bravest of the early settlers at Millerton, having crossed the plains, and while engaged in the stock business and the raising of sheep he helped put down the Indian insurrections. A grandfather on the mother's side was Dr. T. O. Ellis, a member of an old Virginia family, and the first physician to practice in Fresno County, as he was also the first county superintendent of schools here, and the first man in the entire county to set out a vineyard and an orchard. After the death of Mr. Davis in 1871, his widow made her home near Academy, the beloved mother of six children, grown to maturity: W. T. Davis is a stockman in Fresno County; Jefferson E. Davis is a prominent real estate man in Fresno; Eugene is a stockman at Fort Miller; Mary F. has become Mrs. Baird, the subject of this review; Jack is a stockman in Dry Creek, and W. H. is a viticulturist and horticulturist in Round Mountain. Mrs. Baird received her education in the public schools of Visalia and in a young ladies' seminary at Oakland, where she enjoyed the best of social advantages, in keeping with the traditions of her family. Dr. Ellis, referred to, was highly educated, in the classics as well as in medicine, and so was Mrs. Baird's mother, who is a well-educated, cultured and very refined woman, and a favorite in the best circles in Fresno, where she makes her home. As a result of her marriage with Mr. Givens, Mrs. Morgan Baird has two daughters, Mrs. Edith Baird and Mrs. Hazel Wood, both of whom live in the Fairview district, while through her union with Mr. Baird she is the mother of five children: Walter Addison and Morgan Corwin, both graduates of Fresno High, now attending the University of California; Carroll Hubbard, a student at Fresno High School; and Gordon and Alfreda.

During their later years, Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Baird were tenderly cared for by their son Morgan and his equally devoted wife, who was an accomplished nurse; and it was only natural that the senior gentleman should appoint Morgan, in his will, as administrator of the estate. As is often the case, one of the benefactors of the will at once proceeded to contest the wishes of the deceased; long litigation followed and naturally the worries incidental to such an unpleasant responsibility undoubtedly had the effect of hastening Morgan Baird's death, which occurred on February 16, 1916. He was pre-

vented, therefore, from further acting in the capacity designated by his father in his last testament, but Mrs. Baird pluckily and properly took up the fight, not merely for the estate, but to vindicate the character and claims of her husband and her father-in-law, who were noted both for their gentlemanly personality and public-spiritedness in the development of this part of the state, and finally she had the satisfaction of witnessing the Supreme Court sustaining the will. Since then she has administered with rare ability the estate and numerous affairs left by her lamented husband, and she is making a great success of farming, both in viticulture and stock-raising.

The several thousand acres in the Academy district left Mrs. Baird by her husband, she is devoting to stock and grain farming, and she has a home ranch of 100 acres in Fairview, which she is developing into a vineyard and an olive and fig orchard. Prominent in local social circles, Mrs. Baird also finds a sphere of great usefulness in the activities of the Episcopal Church at Fresno, to which she belongs, as well as to Raisina Chapter, O. E. S., and San Joaquin Court of the Order of Amaranth. With the new spirit of the new century, hailing woman as decidedly the equal of man, Fresno County is proud of every such native daughter as Mrs. Benjamin Morgan Baird.

**CARL A. LISENBY.**—Of more than ordinary significance both for the present and the future industrial life of Fresno is the great enterprise, the Lisenby Manufacturing Co., of which Carl A. Lisenby is Secretary, Treasurer and General Manager and in the story of his life we get the introduction to that of the industry referred to. A native son, Carl A. Lisenby was born at Fresno on August 21, 1888, the son of A. V. and Emma C. (Wright) Lisenby, and the lad had the advantage of counsel and example from one of the most substantial citizens of the town. His father was long identified with banking interests, and is today president of a well-known banking company.

Carl was educated at the local grammar and high schools, and sought to top off his studies at the University of Southern California. He made a specialty there of literary work, but eventually commenced the law course. Circumstances, however, compelled him to abandon the undertaking, in order to assume his present position; and having thus early been initiated into the intricate business, he has come to understand every stage in the manufacture of their machine—the wonderful Multicolor Printing Press.

The Lisenby plant is a model one, and in the manufacture of this famous machine some seventy-five people are employed. Every consideration is given to the comfort and protection of the employe, and to meet the increase of orders (which always far exceed the present supply), the company contemplates enlarging their works, having a large machine shop built, also building a new foundry, so that every part of the machine may be manufactured in this city. The multicolor press has long ago passed its experimental stage, and is an established success, and has been sold in far-away countries all over the world. The general eastern sales offices of the company are at 298 Broadway, New York City, and 417 South Dearborn Street, Chicago, Ill., and many branch offices have been opened in the principal American cities. Another branch of the Lisenby industry is the manufacture of a line of farm implements. Its phenomenal success, requiring expert handicraft, intricate machinery and special tools, has enabled the Company to pay the highest wages, which return again to the community in local expending and general circulation.

He is a popular supporter of all good measures in the Fresno Commercial Club, Chamber of Commerce, Merchants Association and other civic bodies. Mr. Lisenby was made a Mason in Fresno Lodge, No. 247, F. & A. M. of which he is a Past Master. He is a member of the Fresno Chapter R. A. M.; Fresno Commandery No. 29, K. T.; Fresno Consistory No. 8, Scottish Rite bodies and Islam Temple A. A. O. N. M. S., San Francisco.

With his wife he is a member of Fresno Chapter O. E. S. Mr. Lisenby is a charter member of the Masonic Club in San Francisco. During the World War he spent much of his time in the different drives: Liberty Loan; Red Cross; War Savings Stamps and all war activities and was a member of different committees for the raising of money to prosecute the war.

On March 14, 1912, the marriage of Mr. Lisenby to Miss Edith M. Niblock was delightfully celebrated, and one daughter, Catherine Grace, now graces the household. Mr. and Mrs. Lisenby attend the Methodist Church.

**WINFIELD SCOTT ROBINSON.**—Of marked character and attainments, and one who is also interesting because of the honored family that he represents, is Winfield Scott Robinson, who came to California in the seventies. He was born near Louisville, Clay County, Ill., on October 15, 1849, the son of William H. Robinson, a native of Virginia, who came to Illinois and was there married to Hannah Clark, a native of Maryland, and they settled in Clay County, where the elder Robinson was a farmer. He died in 1852, and the mother passed away in 1873, the mother of ten children, six of whom grew to maturity.

William H. Robinson was a true educator, and built the first school house and taught the first school in the district. He was also a justice of the peace, and at the time of his death was candidate for sheriff on the Whig ticket. He was a prominent and influential man, and of striking and attractive personality.

Winfield Scott lived with his grandfather, Robert Robinson, a native of Philadelphia, who was born in 1795 and had served in the War of 1812. While receiving a good education in the public schools, he assisted his grandfather on the home farm, until he was twenty-one. In 1871 he started for California, and on March 13th of that year he arrived in the Golden State and went as far south as Modesto, at that time the terminus of the railway. He worked on a ranch and in the fall leased a section of land where, for seven or eight years, he engaged in the raising of grain. They were dry years and the prices obtained for his products were very low, so that he did not accumulate much. Unfortunately, he shipped one crop through E. E. Morgan & Sons and on account of their failure in business he lost all but the small initial payment.

In 1879 Mr. Robinson located in Fresno County, near what is now Selma, and there he bought 240 acres and engaged in general farming. He experimented with vines and orchards, and planted alfalfa and grain. He was successful here, and having thrice received good offers for his land, then highly improved, he sold eighty acres. After that he rented land and farmed for six years, at Kingston, now Laton. Afterwards he ran the hotel in Laton and finally, selling out, he located in Fresno. Here he resumed the hotel business, and in 1908 he bought his present holding, twenty-five choice acres in the Arizona Colony, and at once began improvements. While still in business in town, Mr. Robinson set out a fine orchard, and the place is now devoted to raising peaches, together with alfalfa and berries, which he sells to local stores. The ranch is under the Herndon Canal, but he has also installed a pumping-plant. For some years Mr. Robinson was in the poultry business, and in that field also he set a new pace in the application of improved methods for raising fowls. He has been a member and stockholder of the California Peach Growers, Inc., from its origin.

At Fresno, on August 20, 1885, Mr. Robinson was married to Miss Nellie Clark, a native of Iowa City, Iowa, who came to California when she was six months old, crossing the plains in an ox team train with her parents, C. Andrew and Eliza (Blunt) Clark, natives of Nebraska and Indiana respectively. In 1867 they left Iowa for California, and after a stay in Mendocino County, Mr. Clark became one of the first settlers of Tulare County, in 1873, engaging in farming near Hanford until his death in 1876; his



widow now resides with the children. Of their eight children five are living, Mrs. Robinson being the second youngest. One child has blessed the union of Mr. and Mrs. Robinson, a daughter, Alice, now the wife of J. A. Kieffer who is engaged on the Santa Fe Railroad, and who resides in the Arizona Colony.

Mr. Robinson was made a Mason in La Clede Lodge, No. 601, at La Clede, Ill., and he is now a charter member of Selma Lodge, No. 277, F. & A. M., of which he was master for two terms. Both Mr. and Mrs. Robinson are members of Raisina Chapter, O. E. S., of Fresno. As a Republican, Mr. Robinson has been a strong advocate of temperance. He has also worked for better irrigation facilities, and has been a delegate from his (the Roeding) district to irrigation meetings for the public ownership of canals as well as water-ways of Fresno County.

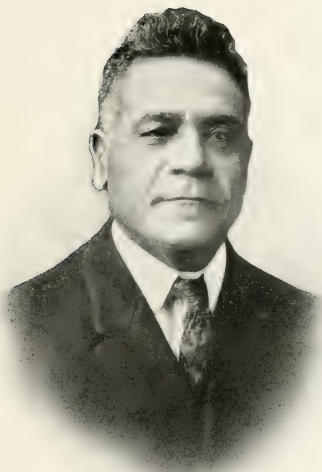
**SARKIS TUFENKJIAN, M. D.**—Scattered here and there throughout the wide United States, never, perhaps to be found in any considerable colony, and yet representing a rather formidable aggregate, and making up, one of the most valuable classes among our progressive American citizens, are the thrifty and highly-intelligent folk from faraway, romantic Armenia—that land and people so long under a barbaric yoke, so long subject to dire and awful persecutions, so that it is a wonder that the race has prospered at all, and more of a miracle when a son of that land attains to the eminent success which has rewarded the life and labors of Dr. S. Tufenkjian, now one of the prominent ranchers of Fresno. He was born in Armenia in December, 1867, a son of John Tufenkjian, well-known in that country, and leaving an excellent record for accomplishment in the round of plain, everyday duty. His mother, of whom he also has fond memories, was Zerta Tufenkjian; and in her comely virtues, she well typified the women of her ancient and renowned land.

As a lad, the subject of our sketch was educated at the American missionary schools, and while thus getting a very thorough Western training, he had his attention early and fortunately directed to the great Republic with its irresistible appeal to the lovers of liberty. As a result, when he had finished his elementary and secondary schooling, he came to the United States and matriculated at the University of Michigan, where during four years of residence at Ann Arbor, he thoroughly enjoyed the life of the quiet university town. He had made a flattering number of friends, and these wished him God-speed as he set out into the larger world.

Going to New York—for he now began to feel the lure of the metropolis, with its varied and most instructive side-lights of life—Mr. Tufenkjian entered the medical school of the great University of the City of New York, then, as for half a century and more, directed by many of the most eminent men in the surgical and medical world; and in 1885 he finished his course with distinction, and received the degree of Doctor of Medicine. He had thus studied medicine under some of the most advantageous conditions anywhere obtainable in America.

Dr. Tufenkjian's first practice, somewhat naturally, was had in New York City, where he also profited by the neighboring hospitals and clinics; but after that, although he had become a naturalized citizen of the United States, he returned to Armenia and went among his native people, rendering medical aid to whomsoever he could. Only when he felt that a still greater field for the exercise of his best gifts awaited him on this side of the ocean, did he return to America.

It was just the beginning of the new century, in 1900, when Dr. Tufenkjian turned his face toward the Pacific Slope, and the same year when, having surveyed California rather critically, he chose Fresno as promising the most for the future. Growing up in a country highly favored in certain facilities for agriculture, he no longer essayed to practice medicine, but took to the more open life and orcharding. Now he owns the famous Estrella Vineyard,



*S. Tufenkjian*



eighty acres of the choicest land to be found in this region, which he partly improved. Applying his knowledge and his industry, he has been, as one might say he was bound to be, more than ordinarily successful, thus adding one more interesting record to the splendid history of the Armenians in America.

On November 17, 1892, Dr. Tufenkjian was married to Miss Perooza Kaloostan, and by her he has had three children: Zabel, Mrs. Kandarian; Richard, a graduate of the high school and Junior College at Fresno; and Florence. The family worships as Presbyterians, and the doctor is a Blue Lodge Mason.

The important part in politics taken by the Doctor has been in the organizing of the Armenians for the Republican party, thereby overthrowing the Democratic strength. He has been an ardent supporter of the Republican candidates on national questions, but on local issues supports the best men and best measures, and he has always taken the stump for various candidates. He has led his people in all drives during the Great War, and all charitable enterprises have received his hearty support. He has been a supporter of all the raisin associations from the start and is now a member of the California Associated Raisin Company.

Not only have the political experiences of Dr. Tufenkjian made him ardently patriotic and greatly interested in civic affairs, but his professional work and his recent scientific experiments, demonstrating the extent to which the material prosperity of the state depends on intelligent husbandry and the wise conservation of resources, have led him to give time, effort and influence to furthering every cause for the real uplift of the people, and the advance of social welfare. In this way, Dr. Tufenkjian's advent in Fresno must be reckoned as fortunate for everyone concerned.

**CLARENCE WILLIAM EDWARDS.**—Prominent among the progressive educators of California whose aggressive, thoroughly scientific and scientifically thorough methods and accomplishments in the past give stimulating warrant of a still more brilliant future, auguring all that could be desired for the best interests of the public committed to their care, must be mentioned Clarence William Edwards, for years a very active and valuable co-worker, in one position of responsibility or another, in the solution of the great problems attending the development of education in Central California, and since the beginning of 1919 Superintendent of Schools for Fresno County, an office he is filling, as might well be expected from his exceptional preparation and opportunity for experience, to the satisfaction of everyone. His grandfather, Pressley N. Edwards, was a '49er hailing from Missouri, so that such have been the traditions in Superintendent Edwards' family that he has always enjoyed and cherished the "California spirit."

He was born at Visalia on March 4, 1878, the son of Edward Darnall Edwards, a native of Liberty, Clay county, Mo., who married Anna Finch of Obion County, Tennessee. When the Civil War broke out, Edward Edwards entered the Confederate Army from Missouri, and at the conclusion of the great struggle, matriculated at William Jewell College, at Liberty, Mo. He then studied law at Memphis, Tenn., was successfully admitted to the Tennessee bar, and for a while practiced law in Memphis and Union City in that State. During the great Centennial year he brought his family West to California, settled for a while in San Francisco, and then went to Visalia.

In 1878 Mr. Edwards, foreseeing the greater field at Fresno, moved to this city, and ever since he has practiced law here continuously, so that now, at the age of seventy-three, he may well be regarded as a veteran attorney, and one who, pleasantly situated in his well-appointed offices in the Temple Bar Building, enjoys the esteem of thousands to whom he has long been known. Mrs. Edwards, it is happy to relate, is still living to enjoy with him, as she has done for the past quarter of a century there, their hospitable

home at 1837 J Street; although, for eight years previously, the Edwards lived at their San Dimas Ranch, a choice vineyard of 100 acres in the Scandinavian Colony, five miles north-east of Fresno. Besides the subject of our interesting and instructive sketch, two other sons were born to this highly-favored couple. Ernest H. is in the transportation department of the Southern Pacific at Tucson, Ariz., while Jefferson James is Captain of the twentieth U. S. Infantry, at Camp Funston, Texas, and recently in attendance at an officers' training school at Fort Lee, Virginia.

A mere lad when he first came to Fresno, Clarence Edwards attended both the grammar schools and the high school of the city and finished his studies in a creditable manner, taking the literary course at the high school, and being graduated with the Class of '97. He matriculated at the University of California in the fall of that year, took the social science course, and was graduated in 1901 with the degree of B.L. During vacations, beginning with his high school life and extending through the days at the university, he worked in his father's law office, where he came in touch with the county and city officials, and also came to know the local lawyers and newspaper men, thereby getting a first-hand acquaintance with the rank and file of the men and women of ability with which Fresno has so long been favored in its superior citizenry; and between the Sophomore and Junior years at the University, he worked as city reporter on the old "Expositor," then "The Daily Evening Expositor" of Fresno. By this application to practical work, Mr. Edwards added much to his experience with human nature, and the men of affairs had a good chance to look over and get acquainted with the rising young man of promise.

His university diploma entitled Mr. Edwards to a grammar school certificate, and with that coveted equipment, he began his career as a pedagogue by acting as principal of the Belmont grammar school in Fresno, now known more appropriately as the Webster school. Being ambitious from the start, however, for six summers he also did post-graduate work at the University, where he specialized in history, jurisprudence and education; and at the end of these desirable studies, in 1903 he received a University Document of the greatest value as fully establishing his status as an educator according, in particular, to California ideals. Since that time he has done considerable additional post-graduate work along the same lines. He was for a while principal of the Emerson and the Hawthorne grammar schools, and for the past ten years has been principal of the Lowell grammar school; while from 1914 to 1919 he was supervising principal of the Lowell, Franklin and Poppy schools. He has also taken an active part in the county teachers' institutes, where he has given talks and read papers and contributed substantially to the discussions so important to the teacher desiring to grow and broaden; and very naturally his acquaintance with the teachers of Fresno County has become more and more extensive.

At the opening of the campaign of 1918, Mr. Edwards was prevailed upon to become a candidate before the primaries for the Superintendency of Fresno County Schools, and the result of the primaries insured his election. No one could carry his honors with more becoming modesty; but his popularity is well attested by the fact that he won out by a very handsome majority over his opponent, Prof. A. E. Balch, who was the leading supervising assistant under former Superintendent E. W. Lindsay, an educator of great ability whose life-story is told in detail elsewhere in this volume.

Superintendent Edwards is a member of the Central California Teachers' Association Ex-Officio, by virtue of being the County Superintendent. He also belongs to the University Club of Fresno. He is a Mason affiliated with Fresno Lodge, F. & A. M., No. 247, where he is Past Master, and as a Knight Templar is a member of Fresno Commandery No. 29. Of course he is also a member of the Fresno Chamber of Commerce.

How important a trust has been committed to this up-to-date school-man may be judged from the fact that Fresno County has 156 elementary schools and fifteen high schools, to which he must give his closest supervising attention. He is ably assisted, however, by C. S. Weaver of Fresno, and W. L. Worth, of the same city, and Mrs. Florence B. Rutherford, also of the county seat.

About the only "serious" diversion indulged in by Mr. Edwards is that of hunting, for in company with his gun and dog, he seeks to repair the waste in a strenuous life among his fellow-men. In this respect he finds himself in as good a company as when training the young idea how to shoot.

**GEORGE W. JONES.**—Among Fresno's citizens whose business career since 1889 has been associated with the interests of this beautiful city, we note Attorney George W. Jones, of the firm of Jones and Johnston. Of California pioneer stock, he was born at Placerville, Eldorado County, Cal., November 6, 1864. His father, William, a native of the state of New York, came to California from Illinois in 1851, crossing the plains by the usual means of locomotion of that day, the ox team caravan, of which he was in charge. During the Civil War he served as Lieutenant-Colonel of the Second California Volunteer Cavalry. His mother, in maidenhood, Emma Artz, came to California by way of the Isthmus in 1852. William and Emma (Artz) Jones were united in marriage in San Francisco by the noted divine, Star King. The parents are both dead.

George W. received his education in the public schools and studied law at the University of California, graduating with the class of 1888. He selected Fresno as the city of his choice, where he has been engaged in the active practice of his profession since 1889. For two years he was in partnership with Judge H. Z. Austin, and is now a member of the law firm of Jones and Johnston. Under Alva E. Snow, Mr. Jones served as assistant district attorney. He was elected to the office of district attorney in 1903 and served one term. He was a member of the board of education and was also city trustee under Dr. Rowell, and under Mayor Snow by appointment. In politics he is progressive; was actively engaged in organizing the Lincoln-Roosevelt League and was president of the local branch. He is unmarried. For two years he was Captain of Company F., Sixth Infantry Regular National Guard of California, and Major of the Second Battalion for the same length of time.

Fraternally, Mr. Jones is a Mason and has passed all degrees of the York Rite; and is a member of the Foresters of America and of the Woodmen of the World, and director of the building corporation of the latter. He is also an Elk and a charter member of the Sequoia Club.

During the recent war George W. Jones was a member of the Legal Advisory Board for Fresno County, and branch chairman of Military Camps Association of the United States, a civil organization working under the direction of the War Department, and he was appointed a civil aid to the Adjutant General.

He was also a Four Minute Man, and participated in its activities throughout Fresno County.

**MILTON D. HUFFMAN.**—Fresno County, in the early years of its history, was often spoken of as the "Wild Flower County", owing to the profusion of the beautiful California poppy and many other varieties of wild flowers. In 1881 Milton D. Huffman with his young wife, came to California and located in the "Wild Flower County" near the now flourishing city of Fresno. He was the son of Milton and Catherine (Weaver) Huffman, born in Columbus and Circleville, Ohio, respectively. Milton Huffman senior, was a prosperous farmer in the state of Ohio on the Scioto River, south of Columbus, but in 1858 removed to Pettis County, Mo. where he farmed for many years. Owing to the long hot summers and cold winters the Huff-

man's in their later years decided to test the more equable climate of California, to which state they came in 1905, remaining here until they passed away. Mr. Huffman died October 21, 1910, and his well beloved wife in April, 1911. Grandfather Jacob Huffman was born in Pennsylvania, he was an early settler of Ohio and homesteaded 160 acres on the Scioto River, and became a prosperous and large landowner.

Milton D. Huffman was born in Columbus, Ohio, December 5, 1857, and in 1858 removed with his parents to Pettis County, Mo. and as a boy and young man he remained with his parents, helping his father with the farm work and attending the public schools in Sedalia, Mo. In 1876, at the early age of nineteen, Mr. Huffman was united in marriage with Miss Laura Elliott of Boonville, Mo. and in 1881 came to California and began general ranching and sheep raising west of Wild Flower in Fresno County. He remained on the ranch until 1902, when he removed to the city of Fresno, but continued in the sheep raising business in which he has been very successful, and at the present time has a large band of fine sheep. He soon became well known and very popular, so much so that in 1908, although not seeking the office, he was elected as supervisor on the Democratic ticket and reelected in 1912 serving for eight years, from January, 1909 till January, 1917 when, although urged by his many friends to serve again he declined to be a candidate. During his service he was particularly interested in the building of roads and his district was said to have the best mountain roads built for the least money.

Mr. and Mrs. Huffman have two daughters, both married. Nina is Mrs. W. W. Terrill of Wilmington, Delaware; Leona, is Mrs. L. F. King, of San Jose.

Mr. Huffman is a publicspirited man and during his long residence in Fresno County has had much to do with its development. He is a prominent member and trustee of the First Christian Church, is a Democrat in his political views and a member of the Chamber of Commerce. He is a Knight Templar and Shriner, also a member of the B. P. O. Elks and the Knights of Pythias.

**DON PARDEE RIGGS.**—Perhaps no man has contributed more to the musical advancement of Fresno County than has Don Pardee Riggs. Himself a musician of note, he has been prominent in musical circles in California since 1894, and was the direct means of bringing the first stars of that profession to Fresno; beginning with the world renowned violinist, Ysaye, in 1905, he brought the following here for concert work: Schumann-Heink, Madame Gadske, Gerardy, the cellist, the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, the Russian Symphony Orchestra, the Ben Greet Company, in "A Midsummer Night's Dream," and other famous artists, thus giving Fresno the opportunity to hear music interpreted by the foremost exponents of that art.

Mr. Riggs was born in Barnsville, Belmont County, Ohio, December 7, 1869, and was reared and educated there. In 1888 he came to Fresno, and was in the employ of the Fresno Furniture Company here for eight months. He then went to Oakland, in the employ of the C. Schreiber Furniture Company, until 1890. For the next two years he traveled on the road through the Middle West for the E. T. Barnes wholesale furniture commission house of Chicago, Ill., and Grand Rapids, Mich. Returning to Oakland, in 1892, he was again with the C. Schreiber Company for a time.

From 1894 up to 1917, Mr. Riggs became identified with music in the bay cities and Fresno. He is a charter member of the Music Teachers Association of California, organized in 1897. He began the study of the violin at the age of eleven years, under Prof. George Collins, in Ohio, continuing six years. Again taking up the study with William F. Zech, of San Francisco, and during the next six years he studied and taught the violin, and was choir director of the Grace M. E. Church and of the Trinity M. E. Church of







*J. H. Caldwell*

San Francisco. He was also manager of the Clara Schumann Ladies Quartette in that city. He studied voice with Miss Marie Withrow and with McKenzie Gordon of San Francisco, and Stephen Townsend of Boston, Mass. In 1900 Mr. Riggs came to Fresno as concert violinist and teacher. After his arrival here his services were secured as music director of the First Presbyterian Church of Fresno, where he had a well organized choir. In four years he began the teaching of voice, and soon became one of the most prominent teachers in the interior of the state, his pupils filling solo positions in almost every town and city in the San Joaquin Valley. Himself a most finished and artistic singer, he has given many recitals in the valley. He lent his influence and personal help in the upbuilding of the Fresno Musical Club, and has been one of the most prominent figures in the development of music in Fresno from 1900 to 1918, doing his utmost to help this section of the state keep its artistic advancement in a line with the phenomenal growth of its other developments. In April, 1917, Mr. Riggs entered the employ of the D. H. Williams Furniture Company of Fresno, and on March 1, 1918, he became a member of the above firm. Fraternally he is a member of the Fresno Lodge, No. 439, B. P. O. Elks, and is Past Exalted Ruler of that order.

**JOHN HOLLISTER CADWALLADER.**—Among those pioneers long identified with the development of California, and prominent as the representative of an old, historic family, may well be mentioned John Hollister Cadwallader, a viticulturist and agriculturist whose application of scientific methods has been seasoned with the most practical personal experience. He was born at Pleasant Grove, Des Moines County, Iowa, on February 8, 1863, the son of David Cadwallader, a native of New York and a carpenter by trade, who in Ohio met and married Albina Howison, a native of Virginia. The Cadwallader family, a branch of the Cadwaladers famous through such lights as George, John and Lambert Cadwalader, the soldiers who won renown on the battle-field, originally came from Wales and the Howisons from England, and David Cadwallader was here so early that he became a veteran of the Mexican War. Arriving in Iowa from Ohio, he worked as a contractor and builder, as well as a farmer near Burlington, and later he removed to a farm that he purchased near Pleasant Grove, where he followed agricultural pursuits until he died, in 1865. Of the two children born to him and his good wife Albina, John H., who was left fatherless when he was two years old, is the eldest. His widowed mother continued to reside on the farm for five years, during which time she taught school. In April, 1873, she brought her children to California, accompanying her father, Edwin Howison. She married a second time in Fresno County, choosing as her husband Steve Hamilton, who was a rancher and also supervisor for two terms. Both passed away here, the mother of our subject dying in 1901. Two of her sisters located in Fresno County.

John H. went to school in both the Mississippi and Red Bank districts, and while attending school, assisted his step-father, Steve Hamilton, who was a very worthy man, receiving such excellent training that when he had finished his schooling, he went to work on grain ranches, thereby learning the San Joaquin Valley method of farming with big teams. At different times in those early days he harvested grain all over the Dry Creek and Red Bank districts including what is now the Garfield, Jefferson and Red Bank districts, and so came to be posted on the best-producing and richest soils. He knew every man that took homesteads on the plains, and he was acquainted with the head of every family from the San Joaquin to the Kings River.

When only seventeen years of age, John's inborn characteristics, particularly his energy and perseverance, began to be displayed. Not satisfied with working for wages, he leased ground in 1880, and commenced to lay the foundation for a successful and enterprising career. During the period from 1880 to 1900 he continued to rent land and raise grain, and twenty

years were devoted to this industry, during which time he continued to increase his holdings. Beginning with 320 acres at Red Bank, he acquired more land from time to time, and having also leased land, operated about 1,500 acres, using four large teams, and wearing out three combined harvesters. In 1900 he bought forty acres east of Clovis, and was among the first to set out a vineyard in Enterprise Colony. This place he sold, and in 1899 purchased his present place of forty acres about the center of Garfield district, which he named the Garfield vineyard, and developed to muscats and an orchard of figs and peaches. Aside from this, he bought and improved several other places, which he sold at a profit; and including his present farm, he has set out and improved to vineyard and orchard not less than 180 acres. Garfield Vineyard, through his care, has become one of the finest and best-kept ranches in the vicinity, its comfortable residence and other buildings adding dignity and making it notable. A firm believer in cooperation for fruit men, Mr. Cadwallader is a member and stockholder of the California Associated Raisin Company, the California Peach Growers, Inc., and the California Fig Growers Association.

Aside from superintending his own valuable holdings, Mr. Cadwallader has found time to devote to public movements, and his support can be relied upon for any measure for the advancement of the community. For twenty years he has been trustee of Clovis Union High School, serving since its organization and being president for the last twelve years, and he has also been trustee of the Garfield district for many years. In 1905 he was instrumental in organizing the Farmers' Telephone System, of which he is still president. This company built the telephone lines in this section, with headquarters in Clovis. He was elected a director of the First National Bank in Clovis, when it was organized in May, 1912, and continues in that capacity, and he was also an organizer of the Clovis Farmers Union, and active in it until it was sold to the California Associated Raisin Company.

Mr. Cadwallader is a member of the Presbyterian Church of Clovis, and actively identified with it from its organization, being a member of its board of trustees, and having been the board's chairman, and a delegate to the meetings of the Presbytery. He was also instrumental in building the new church in Clovis, and was chairman of the board having the construction in charge. Fraternally he is a member of the Woodmen of the World.

Mr. Cadwallader was first married on October 5, 1885, at Academy, Cal., when he was joined to Miss Belle Heiskell, a native of Tennessee, who died in 1893, leaving a son Thomas, who resides in San Francisco, and who served over seas in the One Hundred Forty-third Field Artillery of the United States Army. His second marriage occurred at Fresno in 1895, when he chose for his wife Miss Annie Ambrosia, a native of Missouri, by whom he has had two children: Maude, who is a graduate of the Clovis High School, and also the Fresno State Normal, and is now principal of the Nees Colony School; and Ward, a graduate of the Clovis High School and University of California, from which he received the degree of D.D.S., and is now practicing dentistry in Fresno. He served in the United States Army at Mare Island as assistant dentist in the Department Base Hospital.

Mr. Cadwallader is well and favorably known and highly esteemed, and has been instrumental in many ways in building up the county, himself employing the most modern methods in intensive farming and in the growing and marketing of fruits. He has seen the county, by intensive farming, transformed from a stock-range to its present wonderful state of cultivation, with orchards, vineyards and fields of alfalfa, showing what may be done with the splendid soil and an ample water supply. In educational lines he has been foremost in building up the school system, and especially in raising the standard of the Clovis High School. The advancement of church life and work, and the raising of public morals to a higher standard have received attention and support, and in that field he has become a leader. A Republican

from the time of his first vote, Mr. Cadwallader has been active on the Republican County Committee, and as a delegate to the county and congressional and state conventions. He is truly a self-made man, and a citizen of aggressively progressive tendencies, of whom the county may well be proud.

**JOHN H. PEAK.**—Born in Delaware County, N. Y., on April 28, 1867, J. H. Peak was the son of Eleazer Peake (the final letter having been retained until they came west), a native of New York, who married Mary Holmes, who was also born in that state. His great grandfather Peake was born in Scotland; his great grandmother, on his father's side, was a native of Ireland. On his mother's side his great grandparents also came from Scotland. John's father was a sailor in his youthful days, and once doubled the Horn and sailed up along the west coast of America, and along the California coast in the forties, before the days of the famous gold discoveries. As a souvenir of his voyage he brought home with him a beautiful white conch shell, which he picked up on the west coast of South America, and which is still in the possession of the subject of this sketch. Mrs. Peak died when John was only two and a half years old, so that he has no recollection of her. His eldest sister—then only sixteen—nobly assumed the duties of the head of the household and, acting as a mother to the younger boys and girls, kept the family together, at least until the father's death.

In 1870, the Peak family moved west to Cass County, Nebr., and seven of the brothers and sisters grew to maturity. A younger brother was only six months old when the mother died, and he was then taken by an aunt who lived in New York State; and John, who was the sixth in the order of birth, never saw him again until he was twenty-one. The father had enlisted in a New York State regiment and served throughout the war; and eventually he died in Franklin County, Nebr., from the effect of illness contracted as a soldier. To add to all their other privations, the oldest brother Augustus, while out on a hunt for buffalo in 1874, was accidentally shot in the side, and he suffered untold agony, no doctors or surgeons to be had. Not until the spring of 1875, when they all went back to Cass County, Nebr., did he secure relief, for a physician at Plattsmouth removed a dead bone from the wounded part of the body. The oldest sister married G. A. Lotta, who was with the oldest brother on the ill-fated buffalo hunt.

The brother and Mr. Lotta had filed on various pieces of land in Webster County, Nebr., and they then went out to their claims, and the family lived during the strenuous times of pioneer days in Nebraska, suffering among other things the awful scourge of grasshoppers that swept the land in 1874 and 1875. John continued to live with his sister, Mrs. Lotta, until he was twelve years old, and then he began to work out and has made his way ever since.

At first, and until he was sixteen, he labored on farms and at road camps, and in all he had less than two terms of schooling. This deficiency and handicap he began to realize when he attained his sixteenth birthday and while he was living at Cowles, in Webster County. The country school teacher boarded at the same place where he was working, and she took pains to teach him; so that about nine-tenths of his book-learning was acquired during that winter's term of three months. Since then he has ever been a reader and a student, and has, by self-help and a course with the International Correspondence Schools at Scranton, acquired a good business education.

The spring after he was sixteen, he apprenticed himself to Horton & Snodgrass, carpenters and builders in Webster County, agreeing to stay with them for three years and to receive \$15 per month for his work. He continued there and learned the trade thoroughly, although the firm dissolved a couple of months before the completion of his apprenticeship. As a remembrance of Mr. Horton, he bought his tool chest, and he still has it. He has

built many more houses than Mr. Horton ever did, but they have remained the best of friends and advisers. He worked at carpentering for a few months in Webster County, and then went west to Chase County, where he built the first hotel at Imperial, the county seat.

In the fall of 1886, Mr. Peak went to Lincoln, where he ran across his former employer, Mr. Horton, who was engaged there in the B. & M. car shops. No immediate opening, however, in the car-shops presenting itself, he took a job as oiler for three months and then he went with the outside repairing crew and later joined the wrecking crew, with which he worked for a year and a half. Owing to drink, the mechanic at the head of the traveling car repairer, as it was called, lost favor with the company, and Mr. Peak, whose habits were temperate, was selected in his stead, and he then filled that responsible position for another year and a half.

About this time Mr. Peak was married to Miss Cora F. Wells, a daughter of George W. and Rebecca (Wray) Wells—a native of Webster County, Nebr., and for the next two years they farmed in Nebraska. Suffering, however, from the severe drought, and hearing of the exceptional advantages of Central California, they decided to come to the Coast and try their fortunes here.

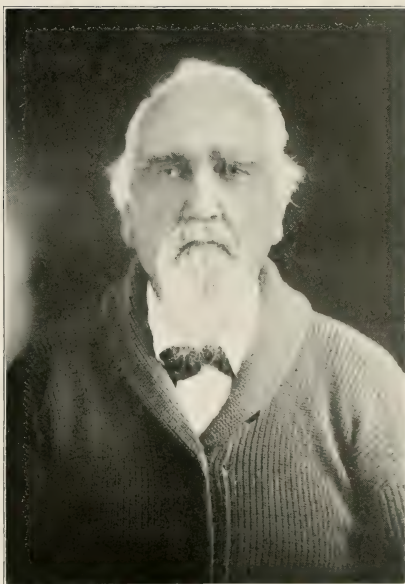
On December 13, 1890, they arrived at Selma, Mr. Peak's earthly possessions at that time consisting of his wife, their baby, dishes, bedding, kit of carpenter tools and just \$51 in cash. He went to work immediately as a farm hand in the River Bend country, and there he stayed until the following June. He later struck a job with ex-Sheriff Ball of Yolo County, who was then improving forty acres near Selma. The times were panicky, and our subject was compelled to work at anything that his hands could find to do, in order to sustain himself, wife and baby. It was during his spare hours in these difficult years that he completed the correspondence course offered by the International Correspondence Schools referred to. By much sacrificing effort Mr. Peak also built a small house at Selma, where he lived and worked at the J. A. Roberts Nursery. The next year he rented eighty acres of land, sixty acres of which were in alfalfa. This ranch he kept for six years, and it was of considerable help to him, although he had to work it partly by means of hired help, using a team of his own, receiving in the end sometimes, only three dollars per ton for his alfalfa. In the fall of 1895, Mr. Peak was appointed to a position as special registration deputy, and in that capacity he served for ten months.

About this time his health failed him, for he found that he could not stand the heat of the glaring midday sun. He secured work in the wood-working department of M. Vincent's wagon and blacksmith shop at Selma, receiving \$1.25 per day. He stayed with Mr. Vincent eight years, and during this time became a master blacksmith. He also made a small purchase of twenty acres, which he improved and planted, while he continued to work at the forge. The five years at Vincent's were followed by one year in Gordon's blacksmith shop, and after that he was employed in Mr. Lloyd's smithy at Selma, when he reengaged with Mr. Vincent. At this time he looked after his twenty-acre ranch until he finally disposed of it for \$6,000.

For the past six years Mr. Peak has given practically his entire time to his operations as a first-class contractor and builder, until he has become the leading operator in that line in this entire district. He lives three-fourths of a mile south of the city limits of Selma, on the South McCall Road, on the twenty-acre ranch which he has recently purchased, and upon which, in the fall and winter of 1917-18, he built a beautiful residence of tile and stucco, a modern bungalow, with garage, barn, etc., the whole costing some \$5,000 and affording himself and family a very pleasant home with country surroundings. In his building operations, he ran a crew of eight men. He has done \$100,000 worth of work for Libby, McNeill & Libby, alone, at Selma, in the past five years. He has erected more than one hundred residence build-







Joseph W. Hogan

ings in Selma and vicinity, and has also built the Selma Hotel, the First Methodist Episcopal Church at Selma, the Vincent Block on East Front Street, and the Bryant & Steward Building on High Street. He has recently sold his ranch of seventy-five acres on the Ward Drainage Canal.

Mr. Peak expects hereafter to give his attention to the automobile business in Selma, where, at 1941-43 West Front Street, he owns a large brick garage building, with well equipped machine shop, salesrooms and office, under the firm name of J. H. Peak & Sons.

Mrs. Peak is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Selma. Mr. Peak is active in the Knights of Pythias and the Woodmen of the World. They are the parents of seven children: Elsie, the wife of R. J. Smeaton, resides with their two children, Elsworth and Vaughn, on their ranch at Selma; George W., who married Gertrude Reed of Selma, is a farmer nearby, and has two children—Viola and Elwin; Ernest, returned from France, honorably discharged May 12, 1919, and is now of the firm of J. H. Peak & Sons, of Peak's Garage, at Selma; Margaret, who is the wife of J. H. Robinson, the electrician at Fresno, and has two children—Jean and Don; Melvin, attending the Selma High School; and Gertrude and Elbert, in the seventh and fifth grades of the grammar schools.

**JOSEPH WILLIAM HOGAN.**—A resident of California since 1872, an honored pioneer of Fresno County, and one of those fearless and patriotic men who volunteered their services in the defense of our country during the Civil War, a gallant soldier and a hero, such a man is Joseph W. Hogan. He was born near Waterloo, Monroe County, Ill., October 7, 1839, and was reared and educated there. His father was Joseph William Hogan, born in Monroe County, where his parents had settled in early days, taken up government land and from the wilderness built up good homes and made a prosperous country. The father enlisted for service in the Mexican War and was killed at the battle of Waterloo. He served under Gen. Zachary Taylor. The son well remembers the day his father left home to join the soldiers. His mother was Louise McMurtry in maidenhood and she died about four years after her husband was killed. She left three children, our subject being the only one living. After the death of his mother he was taken by his uncle, Dr. Andrew Squires, and was reared on the American Bottoms of the Mississippi River and spent his early manhood as a farmer.

Joseph W. then went to Missouri and was in that state at the breaking out of the Civil War. Realizing the necessity of defending the Union, which his forefathers had established through sacrifice and suffering, he was fired with patriotism and enlisted for three months. After serving with bravery and honor the allotted time, Mr. Hogan realized that the rebellion could not be subdued in three months, so with the spirit of a true patriot he reenlisted for three years, or during the war. He served with Company B, Thirty-first Regiment, Missouri Volunteer Infantry, and after four years and seven months of valiant service he was honorably discharged on November 19, 1865.

Joseph W. Hogan was a heroic soldier and during his service he was wounded four times, and was engaged in the following battles: Pea Ridge, which was fought on March 7 and 8, 1862, where he received a flesh wound; at the battle of Vicksburg he was wounded in the left hip; he was injured at the battle of Carthage by being hit with a piece of shell; and at the battle of Pine Ridge he was shot in the arm by a prisoner he had captured.

When the war was over, Mr. Hogan, in 1866, started for the Pacific Coast, but on reaching Denver he decided to remain for a time and it was two years before he again took up his journey westward. He secured a place as a driver of a six-mule team for Cook & Keith, who were freighting to Salt Lake City. He stopped there a month, but as the Gentiles were getting too numerous to suit the Mormons, they were ordered to leave within three days, so Hogan with about 300 other pilgrims set out on foot for the fort at Lar-

amie, Wyo. En route, they met Kit Carson, the famous scout, and he was headed for Salt Lake City with about 5,000 soldiers. The 300 men joined him and were outfitted with arms and ammunition and were among the men who surrounded the city and captured Brigham Young. Mr. Hogan went back to Fort Laramie with the soldiers, received his discharge from the army, returned to Denver, later went to Nebraska, and still later to Missouri.

From Missouri, Mr. Hogan came to California in 1872, in a cattle car, paying \$111 for a one-way ticket and taking twelve and one-half days to make the trip, finally arriving in San Jose. He soon went to Salinas, stopped there two years and then came on to Visalia, and a little later went to work in Squaw Valley for Frank Jordan, a pioneer cattleman. He was in this part of the country before Fresno County was organized, before a courthouse was built, and he was a member of the jury that tried the first case in the new county. He bought 320 acres in Hill's Valley, farmed five years, then moved into Tulare County and farmed near Traver till the dry years broke him. In 1903, he bought twenty acres of stubble near Reedley, began to make improvements and now has Thompson seedless and Malaga grapes. He is a member of the California Associated Raisin Company and advocates cooperation and organization as the salvation of the fruit-growers.

Mr. Hogan has been married twice. His first union was in 1863, when he was united with Miss Eliza Henley, who bore him nine children, seven of whom are living: Mary F., Mrs. Cook, in Fresno County; James W., in Glenn County; Joseph R., in Santa Cruz County; Emmett W., in Shasta County; Dolly, Mrs. Shaw, in Fresno County; Maud, Mrs. Furman, in Dinuba; and Wesley, in Fresno. Mrs. Hogan passed away in October, 1887, and is buried in the Kingsburg cemetery. The second marriage united him with Mrs. Katherine (Crandley) King, a widow with two children: William O., superintendent of the Colonial Vineyard in Fresno County; and Nellie, wife of R. S. Thompson, living near Reedley. This marriage was solemnized January 4, 1888. Mrs. Hogan reared her own children as well as the large family left by the first wife. She did all her own work, cooked for twenty-five men during the busy ranching season, put up her fruit and performed all other work necessary to carry on a large household, and with no help, other than what the older children could give. About eleven months after her marriage to Mr. Hogan, a daughter, Cornelia Belle, was born, now the wife of Arthur Ward of Dinuba.

Joseph W. Hogan is beloved and honored by the community where he has lived for so many years, and is highly revered for his valiant and unselfish service rendered to his country in time of her great need, and if he had not been prohibited by his advanced years, his friends are confident that he would have been found with the United States Army "somewhere in France," intrepidly fighting "to make the world safe for democracy." He has been a friend of the public school system; he secured the organization of the Windsor school district by going before the supervisors with enough signatures to organize a school and served as a trustee for twelve years. In politics he is an unswerving Democrat. He is an enthusiast on the subject of the possibilities of Fresno County.

**JAMES M. FERGUSON.**—An experienced oil-man who as a path-breaking pioneer has contributed to the development of the Golden State, a man of liberal views and charitable tendencies, and the representative of a prominent old Scotch family, is James M. Ferguson, who was born in Lochee, near Dundee, Scotland, on February 12, 1882, the son of John Ferguson, a native of the Scottish Highlands. He married Annie Mudie, who was born near Lochee, and was a mariner, traveling around Cape Horn. He was shipwrecked off San Francisco about 1884, and remained in California. He settled at Visalia, and in 1886 his family joined him. He was a blacksmith at Visalia, then set up his shop at Goshen, and soon made a specialty of drilling for water-wells. He had three or four rigs in the San Joaquin Valley,

and when oil was struck in the Kern River field, he contracted to drill for Messrs. Turnbull & Beebe. In 1903 he removed to Coalinga and continued drilling; and there he and his good wife still make their residence. Five children were born to this excellent couple: Andrew is superintendent at Maricopa and employed with the Melita Oil Company; John C. is superintendent of the Zier Oil Company in Coalinga; James is the subject this review; Annie is Mrs. Hord of Armona; and William lives at Coalinga.

The third oldest in the family, James M. came to California and attended school in various places, according to the location of his parents. He early helped his father, and from a boy learned how to drill water-wells. The result was that he was ready for the advent of oil, at Kern River and later at Coalinga, and took part in the exciting operations in those fields from the start. In 1903 he came to Coalinga and became producing foreman for the Peerless Oil Company, and two years later he entered the service of the Zier Oil Company. With his brother Andrew he leased the holding of the Zier people, which had two wells, and he drilled eight new ones, and continued there until 1910, when he sold his interests and accepted a position with the Spinks Crude Oil Company, as superintendent, and this responsible position he has held ever since, except the year from July, 1916, to July, 1917, when he was drilling water-wells. With his brother John he drilled the two water-wells for the city of Coalinga, and then he returned to the Spinks Company as superintendent.

Mr. Ferguson was married at Fresno to Mrs. Jane (Ashman) Lenhart, a native of that city; and he had a step-daughter, Elizabeth Lenhart. He belongs to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and was one of the organizers of the Coalinga War Fund Association.

**GEORGE WASHINGTON HENSLEY.**—The seventh son in a family of nine children, George Washington Hensley has the further distinction of being a native son of Calaveras County, Cal., born February 15, 1857.

His father, John Jackson, and mother, Margaret (Murray) Hensley, were among the intrepid pioneers of '53, who braved the perils and hardships of a journey with ox teams across the wilderness that intervened between their old Missouri farm home and the golden sands of the promised land. The family, consisting of parents and six children, followed the northern route via Salt Lake City and the Humboldt River, to Calaveras County, Cal., where they established their home. Their experiences in their new home were similar to those of other pioneers of the early days—hardships endured, obstacles overcome, and the gradual betterment of conditions as the country grew and developed. Most of the early pioneers were interested in mining, for a time at least, and Mr. Hensley was no exception. After devoting some years to the mining industry, in 1859 he moved to Deep Creek, Tulare County, and engaged in the cattle business. In the fall of 1861 he settled on the Fresno River, in what was then Fresno County (now Madera County), bought a tract of unimproved land and raised stock. He was supervisor of Fresno County one term, on the Democratic ticket. He died December 25, 1902. His wife, a native of Missouri, preceded him six years. She died at the old home, October 11, 1896. Her father, the Honorable Thomas Murray, was active in public affairs in Missouri, and at one time served as a member of the Missouri legislature. He accompanied the Hensleys across the plains in 1853 and settled at Petaluma where he engaged in farming.

Of the nine children comprising the Hensley family, a daughter died at the age of five. The other members of the family are: Thomas J., a stockman in Madera County; Samuel P., residing in the same county; Abel H. and W. C., who reside on the old home place in Madera County; P. J. and G. W., residents of Fresno; John M., ex-sheriff of Fresno County, residing in Madera; and Martha A., deceased.

George W., being the seventh son of his father, was called by his family and acquaintances Doc Hensley and is still known by that name.

From a lad he learned the care of sheep, with his father. In 1868 the flood caught all of his father's sheep below Lane's bridge and all were drowned, but he started again and made a success. Doc Hensley, when seventeen years of age, engaged in the sheep business for himself in Tulare County, near Tipton. In 1877, the dry year was disastrous and he lost all. He then worked with the California Lumber Company as foreman till 1880, then located in Madera and later followed draying and teaming for two years. Still later he ran the Club Stables on the spot where the Fresno Auditorium now stands. In 1888 he started boring wells and has continued that occupation for the past thirty years. He is the oldest in this line of work in Central California, if not in the whole state. He dug his first well on N Street, Fresno, and also dug wells at the County Hospital, the County Court House, the Fresno Fair Grounds and the Jersey Farm Dairy. He bored the first oil well bored in the Kern River District, Kern County, for the Fresno-Bakersfield Oil Company. He bored the first well for irrigation and installed the first pumping plant in Fresno County. Since then this method of irrigation has become universal.

He is quite ingenious and has made a number of improvements in well-boring outfits and machinery, one of his inventions being a perforator which has proven very successful and is now in general use. In partnership with his brother, Abel, he owns the old home ranch in Madera County, one-half section of land devoted to stock-raising.

George W. Hensley was united in marriage with Annie Pennington, a native of Roseburg, Ore., whose father, J. B. Pennington, crossed the plains in the early forties with Whitman, settling in Oregon. Her father was a pioneer and Indian fighter; he died while with our subject, aged over ninety-nine years. Mr. and Mrs. Hensley are the parents of six children: George W., Jr., a business man in Clovis; Warner, with the Fresno Fruit Growers Association; Mrs. Elsie Obanion, on the home ranch; Lillian, Mrs. Robinson of Fresno; Harold, with the California Fruit Exchange and who served in the United States Navy; and May, graduate of Fresno High School, Class of 1919.

In his fraternal affiliations Mr. Hensley is a charter member of the Fresno Lodge of Knights of Pythias.

**BELDIN WARNER.**—A Californian, who with his devoted wife underwent severe hardships to accomplish their share of commonwealth building that those who come after them may inherit and enjoy the blessings, is Beldin Warner, the well-known rancher almost four-score years old, who lives two miles northeast of Selma on Floral Avenue. He was born in Eden Township, County of Compton, in the Province of Quebec, Canada, on September 26, 1841, the son of Chester Warner, whose birthplace was also the Province of Quebec, but who came of English blood on his father's side, and of Irish blood on the side of his mother. Her maiden name was Vilinda Heath, and she was born in Connecticut. Chester Warner's wife was Sarah Pease before her marriage, and she came of Scotch blood and was born in Vermont, although both of her parents were natives of Connecticut. One of the Warners fought in the Revolutionary War, and two of the earliest Warners came over soon after the Mayflower. Charles Dudley Warner, the famous author and editor, belongs to the family group.

Brought up under the English flag and sent to the excellent Canadian schools, Beldin worked on his father's farm there and then for three years labored in a Canadian saw-mill. On September 27, 1875, when he was thirty-four years old, he started for California by way of the Union Pacific and the Central Pacific Railways, accompanied by an older brother, Walter C. Warner, and arriving at Santa Cruz engaged for three years as butter-maker in a dairy. In 1878 he came to Fresno, and with his brother Walter, who took shares in the company, and which were paid for in labor, hired out to work





*Beldin Warner*





*Anna S. Warner.*



on the Centerville and Kingsburg ditch, and at one time he was one of its biggest stockholders. The next year they bought a half section, of 160 acres each, from the pioneer sheepmen, Fanning Bros., and this has continued to be the Warner home ever since, although the brother died some twenty years ago. Farming has always been his occupation, and along with hard work, he and his family live the simple life. He owns 120 acres, where he grows alfalfa and has a fine pasture, and he has thirty-five acres of trees and vines. The ranch is valuable and conduces to contentment and happiness. Since they came here, in the days when Selma was not yet on the map, they have borne the toil and heat of the summer day, but they take a just pride in the growth and development of Central California, and look forward particularly to a brilliant future for Fresno.

On July 7, 1898, Mr. Warner was married to Miss Anna Swenson, who was born in Chicago and reared in Central Iowa. Her father was Benjamin Swenson, a Swede, and he lived in Chicago, and she remembers that her mother was called Betsy. Mrs. Warner was too young to know much about her family's history; she had one sister Charlotte, who became the wife of a Mr. Thompson; there was an older brother, John, who was thirteen years old when she left home, and a younger brother, Samuel, then four years of age. She has never seen any of her folks since she left Chicago for Iowa, and she has often been heart-broken over the separation of the family. The last she recalls of her mother, dying on a sick bed, was her prayer to God to take care of her little girl,—a prayer that has certainly been answered. Mrs. Warner's mother died in Chicago when she was five years old, and she was adopted into an Iowa family, that of Mr. and Mrs. F. Barnes, with whom she came to California, staying under their roof for fifteen years. They settled at Selma in November, 1881, when she was only eighteen, and she attended school at Selma, held in the old Presbyterian Church. She was first taken by Mr. and Mrs. Irwin Seward, of New Providence, Iowa; she worked for her board, studied hard, passed the teachers' examination at Fresno; taught for two terms in Fresno County, and then went for a year to the Normal at Los Angeles, after which she taught for eight and a half years.

Two children have blessed the union of Mr. and Mrs. Warner: Norval, who was graduated from the Selma High with the Class of '19, is a member of the Selma Concert Band; and Cyrus is a Sophomore in the Selma High School. Mrs. Warner is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Selma, and they both belong to the Red Cross and bought Liberty and Victory bonds. The Golden Rule has long been the standard of this excellent couple, and they have cultivated a public spirit. Mr. Warner has never taken a glass of liquor, although reared in Canada, where every hotel had its bar.

**WILLIAM HENRY SAY.**—Distinguished as not only a thoroughly scientific and prosperous horticulturist but also as one of the largest freeholders at Selma, William Henry Say, one of the most popular citizens of this section, would merit particular interest and general esteem as the eldest and worthy son of the late James H. Say, an honored pioneer who was also a large landowner hereabouts. The father was born and brought up in Venango County, Pa., and as early as 1853 came out to California by way of the Isthmus, and for ten years or more was successful as a miner at Placerville. The following decade he was employed in general ranching in Mendocino County, and in 1874 he first located in Fresno County, when he homesteaded and preempted 320 acres of land lying five miles northeast of what is now Selma, and later bought railroad land, coming to be a noted holder of real estate. From time to time he resided in Selma, where he erected the Renfro House, which was the first good hotel in Selma, but it was burned down in 1890. He had married Miss Laura Jane Coates, who was born in Wisconsin, and who became the mother of his four sons and two daughters. On October 15, 1902, Mr. Say died.

The eldest in this family, William Henry was born in Mendocino County, on August 2, 1864, and after completing his early education in the district school, he was well trained by his father in a practical knowledge of agriculture and horticulture. In 1884, Mr. Say was united in marriage with Miss Mary E. DeWitt, a native of Missouri, the ceremony being solemnized in Fresno County near Selma. Her father came from one of the fine old families in Virginia, but he early pushed into Missouri as a pioneer, and settled first in Sullivan and later in Adair County. In 1883, on account of ill-health, he came to California, accompanied by his daughter Mary; and greatly pleased with the climate of the Golden State, he returned to Missouri in 1884, to bring the remaining members of his family to California. Upon their arrival, the family located upon a ranch five miles northeast of Selma, and there he engaged in raising fruits, grapes and alfalfa, continuing until his death, in 1891, at the age of fifty-seven. Two children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Say: DeWitt H., who died at the age of four; and Harry Lyle, who, responding to the call of his country, served in the United States Navy, making an enviable record, given in some detail elsewhere in this work. It is not surprising, therefore, that Mr. and Mrs. Say are intensely interested in the welfare of the sailors and soldiers, and were loyal supporters of the Wilson administration in the conduct of the present war "to make the world safe for Democracy." Mrs. Say is the active head of the Red Cross at Selma, and is such an untiring worker that the organization at Selma did heroic service both in work and in raising money, as may be readily seen from the fact that during the one month of January, 1918, the Red Cross at Selma raised \$400.

In 1888, Mrs. Madelaine McCullough DeWitt deeded her thirty-acre tract, now known as Corona Vineyard, to her daughter and her son-in-law, namely, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Say, who added to it another thirty acres, which they purchased, so that they soon owned sixty acres north of the town, and subsequently they bought 160 acres of land south of the city, eighty acres of which he devoted to the culture of grapes, and eighty acres to the raising of alfalfa. At the present time he is the owner of four ranches, aggregating 460 acres, planted to vines and trees, which are in a high state of cultivation.

In 1898, Mr. Say joined the goldseekers making their way feverishly to Dawson City, Alaska, and there located at Grand Forks. He purchased Claim No. 6, above Discovery on the Bonanza Creek, and also Claim No. 48 on the Eldorado, and there busied himself with mining until October, 1901, when he returned to California. The next spring he went back to Alaska, and on May 24, 1902, sold his claims, clearing the snug sum of somewhat less than seventy-five thousand dollars. By June 12, 1902, he was back again in Fresno County. Since then, with characteristic enterprise, Mr. Say has been foremost in promoting the best interests of the California Raisin Growers Association, and also the California Peach Growers, Inc. In these various enterprises Mr. Say has always had the encouragement and support of his equally brave and resourceful wife, who made three trips to Alaska. On her first journey, in 1899, she took her five-year-old boy with her, but in the fall of the next year she came back to California, arranged for the schooling of her son and returned north the same year, arriving at Dawson on December 30. In October, 1901, she came with her husband to Selma, and subsequently accompanied him on his trip to and from Alaska in the spring of 1902. Like her wide-awake husband, Mrs. Say is highly esteemed in Selma and vicinity for public-spiritedness and generous support of all movements for the advancement of the community, and she was the first president of the Improvement Club at Selma, and directed the club work when the beautiful Lincoln Park was established.

Mr. and Mrs. Say are honored members of the Presbyterian Church, and were members of the Building Committee when in 1917 and 1918 they erected the splendid new edifice at the corner of Selma and Mill Streets.

Fraternally, Mr. Say is a member of Selma Lodge, No. 309, I. O. O. F., and also of Selma Encampment, No. 176, and Mr. and Mrs. Say are members of the Rebekahs; and he is also a member of the Woodmen of the World. When the Centennial of Odd Fellowship was celebrated on April 26, 1919, that order honored itself as well as Mr. Say by appointing him Grand Marshal to head the memorable parade at Fresno; and in all the long line of favorites, none was more wildly acclaimed than good-natured Henry Say.

**MRS. LAURA J. SAY.**—After a life of strenuous work and pioneering, Mrs. Laura J. Say, the widow of the late James H. Say, an honored pioneer of southern Fresno County, is living a quiet and retired life at her beautiful cottage home, 1819 Young Street, in the city of Selma, Cal. James H. Say was born in Venango County, Pa., on February 14, 1834, and died at Selma on October 15, 1902. Like many other young men of his time, he was enthused by the glowing reports of gold-mining in California and decided to seek his fortune in the Golden State. Arriving in San Francisco in 1852, he soon engaged in placer mining which he continued awhile but later became interested in merchandising and storekeeping.

In 1863, James H. Say was united in marriage with Laura J. Coates, a native of Platteville, Wis., the daughter of George I. Coates, who was a miller in the early days of southwestern Wisconsin. Her mother, in maidenhood, was Loretta Jones. Mrs. Say is the seventh child of a family of nine, five of whom are still living; an older sister of Mrs. Say is the wife of Uncle Billy Berry whose sketch appears on another page of this history. George I. Coates was a man of considerable wealth, in Wisconsin, and after selling out his interests there, he came across the plains in 1862, to California, accompanied by his wife and family, including Mrs. Say, who was then an accomplished young lady, having been a school teacher at Platteville, Wis. An older brother, Henry Coates, who was a soldier in the Union Army of the Civil War, migrated to California after the war had ended.

After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Say operated a hotel at the placer mines, for a short time only. Later they moved to Mendocino County, where Mr. Say followed the trade of a carpenter and joiner, having learned this vocation in Pennsylvania. Four of their children were born in Mendocino County. Hearing that the United States Government was offering free homestead lands in the great San Joaquin Valley, Mr. Say removed his family to the southern part of Fresno County and there, near Kingsburg, he pre-empted 160 acres, and later homesteaded 160 acres more. This ranch he improved and farmed to grain. Learning that cheap railroad lands were to be had in the vicinity of Parlier, he sold his 320 acres and moved near Parlier where he purchased 160 acres from the railway company and improved it by building a home and setting out fruit trees. Mrs. Say still owns eighty acres of this tract, which is now very valuable.

In 1884, Mr. Say built the Renfro House, at Selma, which he owned and operated for several years until it was destroyed by fire. During its day it was the chief hostelry in Selma. He moved back to his ranch near Parlier, but later returned to Selma in order to give the children better school facilities.

Ten years ago Mrs. Say built her beautiful Colonial cottage at 1819 Young Street, Selma, where she is happily ensconced and surrounded by her children, relatives and old-time friends. Mr. and Mrs. Say were the parents of six children: William H. is a rancher near Selma and is perhaps the largest farmer in that neighborhood, as he is the owner of several ranches; he married Miss Mary DeWitt, and they have one child, Lyle H., who is also married, his wife having been in maidenhood, Miss Ethel Stoker, of Parlier. Lyle H. enlisted in the navy, and an interesting account of him is elsewhere to be found in this work. Grant is the second child; he resides in Fresno and is the owner of the remaining eighty acres of the James H. Say ranch at Parlier. Elnora is now the wife of W. L. Matlock, a dealer in ice at

Selma and an extensive landowner and farmer; the Matlock home is located on the corner of Third and Young Streets, Selma, and Mrs. Matlock is the president of the Woman's Improvement Club at Selma. Luther was the fourth child in order of birth; he is a fruit-grower in the Parlier district; his wife in maidenhood was Lina Tremper, and they are the parents of two children: Harry, a student in the University of California, and Kenneth. Maude, the fifth child, is now the wife of George F. Otis and she is the mother of three children, Buell, Bernice, and Lawrence. James Halton is the youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. James H. Say; he married Miss Blanch Coates and they are the parents of two children, Glenn and Esther. Mr. James Halton Say is a rancher and fruit-grower and is located between four and five miles from Selma.

After meeting and conversing with this very interesting and intelligent pioneer woman and listening to her reminiscences of early days in California, one cannot fail to be impressed with her unusual business ability and can readily understand how, through her thrift and self-sacrificing efforts, she greatly aided the accumulation of the wealth of the Say family in Fresno County, and also to appreciate the influence for good which she has exerted upon the community where she has resided for so many years.

**MARIE ARIEY.**—Since the foundation of the great commonwealth of California, France has given freely of her sons and daughters, especially in the swelling of California's agrarian population. A splendid type of American of French extraction, honorable to a high degree in his personal character, and industrious, progressive and successful as a viticulturist, is Marie Ariey, a native of the Hautes Alpes, France, born near Gap, on September 16, 1850. His father was Jaques Ariey, a prosperous and honored farmer of that region, who died in 1859. His mother, who passed away three years later, was Marie Jousselman before her marriage. She was the devoted mother of nine children, only three of whom are still living. Marie and his brother Julius, now deceased, were the only ones of this worthy family to come to the newer and more promising land of America.

Marie Ariey passed his boyhood on a farm in the Sampsaur Valley, France, a most fertile agricultural country; so that, having finished with the public school, he had a good chance to learn farming as the French practice it. When he came to America, he first went to Boston, where he remained for a time before coming on to the Pacific Coast. It was the day before Christmas, 1873, when he arrived at San Francisco. Tarrying but a short time in the metropolis, he pushed on to Virginia City, Nev., and tried his luck in the mines; but he was not particularly pleased with the novelty, and so came back to the Sacramento Valley, where, near Georgetown, he found employment on a farm for five months. At the end of that time, in 1875, he came to Modesto, where he worked for nine years at one place—the well-appointed dairy farm of Mr. Clark.

When Mr. Ariey came to Fresno, in February, 1885, he bought forty acres of the Easterby rancho and set the same out as a vineyard, adding forty more as soon as he was able. The first trees he set on the place he bought at a nursery located on the corner of Mariposa and Kay Streets, the present site of Holland's grocery store. In 1900 he sold the eighty acres on account of his poor health, and for a year went back to San Francisco. At the end of the twelve months, however, he concluded that there was no better place, at least not for him, than Fresno, and to this city he came again, this time determined to make it his home. He built a place at R Street and Fresno, on four lots, and at the same time secured sixty acres of land in the Colonial Helm tract, two miles west of Clovis. As rapidly as he could, he made every needed improvement, building a residence and setting out vines and trees, and has since set and reset them, until now he has ten acres of wine grapes, with the balance devoted to muscatels, a few malagas, and about seven acres in alfalfa. His ranch is half irrigated from the Gould Ditch, and half from the



*Marie Arley*





Enterprise Ditch. His residence and buildings are equipped with electric lights, and he has installed a pumping plant and has an electric motor to work his pump.

Mr. Arie y has had much experience in grape-growing, but not all his recollections as a ranchman and a viticulturist are of the most pleasant sort. He has seen the time when he has sold raisins for one and a half cents a pound, and has been glad to get even that price for what he had; and he has gone through some very hard times, when he found it necessary to work outside to pay the bills and keep up his vineyard. He has been in all the different raisin associations as both a member and a stockholder; and now belongs to the California Associated Raisin Company.

In May, 1885, Mr. Arie y was married in San Francisco to Miss Alexandra D'Gastervigne, a French belle from the same valley in which he himself was born, who came to California to seek her fortune, and found it—in Mr. Arie y. Four children have blessed their union, but one, Emma, died in her ninth year. Albert is assisting his father; Andrew, a graduate of the high school, is in France, a member of the aviation corps; and Helen, also a graduate of the high school, is with her parents. The family attend the St. Alphonse Catholic Church. Independent in political affairs, Mr. Arie y is a decidedly public-spirited citizen, ready to help along any good cause and, with his good wife, always willing to make a special effort for anything that will advance the interests of Fresno. He has served one term as trustee of the Easterby school.

**ANDY D. FERGUSON.**—The distinction of being not only a native born son of California, but of having parents who were pioneers in the truest sense of the word, belongs to Andy D. Ferguson, who was born at Kings River, January 14, 1868, the son of Ed. C. and Louisa (Neiveling) Ferguson. The father crossed the plains in the memorable year of 1849, the party taking three years to make the journey to their destination, for their outfit was raided, and nearly everything of value was taken, including their ox team. The mother came with her parents at a later date. Upon his arrival in California, E. C. Ferguson went directly to the mines in Mariposa County, where he was fortunate in "making a stake;" and then, in 1856, he came to Fresno County and engaged in the cattle business. In the early sixties he acquired large land holdings in the vicinity of Reedley, and while living there in 1866 he was married. This land was put to use as a cattle range until 1882, when it was disposed of to good advantage. Mr. Ferguson was prominent in business and financial circles until his death, on December 24, 1882, and will long be remembered for his substantial aid in the upbuilding of the county. During the October just previous Mrs. Ferguson had passed away.

Andy C. was the eldest of five children, all of whom were given such educational advantages as the times and their environment afforded; and after attending the public schools of Santa Rosa and Fresno, he completed his studies at Lytton Springs College. Returning to Fresno, he first engaged in general insurance for three years; then, upon attaining his majority, with ranches in the Wild Flower district, he entered the profitable field of cattle raising. He was also associated for four years with H. Clay Austin in the raising of horses.

The energy and executive ability characterizing Mr. Ferguson, whose interests multiplied, found many and varied channels for expression. For eight years he was successful in farming in the Del Rey district; for one year he acted as confidential agent and buyer of grain; he held the responsible position of superintendent of construction for some time; for seven years he devoted much time and effort to oil interests; while for four years he held the office of field agent and chief patrol of the state fish and game commission for conservation, and was game warden of the county. In 1909, he was persuaded to establish a district office in Fresno, which was to include nine counties, and he took the position with the understanding that it would

occupy only a portion of his valuable time. However, the work increased so rapidly that he was obliged to devote his entire time to it; and as a result, on March 1, 1916, the Fresno office was merged with that at San Francisco, and he was appointed field agent for the California Fish and Game Commission, with supervision over all the deputies of the state. His wide experience in different enterprises peculiarly fitted him for this responsible position, which he fills with fidelity and intelligence. His resourceful ability and tireless energy have been displayed on more than one occasion. During the fight in Coalinga against county division he took charge and by wise judgment and inherent ability to manage men, the affair was amicably adjusted.

Mr. Ferguson's marriage took place in February, 1889, when he was joined in wedlock to Miss Arza Patterson, a native daughter whose parents were John A. and Rebecca Patterson of Visalia, both pioneers. Mr. Patterson came to Fresno County as early as 1848, and was thus one of the organizers of the county and was also instrumental in the organization and development of Tulare County. Until his death he was a prominent factor in county affairs, and he further aided in public progress by serving in the State Legislature. Mr. and Mrs. Ferguson are the parents of five children: Maude is now Mrs. Edgar C. Smith; Edgar C., was on the border in Arizona with the First Arizona Infantry when war with Germany was declared, and he immediately volunteered and saw active service at Chateau Thierry, St. Mihiel Salient, Verdun and in the Argonne in an infantry division. He was honorably discharged in July, 1919, and is now at home; Edith is now Mrs. Kenneth Hughes; Thomas P., left the Fresno High on April 17, 1917, at the age of nineteen, enlisted in a machine gun battalion and served through the war; although never in active service at the front, he was overseas five months. While in France he was transferred to the Twenty-seventh Division of New York Infantry, machine gun battalion. He was honorably discharged in New York City, in May, 1919; and Andy D., Jr. Six grandchildren have come to gladden the hearts of this family, upon whom fortune has bestowed many a smile.

Mr. Ferguson is of the Protestant faith, and strongly favors Democratic principles. Since assuming the arduous duties of his present office, he has devoted time, money and energy to his public duties, and has little time for social activities. He is particularly interested in the conservation of the flora and fauna of California, and as a well-known newspaper and magazine writer, he has dealt with California's great out-of-doors and contributed in particular to the San Francisco Bulletin, the Fresno Republican and eastern and western sporting periodicals.

**E. B. ROGERS.**—One of the interesting things that strikes the student of early California history most forcibly is the facility with which the pioneer, face to face with untried problems, made a success of his endeavor just because he had mastered the great task before him. Such a man was the late E. B. Rogers, owner of the famous Margherita Vineyard, one of the show-places of Fresno County, to which favored spot he came in 1882. He was a native of Troy, N. Y., and was educated in the Troy Polytechnic, where he made a specialty of mining engineering; and so thoroughly was he prepared, and so well-equipped was he naturally for that important and difficult line of work, that, after coming west, he was engaged as mining engineer in various places from Canada to the Central American States. Returning to New York City, he followed his profession in the great metropolis for years and was much sought for his expert knowledge.

Recalling Central California with favorable impressions, Mr. Rogers came to Fresno in 1882 and soon after inspected the property now so permanently identified with his name; and the next year he purchased it from M. Theo. Kearney. The site was in the heart of the Easterby Colony, four miles east of Fresno, and Mr. Rogers began at once to improve and beautify the place. His wide travel contributed much to the experience and taste

necessary; and the results show how well he had profitted from his jaunts about the western hemisphere.

With his brother-in-law, M. T. Sickal, he set out the row of palms along the westerly line of the 320 acres, a mile in length, and so handsomely have these palms grown in height and symmetry that the Margherita Palm Drive has attracted attention the world over, appearing on postal cards not only in the United States, but in Europe as well.

Mr. Rogers and Mr. Sickal were very companionable and found much enjoyment in each other's company. Mr. Sickal's little daughter, Margherita, spent much time with her uncle Rogers, and manifested more than ordinary interest in the place; and it was after her that the vineyard was named.

The park around the house was laid out, and all the trees planted by Mr. and Mrs. Rogers, and it is largely due to their intelligent care that it has become one of the most beautiful private places in the valley. So intensely interested was Mr. Rogers in obtaining the rarest trees, that on a trip to Europe and while in Rome, he no sooner saw the "pinus pina" (stone pine) in the parks of the Eternal City (a tree that appears in some of the paintings by the old masters) than he arranged to have some seed sent him when it was ripe and cured. They were despatched, in due time, to the Bureau of Agriculture at Washington, which kept some of the seed, and sent the balance to Mr. Rogers; and the latter sent them to the University of California. The Agricultural Department there planted the seed, and when they had grown to young trees, they sent the best specimens to Mr. Rogers, who planted them on his place.

Mr. Rogers set out the vineyard, watched the growth, and reset and replanted when it was necessary. During these busy years, Mr. Rogers continued interested in mining, and for his mining interests, he maintained an office in San Francisco. At the time of the mining excitement in Goldfield, Mr. and Mrs. Rogers resided there while he maintained an office here. After the fire in San Francisco—1906—they resided on their ranch, and no little was done by both of them in the building up of Fresno County. Mr. Rogers died on December 23, 1912, widely mourned by the many who knew and appreciated his personal and professional worth.

Since her husband's death Mrs. Rogers has carried on viticulture, and has conscientiously followed out the plans they made together for maintaining the Margherita Vineyard as one of the splendid places of the county.

**GEORGE FINIS CRAIG.**—George Finis Craig is the popular and successful dealer in general merchandise at Lanare, in the Summit Lake country, which is the western terminus of the Laton and Western Railway, being a part of the Santa Fe system. He occupies a new store building 30x40 feet, with a wareroom 20x30 feet, which was built by Joe Prandini, and there keeps on hand a clean and well selected stock of general merchandise. Lanare has experienced a splendid growth of late. Mr. Prandini has built a garage, general store building, a shop for a meat market and a confectionery store. Mr. Craig's previous long and honorable career in this county as ditch tender, rancher and business man gives him a wide range of acquaintances and an enviable reputation for square dealing.

He was born near Vinita, Craig County (then Indian Territory), Okla. His father, Granville C. Craig, moved thither in 1869 and Craig County, Okla., was named after him. Granville C. Craig was born in Johnson County, Mo., while grandfather Craig, helped move Cherokee Indians from Tennessee to Cherokee Nation, Indian Territory, in 1835. The grandfather moved back to Missouri where the father was born and where the grandfather died. The father was but twenty years old when he came out to Indian Territory in 1869. He was a farmer and stock-raiser. George Finis Craig grew up on his father's farm in Craig County. When only eighteen years of age he went to Vinita and there accepted a position in a grocery store for about a year. He then went back to his father's stock farm, and

continued at agricultural pursuits until 1905, when he came to Kingsburg, Cal., where he bought a thirty-acre ranch and improved it, planting it to vines and trees and for six years prospered well as a horticulturist. Disposing of his Kingsburg fruit-ranch he went to Alpaugh, Cal., where he bought and operated a ranch for some time, living, however, in Riverdale. His next venture was to buy the Riverdale Meat Market which he successfully operated for thirteen months, when he sold it. He then took a position as ditch tender for the Burrel and Riverdale Ditch Company holding that position satisfactorily for four years.

From August of 1918 until February 1, 1919, he was employed as a clerk in Hamilton's large general merchandise store at Riverdale, and on February 1, 1919, he came to Lanare and started up his present business which is now the main general merchandise store in this promising town. He is an excellent level-headed business man, who makes and keeps friends and customers.

Mr. Craig has twice been married. His first marriage took place in Oklahoma in 1896 when he was united with Miss Anna Jones by whom he had one child—a daughter, Anna Jewell—who resides with him at Lanare. His first wife died March 19, 1899, in Oklahoma. His second marriage also occurred in Oklahoma, when he was wedded to Miss Minnie Grantham.

Mr. and Mrs. Craig are both prominent members of the Rebekah Lodge at Riverdale. Mr. Craig does not neglect the social side of life, particularly among the Odd Fellows is he prominent. He has twice held the office of Noble Grand, and has taken an active part in the upbuilding of Riverdale Lodge, I. O. O. F., No. 341.

Aside from his other activities, Mr. Craig bought and improved a forty-acre alfalfa ranch, two miles northeast of Lanare, which he disposed of to good advantage before embarking in business at Lanare. Mr. and Mrs. Craig are now nicely domiciled at Lanare—Riverdale's loss is Lanare's gain.

**MRS. MARY A. IMRIE.**—The widow of the late Josiah Imrie, a pioneer settler who located in Round Mountain district, Fresno County, in 1870, still resides on her ranch eight miles northeast of Sanger. Mrs. Mary A. Imrie, in maidenhood, was Mary A. Elliott, the daughter of Joseph S. and Jane B. (O'Connell) Elliott, natives of Massachusetts and Maine, respectively. Joseph S. Elliott came to California in 1849, via Cape Horn, and naturally rushed to the mines where he remained for a time. He then drove stage to St. Helena. He was married in Napa, in 1860, his wife having come to California in 1859, also via Cape Horn, and after their marriage they farmed in Napa County until 1869, when they located in the Round Mountain district. They homesteaded a quarter section and preempted another. The Round Mountain schoolhouse is located on this land, he having donated the site and having been a member of the original board. Subsequently buying another quarter section of land, Mr. Elliott engaged extensively in grain-raising, and at one time filled the important post of county superintendent of roads. He died in 1893, and his wife preceded him two years. Mr. and Mrs. Joseph S. Elliott were the parents of two daughters: Mary A., who is the widow of Josiah Imrie, and the subject of this sketch; and Amanda H., Mrs. Alex. Barringer, also of this district.

Mary A. Elliott was born in Napa City, where she attended school, continuing there after her parents removed and later joining them in Fresno County, in 1874, where she completed the local school. At her parents' house, April 5, 1877, she was united in marriage with Josiah Imrie, and this union was blessed with six children: Margaret, who was Mrs. Allison, is now deceased; Robert, of Madera County; Elliott, who is also deceased; William, a rancher; Walter, in the Aviation Section of the United States Army, serving overseas; and George, who is assisting his mother.



*Mary A. Imrie*





Josiah Imrie was born at Delhi, N. Y., where he became a carpenter and builder. He was a pioneer settler of Napa County, having located there in 1860, afterwards moving to Round Mountain, Fresno County, in 1870, where he homesteaded one quarter section and preempted another quarter section of land, improving the quarter that he homesteaded and engaging in raising grain, also some stock. After selling his property to John Bacon, he purchased the ranch where his widow now resides, which consists of forty acres and moved there in 1908. This place has been nicely improved since they purchased it and is now devoted to vines and fruits. On September 17, 1915, Josiah Imrie passed away, his loss being lamented by many. Since his death Mrs. Imrie continues to operate the ranch, assisted by her son, George. She holds membership in the California Associated Raisin Company and the California Peach Growers, Inc.

Mrs. Mary A. Imrie is beloved for her many kindly and gracious deeds. Since the death of her daughter, Mrs. Margaret Allison, her home circle has been increased by the addition of her two grandchildren: Zella May and Imrie Allison, whom she has reared from babes and who make their home with her, the former being a graduate of Sanger High School. Mrs. Imrie's life is full of benevolence, and she is always helping others, and is much esteemed for her many charities and kindnesses.

**WILLIAM H. McKENZIE.**—A liberal and enterprising citizen, and an upbuilder of the best interests of county and state, the late William H. McKenzie was one of the most widely known and honored men of Fresno County. The son of a pioneer and himself born among the primitive conditions of an early civilization, his efforts were laid along the lines of the beginning of a statehood, the development of natural resources and the promotion of enterprises calculated to promote the growth of the community's interests. A business man of unusual executive ability, unerring judgment, conservative yet progressive ideas, he made a personal success, and in addition to the position accorded him as a factor in pioneer enterprises he also held the esteem of his fellow citizens for these qualities which distinguished his character.

The McKenzie family is of Scotch-Irish ancestry, County Sligo, Ireland, being their home for several generations. Alexander McKenzie, the grand father of William H., was a large landowner in that locality, a gentleman of means and education, who gave to his family every possible advantage. James McKenzie, the father of William H., was born in County Sligo, came to New York about 1848, and in 1853 he joined the United States Army. The regiment was ordered to the Pacific Coast to subdue the Indians in 1854. The soldiers traveled by steamer to Aspinwall, thence across the Isthmus on mule-back, thence by steamer to San Francisco, then to Benicia, and by land to Fort Miller. Mr. McKenzie became sergeant in the company, with Captain Lozier commanding. They remained at Fort Miller until being ordered to Oregon to serve in the Indian wars. At the end of his enlistment, in 1858, Sergeant McKenzie was honorably discharged, and as a citizen of California he began raising sheep and cattle on a ranch just above the Fort. He remained in that location and occupation until his death, January 1, 1864. He was married in New York, in 1854, to Ann Brennan, a native of County Sligo, born November 7, 1826, and who came to the United States in 1848 to visit a sister. Her wedding journey was a trip to the West, and as did her husband, she rode a mule across the Isthmus of Panama. She made her home at the Fort up to the time of her husband's discharge, owning their quarters there until 1861, when they sold out and located on the ranch. She afterwards became the wife of Judge Charles A. Hart.

Of the three children born to his parents, William H. McKenzie was born at Fort Miller, in Mariposa County (now Fresno County), March 10, 1857. He was reared to young manhood on the farm, which is still in pos-

session of the family and which now comprises 10,000 acres on the San Joaquin River, and on the ranch is located the old Fort and the town of Millerton, and the old courthouse of Fresno County. For many years this old fort formed the residence of the family. Mr. McKenzie was educated in the public schools at Fort Miller, after which he was graduated from Heald's Business College at San Francisco in 1873, and the following year he returned to his home and soon after was appointed a deputy, under Sheriff J. S. Ashman, after which he acted as deputy clerk, assessor and tax collector. In 1879 he was elected county assessor and the adoption of the constitution extended his term about three years. In 1882 he became interested in the abstract business which was later incorporated as the Fresno Abstract Company, he being a director for years and the largest stockholder. At the same time that he was engaged in farming he was also interested in mining and the oil-well business, meeting with success in both lines. With Mr. Griffith he was active in building the electric railway, and after it was built the company bought the old road and formed the Fresno Electric Railway Company, of which Mr. McKenzie was a director and manager. The company expanded their lines and put in new equipment and finally sold out in 1903. Mr. McKenzie was active in developing the Mud Spring Mine in Madera County, and also gold mines in Fresno and surrounding counties. He was one of the men to get into the "oil game" at an early period, in Kern County, and was interested in several producing companies; he was also interested in the Coalinga field.

In Healdsburg, Cal., Mr. McKenzie was united in marriage with Carrie E. Hoxie, who was born at Millerton, a daughter of Clark Hoxie, a pioneer farmer and one of the first supervisors of the county. To Mr. and Mrs. McKenzie five children were born: Alfred H.; William T.; Richard; Donald; and Truman.

Mr. McKenzie was a Democrat and served as treasurer of Fresno City for twelve years; he was a member of the county and city Democratic committees; a member of the board of fire and police commissioners and of the Chamber of Commerce. He was a member of the Odd Fellows of Fresno and a past officer. He died at his home, December 21, 1909, mourned by all who ever knew him.

Since the death of Mr. McKenzie his property remains intact as a trust estate under the management of his eldest son, Alfred H. McKenzie. In 1913 the estate in conjunction with S. N. Griffith erected the Griffith-McKenzie Building, a ten-story Class A steel structure that is the largest of its kind not only in Fresno County but in the San Joaquin Valley.

**JOHN JONSEN.**—As a pioneer merchant of Fresno John Jonsen proved the value of his citizenship and the integrity of his character. A native of Preston, Ontario, he followed the shoe business from boyhood. In 1878 Mr. Jonsen arrived in Fresno, at that date a town of twelve hundred people. After his arrival, he opened a small shoe shop on the corner of I and Mariposa Streets. He later moved to 1937 Mariposa Street and remained in business at that location for twenty-three years. T. J. Kirk was Mr. Jonsen's first partner, under the firm name of Jonsen & Kirk; at the end of three years Kirk sold out and went east for three years; returning, he again bought in with Mr. Jonsen, and the firm was then Kirk & Jonsen, until Mr. Kirk was elected state superintendent of public instruction and moved to Sacramento. In 1890 A. D. Olney became a partner, and the firm name was then as it now stands, Olney & Jonsen. For one year Mr. Jonsen retired from the business on account of ill health, and bought a forty-acre vineyard at Malaga and engaged in outdoor work.

A public-spirited and influential man, Mr. Jonsen was foremost in all plans for the promotion of the public welfare, and gave all such movements the benefit of his keen judgment and wise cooperation. A man of broad and charitable views, he aided every movement for the advancement of educa-

tion, morality, and the well being of the community. When the new Odd Fellows Building was erected, on the corner of I and Merced Streets, Mr. Jonsen was chairman of the committee of five who had charge of the raising of funds and erecting the building.

Mr. Jonsen's marriage, in Sparta, Ill., in 1875, united him with Margaret Young, a native of that city, and three children were born to them, now all deceased: Mary, a musician and accomplished pianist, who died aged twenty-one; John, Jr., a graduate of the Hastings Law School of San Francisco, who started a weekly paper called the Fresno Saturday Night, which was later sold to the Sunday Mirror; Arnold, who was in the insurance business, and later with his father in the store. Mr. Jonsen passed away in Fresno on January 5, 1916.

During her many years of residence in Fresno, Mrs. Jonsen was an active member of the First Presbyterian Church; she was the soprano in the church choir for many years.

**GEORGE COSGRAVE.**—A native of California, George Cosgrave was born in Calaveras County, California, on February 20, 1870, the son of Michael Cosgrave who came to California in the early fifties about the same time or soon after Mark Twain was searching for gold in the region he later made so famous through his "Jumping Frog" story—that inimitable contribution to not only western but world literature—and like Mark also followed placer mining in Calaveras County. He had married Margaret Pyne, who proved just the help-mate to him required for that trying formative period and place.

Growing up with the usual indifferent school opportunities, Mr. Cosgrave's ambition led him to matriculate at the San Jose Normal School from which he was graduated in 1889, and thereafter he devoted himself to teaching, thus becoming one who early helped to lay the foundation for popular education in the Golden State. Pedagogy, however, was not his ultimate aim, and he continued to direct the training of youth only so long as it was necessary to master the pages of Blackstone and other learned legal works. In 1895 Mr. Cosgrave was admitted to the bar, and since then he has more and more come to the front in the community with which he is so honorably connected.

On June 1, 1904, at Alameda, Mr. Cosgrave was married to Miss Irene Copeland, the daughter of Isaac and Ellen G. Copeland, a native daughter representing another pioneer family with an interesting history. Her father was an hydraulic miner in the days when that phase of engineering absorbed the keenest of minds; and the mother was among the earliest white children born in Butte County. One child, a daughter named Margaret, has blessed this fortunate union. Mr. Cosgrave is a Mason, having been master of Fresno Lodge, No. 247, F. & A. M., in 1900.

A Republican in matters of national politics, Mr. Cosgrave has also done good civic duty by serving on the Fresno board of education to which he was appointed in 1897 and elected in 1917.

**WALTER L. CHOISSER.**—Hard-working, experienced and successful dairy ranchers and breeders of registered cattle and hogs, Mr. and Mrs. Walter L. Choisser, who started life together, in their youth in California, are deserving of more than ordinary interest on account of their memberships in well-known pioneer families. They own and operate a twenty-acre dairy ranch two and a half miles west and half a mile south of Riverdale.

Mr. Choisser was born in Mariposa County, on May 18, 1880, the son of LaFayette Choisser, a French-American hailing from Indiana, who had married Miss Julia Riley in Illinois, in which state she was born. He was a constable and deputy sheriff of Mariposa County, and his fame is still talked of there on account of exceptional courage displayed by him during the troubles between the rangers and the Indians,—an absorbing story told in detail in the Fresno Republican of September 30, 1917. His greatest act

of bravery occurred in January, 1878, when Indian Willie, accused of having murdered Jonas Thompson, a ranger of the Chowchilla district, was placed on trial in the wooden courthouse in Mariposa, and some half a hundred rangers, under the leadership of a giant Kentuckian, watched the trial in and around the court-room, and only awaited the moment when they could relieve the sheriff of all responsibility in disposing of the prisoner, as they had previously endeavored to relieve the county of the expense of the trial.

Unknown to the revengeful members of the Chowchilla band (some of whom were looked upon as likely to know more about the murder than did the poor Indian), LaFayette Choisser, riding a saddle horse and leading another, met the sheriff and prisoner at the back stairs of the court house and, running the gauntlet of the crowded streets, dashed madly off for Merced, followed by the prisoner strapped to the saddle, and the jail, fifty miles away. Within ten minutes, many of the rangers were dashing off, too, and far in the lead of the band, and hot after the fleeing couple, was the tall and powerful Kentuckian, swinging his heavy gun. The ten minutes' gain on the side of the Frenchman was counterbalanced by the burden of the half-dead Indian, whose spirits he tried to keep up. Beyond Princeton, six miles out, the road divided into what was then a thicket of oak so dense that the fork was invisible a rod away; Choisser took the branch to the old Buckingham toll-road, smooth as glass but with many treacherous turns and open spaces, and the Kentuckian, with unerring frontier instinct, hurled himself after him along the same devious route. Into Hornitos, twenty-four miles covered, pursued and pursuer rode, the former able to effect a change of horses at the little stable; but the steeds supplied were not equal to those started out with, and it was a wonder that for them darkness dropped as the officer and his prisoner, now unstrapped and armed with a revolver, crossed the bridge over Bear Creek and rushed into the town of Merced. No telephone or telegraph had foretold their coming, so that it was doubly lucky that the jailer was on hand to open the prison door and, almost in the face of the cursing pursuer, to swing back the iron door. LaFayette Choisser looked at his watch. Fifty miles over mountains, foothills and plains they had ridden in exactly four hours, and the ten minutes' gain at the start had never lessened. To Hornitos neither could boast the better horse, but there Black Bess had been left, while the poor Kentucky charger with its heavy burden had plunged on through the entire stretch with but one drink of water. LaFayette Choisser was a hero; but one night in the eighties (after he had ceased to do sheriff work and had become the superintendent of the old Fremont Grant and also superintendent of the Mariposa Commercial and Mining Company), his dearly loved horse came back alone to the Choisser home in Bear Valley and turning, mutely led a party of searchers over the mountain to the Merced Canyon where, six miles below Benton Mills, now Bagby, on the river bank the little Frenchman lay dead. "He told nothing then, as he told nothing in life, and only his Creator knows the story" of his "damnable taking off."

La Fayette Choisser was only forty-five years old when he was killed; besides his widow (who died also aged forty-five), he left seven children, all of whom are now living. Nancy has become Mrs. J. B. Trabucco of Bear Valley; Phil is in business at Riverdale; another daughter is Mrs. S. E. Ball of Le Grand, Cal.; Joe resides at Livingston; John works at mining in the Yosemite Valley, but owns a ranch near Kerman; Walter L. is the subject of this review; and Daisy is Mrs. Condrey of Riverdale.

Walter grew up in Bear Valley, but he hardly recalls his father, who died when he was four years old. He remembers that he saw him ride off on his horse—his last ride; and he also remembers viewing his father's remains lying in the coffin, when someone lifted him up so that he could see. He attended the short-termed district school at Bear Valley and had only very meager educational advantages.





*Henry Ramacher.*

At Bear Valley, on October 5, 1902, he was married to Miss Minnie M. Ball, the daughter of R. F. and Lizzie (Kaler) Ball, the former being a real estate agent at Le Grand. He is the very interesting person who superintended the hauling-out of the gigantic World's Fair California redwood tree, moving it from Converse Basin, in Fresno County, to Visalia in 1892, and there loading it on the cars to Chicago. Mrs. Choisser was born in Kansas, and from there was brought to California when an infant; and in Fresno County she grew to maturity.

After his marriage, Mr. Choisser settled at Riverdale and set to work to improve his twenty-acre ranch. Originally, these twenty acres were a part of the John's Ranch, but they tell a different story now that they are improved with a well-built house, barn and other outbuildings, forming a stock ranch. Of late, Mr. Choisser has entered a new field and is breeding full-blooded Holstein-Frisian cattle and Poland-China hogs, duly registered. He has four full-blooded registered cows, a bull and two heifer calves; and he has three registered Poland-China sows. Having begun their hard struggle together with very little money, and little by little bought their place and worked themselves out of debt, they are now beginning to invest their surplus money in this new field.

Mr. and Mrs. Choisser have had two children—Walter, who died when he was four years old, and Everett, who died when he was thirteen. Mr. Choisser takes a live interest in civic affairs, though not a politician, and marches with national issues under the banners of the Republican Party.

**HENRY RAMACHER.**—One of the best-known builders-up of Fresno County, a fine old gentleman, whose influence has been especially potent because of his reputation for uprightness and honesty, is Henry Ramacher, a pioneer of the early eighties. He was born in the Rhine provinces of Germany, near Elberfeld, June 1, 1843, the son of Henry Ramacher, a harness-maker and saddler, who in 1853 brought his wife and six children to America, sailing from Havre, France, on the sailing vessel Ocean Home. After a voyage of seven weeks they landed in New Orleans, and then came up the Mississippi and Ohio Rivers to Evansville, Ind., and thence by rail to Vincennes, finally locating near Linton, in Greene County. There he settled on a farm, and there he died. His wife, who had been Mary Hochwar, also died there, the mother of six children, of whom Henry is the only one living and the only one who came to California. His youngest brother John had gone to Mississippi to establish himself in the harness business; and there he was pressed into the Confederate Army and served in Kentucky until he had a chance to desert. Then he came to Illinois, and finally died in Indiana.

Brought up on a farm, Henry Ramacher was educated at the public schools, attending for a while a school that was held in a log cabin; and when, at the age of nineteen, he lost his father, he continued to manage the home farm for his mother, and ran it until she died in 1872. Then he bought the farm and conducted it as his own, making some reputation thereabouts as a successful husbandman.

Desiring, however, to locate in California, Mr. Ramacher sold out and brought his wife and three children to California in 1884. After carefully examining into the claims of the several sections of the state, he located in Fresno County, and here for a while he followed stock-raising. Then he took up vineyarding, and when he had mastered its details he bought twenty acres in the Kutner Colony. He did not like the situation, however, so he let the holding go, and then purchased eighty acres in the northeastern part of Kutner Colony, twelve miles northeast of Fresno. There he set out a vineyard to Tokay and Malaga table grapes and muscat raisins, and planted a small family orchard. He had over forty-three acres in the vineyard. The rest of the farm he planted to alfalfa. Soon his experience brought him a reputation of



commercial value, and his services were in demand for setting out and caring for hundreds of acres of vineyards owned by other people.

While in Indiana Mr. Ramacher had married Miss Mary Fainot, a native of Louisville, Ohio, and the daughter of French parents; and with her he lived very happily until she died in 1909. He continued to manage the ranch until 1913, when he leased it to his son and bought the residence at 1628 White Avenue, Fresno. From the time of the formation of the first raisin association here, Mr. Ramacher has actively supported every movement designed to advance the interests of that industry, and he is now a stockholder as well as a member of the California Associated Raisin Company.

Public-spirited to a very commendable degree, Mr. Ramacher has always been ready to serve his fellow citizens when he could, and has acted as school trustee in the Kutner Colony school district for twenty-two years, or until he moved away; part of the time being clerk, and part of the time president of the board of trustees. He helped build both the first and second schoolhouse in Kutner Colony. Fond of social life, he was made a Mason in the Bloomfield Lodge, in Indiana, and was a Past Master there; and he used to be a member of the O. E. S., and is an Ancient Odd Fellow; but he finds his greatest social delight in the company of his children, of whom he has eight. They are: Leroy, who lives at the old home ranch; Verny, now Mrs. Michael, residing near Clovis; Leonard, who is a rancher in the Kutner Colony; Henry, a rancher living near Rolinda; Mary, who presides over her father's house; Annie, better known as Mrs. Campbell of Biola; Bismarck, who is in the United States Army, serving in France as a corporal; and Henrietta, who is at home.

**LEVI NELSON FINCHER.**—A man of unusual intelligence and learning, though practically self-educated, Levi Nelson Fincher has left his mark in the world as one who was honorable and upright in all his dealings, deeply religious, though never obtrusively so, and well read and informed in the world's doings during his full and useful life. A native of North Carolina, he was born October 30, 1830. His father brought the family to Missouri when Levi was a child of less than six years, and there they settled on a farm, in Osage County. The small boy's schooling was limited as there was no school system in Missouri in those early days, and he had only one year of school. the balance of his education he received at the hands of his father and older sister, who were both well educated; his first instruction was from the Bible, and he was a great student all his life. He became a well-informed and scholarly man, able in later life to quote whole chapters from the most ancient of all books.

On reaching manhood, Mr. Fincher followed farming in Missouri for a time, but he was of too enterprising a spirit to remain there long, and in 1850 he came to California via Panama and here followed mining two years. At the end of that time he returned to Missouri and married Paulina Moore, born in Tennessee on February 18, 1830, a daughter of Patrick Moore of Virginia, a man of Scotch and Irish extraction, who took for his wife Sarah Elston of Frankfort, Va.

After his marriage Mr. Fincher lived in Missouri for a few years, then removed to Kansas, where he farmed. He again heard the call of the West, however, and returned to California, this time bringing a wife and five children across the plains in ox teams and wagons in 1862. On their arrival they located in Sacramento County, for about one year, then came to Stanislaus County where he took up land near what is now Riverbank, and improved a farm of 320 acres. Here the family resided for twenty-five years. In the meantime Mr. Fincher bought land in Fresno County, and moved here in 1884. He purchased 800 acres for twenty-five dollars per acre, a quotation that goes to show the difference in land valuation between those early days and the present era. Besides these large holdings Mr. Fincher rented other land and became one of the large grain raisers of this section. He later laid

out Fincher Colony and intended to sell off small tracts but he was more farsighted than the majority of men at that time and the ranch remained as a whole until his death, in 1899. The wife and mother passed away in 1907. Mr. Fincher was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.

To this most worthy pioneer couple twelve children were born: Margaret Alice, Mrs. Evans of San Diego; Mary C., Mrs. G. D. Wooten of Santa Cruz; Robert, of Hanford; J. M., residing in Fresno; Mamie, Mrs. J. B. High of Madera; J. P., a viticulturist in Fincher Colony; Letitia; William Francis of Fresno; Elizabeth of Fresno; Vital; Bangs, viticulturist of Fincher Colony; Tillie, of Fresno.

A truly good man and one whose memory is respected by all who came in contact with his wonderful personality, Levi Nelson Fincher as a pioneer of Fresno County was an example of the best fiber of California's growth. It is such men as he who have laid the foundation for the state's present remarkable standard, and Fresno County has exceeded in its quota of real upbuilders.

**EDWARD D. VOGELSANG.**—The success attained in life by E. D. Vogelsang, one of the leading ranchers and vineyardists of Fresno County, is due to efficiency, coupled with close application to business. He is a native Californian, born in Calaveras County, April 5, 1863, a son of Henry and Anna (Vennigerholz) Vogelsang, the former came to California in 1852 and the latter in 1856, making the journey via Panama. They were the parents of ten children: Henry, was killed in a railroad accident at Santa Barbara, he left a widow and four children; Charles A., is connected with the C. A. Hooper Lumber Company of San Francisco; Alexander T., is Assistant Secretary of the Interior at Washington, D. C.; Edward D.; Julius, was in the government civil engineering department and was killed in a landslide while on a tour of inspection. He left a widow and one child; Dorothy, is principal of one of the San Francisco schools; Carl Theodore, is a captain in the United States Navy, a graduate of Annapolis, now commander of the dreadnaught, Idaho; Nellie, is the wife of F. A. Eckstrom, of Stockton; Emma, is matron at the county hospital at Stockton; Anna, is the widow of William Bechtel and resides in San Francisco. The father died at the age of seventy-eight, and the mother aged sixty-four.

Until the age of thirteen Edward D. Vogelsang attended the country schools, and after finishing at the city schools in Stockton, engaged in the manufacture of paper in Stockton, using for the firm name the caption, The California Paper Mill Manufacturers of Newspaper and Wrapping Paper. He was also interested in the real estate and insurance business.

Since a young man twenty-four years of age, Fresno County has been the scene of his activities. In the year 1888 he located at Huron, Fresno County, where he erected a grain warehouse and engaged in buying and selling grain, representing J. D. Peters of Stockton and the Eppinger Company of San Francisco, Cal. He also followed the insurance business, insuring crops, cattle, etc., and was constable of the Sixth Township. During this interval he was interested in raising grain and in buying and selling grain lands in that district. In those early days barley sold as low as forty-five cents and wheat sixty-eight cents per hundred.

In 1899 he came to Fresno to make his home and for eight years served as deputy sheriff under J. D. Collins. For the past twenty years E. J. Goodrich has been his partner in grain farming, and at present they are farming 3,000 acres of grain land. In 1907 Mr. Vogelsang left the sheriff's office and has devoted his time to grain farming on the west side. The mule power used in his work in the grain business in early days has been superseded by the caterpillar engine and tractor, with which he now does all his work. His recent record of seeding 4,500 acres of barley in sixty days is well known. Some years his barley crop has yielded as high as thirty-six sacks to an acre, and grain forty sacks to an acre. He is the owner of sixty acres on Chit-

tenden Avenue, twenty acres of which are planted to muscat grape-vines, twenty acres to Muir peaches, and twenty acres are a mixed orchard. He also owns 100 acres on Shields Avenue, twenty of which is in muscats and twenty in Muir peaches. Mr. Vogelsang was one of the original locaters of the Fresno Oil Company, in the Coalinga district in 1889, the first discovery of oil in the county. The venture was unsuccessful.

He married Eleanor Toomey, a native of San Joaquin County, Cal. Two children have blessed their union: Margaret and Edward, school children.

Fraternally Mr. Vogelsang is a member of the Woodmen of the World. A man of liberal views and generous impulses, he is noteworthy among the self-made, successful men of Fresno County.

**JOHN LEVIS.**—An experienced and successful ranch owner whose name is closely associated with the development of Fresno County is John Levis, who is residing on a fine ranch three miles southwest from Parlier. He is a progressive citizen and a son of the late Mahlon Levis and his wife Mariah Elizabeth (Olden) Levis, well known in the Selma district as one of the representative pioneers.

He was born on January 22, 1878, grew to manhood on his father's ranch and from him learned the details of agriculture and since then has been engaged in agricultural and horticultural pursuits in this county. His education was received in the common schools of the county and at the age of twenty-seven he was united in marriage with Marion Freeland, daughter of Mrs. James Freeland, who came from Scotland to California and settled first in Santa Cruz County. When Mr. Freeland died, his widow married Mr. Arrants, one of the pioneers of Selma district.

Mr. Levis received forty acres from his father's estate, which was distributed among his children before he died, he retaining 100 acres for himself. Five years after receiving his gift, he added to his holdings another twenty adjoining, buying the same from his father. He later added twenty acres after his father's demise, part of the original acreage. For the most part the land was used for grain raising when he first obtained it, but by hard labor he has transformed it into a fine tract of peaches, apricots and grapes. The ranch buildings are of the modern kind, equipped with the conveniences of a city home. The ranch is well watered by the Kingsburg and Centerville ditches and a pumping-plant.

Mr. Levis' mother died in Selma when she was sixty-five. His father reached the age of ninety-two. Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Levis: Mary Elizabeth; John; and Geraldine. Mrs. Levis is a Presbyterian. Of his ranch, Mr. Levis has rented out seventy acres and ten acres are worked by himself. In 1916 he moved into Selma where he bought property at 2504 Logan Street. This move was made in order to give the children the opportunity of the city schools.

**ANTON LARSEN.**—Among those who have made good on the Laguna de Tache Grant must be mentioned Anton Larsen, who, now seventy-three years old, owns a well-improved ten-acre home ranch on the south side of Mt. Whitney Avenue, a short distance west of Laton, where he now lives in comfort. He also owns another tract of fifty acres, which is partly covered with timber, but will in time with clearing and cultivation make fine alfalfa land. He persists in his habits of industry acquired in early life and he may be found any day busy at work. Any time that can be spared after attending to the necessary work on his own holdings, is gladly given to helping out his neighbors, one of whom recently said: "Andy is more dependable and can do more hard work today, than the majority of young men." Anton Larsen comes by his unusual strength of body and mind honestly. His ancestors were Danes, that industrious and hardy race, which has had so much to do with the establishment of political and economical freedom. He was born in Jutland, Denmark, November 11, 1846, was brought up in his native





*J. W. Humphreys*



*Martha A. Humphreys*

country where he was schooled and where by apprenticeship he learned the cooper's trade, after which he performed military service for one and one-half years in the Danish army. But his hopes for the future were in America, of which he had read and studied, and arriving at New York, he went up to Amsterdam, New York state, and became a farm laborer. From there he went out to the state of Iowa, where he worked on farms near Cedar Rapids and Iowa City. He then went to Milwaukee, Wis., and there found work as a cooper for three years, after which he went to New York City, engaging at his trade on Staten Island. He then made a three-month visit back to Denmark after which he again returned to New York City, engaging at his trade for another year. He then resolved to see the Golden State, and came out to San Francisco, where he worked at his trade for two and a half years, then returned East working as a journeyman cooper in New York, St. Paul, Minn., and in the Black Hills country, before coming back to San Francisco, after which he was variously engaged at Saint Inez and Lompoc, Santa Barbara County, going thence to Pine Ridge in Fresno County, where he engaged in a sawmill, and then came to the Laguna de Tache Grant, engaging as a wood chopper at first. This section appealed to Mr. Larsen and he has remained here ever since and invested his earnings in land and has attained a very fair degree of success. He is an excellent workman and a man of rigid honesty.

**JOHN W. HUMPHREYS.**—The California of early days is only a memory in the minds of a few of the old pioneers who are rapidly passing to their reward, but the pictures that hang on Memory's walls have been sketched by the pen of many writers, and other equally able settlers are from time to time adding to the invaluable collection. Fresno was not in existence in 1867, the year when John W. Humphreys, now deceased, settled in this county. He had been born in Athens, Ala., on January 11, 1830, and his father was Alexander Humphreys, a native of Kentucky.

He descended from an old Welsh family that came from England to Virginia in early Colonial days, and whose name was spelled "Home-fries" by the people of Wales, meaning householder, while in England it was Anglicized to Humphreys. From Virginia the family scattered into various Southern states. Alexander Humphreys moved to Arkansas in 1833, where he improved a farm, raised a family of twelve children and resided there until he followed his son to California, and spent his last days in Los Angeles.

John W. Humphreys received his education in the public schools and afterwards gained a richer knowledge in the fuller school of life, profiting thereby more than the average of men who have braved perils and hardships in the van of civilization ever marching toward the West. He came to California in the year 1852, then a young man twenty-two years of age, having crossed the plains with ox teams by way of Texas and going from San Diego to San Francisco by boat, and thence to the mines in Tuolumne County. In 1860 he went to Mariposa, where he engaged in the occupation he followed the greater portion of his life—the saw-mill business.

In the year 1863, Mr. Humphreys was married to Miss Martha Flinn, who was born in Cape Girardeau County, Mo., February 23, 1843, and also crossed the plains, in 1860, with her father, William E. Flinn. Ten children were born of this union, six of whom have survived: Emma is the wife of J. E. Paddock, the manager for the El Paso Milling Company at El Paso, Texas; Anna is Mrs. Hugh Maxwell, of Evanston, Ill.; John W., Jr., is an horticulturist near Fresno; Mrs. Clara B. Lehr is also living in this county; Ray resides in Madera, and Miles O., whose life-story is given in greater detail elsewhere in this work, is the well-known real estate man of Fresno. Some of these children also have children, so that Mr. Humphreys' descendants number thirteen grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. The children who early passed away were: Elizabeth, who died when she was two years old; Ernest, who succumbed at twelve; Mattie, whose career closed

in her twenty-first year, having just completed a course at the Stockton Business College; and Herbert, who was six years old.

In 1867, Mr. Humphreys moved his mill to Fresno County, and settled six miles from Tollhouse on Pine Ridge, where he lived until 1874. The country was at that time very sparsely settled, the principal population being peacefully disposed Indians, whom he employed in the woods and mill. There were no schools and no white people nearer than the post office at Millerton, twenty-two miles away. Mrs. Humphreys and her sister, Mrs. Clara Mock, were the first white women in that neighborhood, and their ranch was nearly thirty miles from the nearest doctor, at Centerville. There were no roads. They cut the timber and made the roads when he pulled the machinery up the hills by ox teams. He helped build the Tollhouse grade which has since become famous as the scene of automobile hill-climbs and contests,—a rise of two thousand feet in two miles, the same grade he established. They sold their lumber to the settlers at Smith's Ferry on Kings River, who bought the lumber as fast as it was sawed. They made plenty of money, and died very well-to-do. And in the vicinity of their toil, their children were brought up and educated.

In 1874, Mr. Humphreys sold the mill to Henry Glass and Jeff Donahoo, and for two years he was out of the saw-mill business. Then, in partnership with Moses Mock, he again entered the field, building and operating three different mills in that locality, one of which, the Bonanza, he afterwards sold to C. D. Davis. This was located a mile south of the present site of Shaver. He continued this work until 1891, when they sold, and dissolved partnership. In 1892, in partnership with John Sage, he operated a saw mill one mile southeast of Ockenden, continuing there for two years, when he sold out and retired to his ranch-home at Tollhouse, where he owned a section of land and was engaged in stock-raising.

During his busy life Mr. Humphreys has owned several different ranches, one of 160 acres being at Wildflower, near Selma, and another of 160 acres at Kingston, both of which he improved to alfalfa. His family has continued to operate the home-ranch, and has increased the holdings to 1,400 acres.

At his Tollhouse ranch this venerable pioneer passed to his reward on March 20, 1900, mourned as an active and devout member of the Methodist Episcopal Church South. His widow, aged seventy-six resides with her son, J. W. Humphreys, in Barstow Colony. She is well-posted on early history, and is always an interesting conversationalist, entertaining a guest most profitably.

**CHARLES BERCHUM HARKNESS.**—Among citizens of Scotch ancestry who have for some years been identified with the growth and prosperity of Fresno is Charles Berchum Harkness. His father Thomas was a native of Scotland. His mother, Catus V. (Allison) Harkness, was a native of Ohio. The father was one of the pioneers of California who crossed the plains with ox teams in forty-nine, coming to Placer County, where for a time he worked at mining; after which he engaged in grain farming and teaming in the Santa Clara Valley. Coming to Fresno County in 1877 he homesteaded 160 acres near what is now Sanger, upon which he raised mainly grain. He also owned eighty acres near by and in addition farmed rented land. Later in life he settled in Fresno where he retired from active life. He was a member of the Masonic order and died in 1911. He left three living children: Charles B., Mrs. G. P. Sisler and Mrs. H. J. Sisler.

Charles B. in early life attended the grammar schools in Sanger and later on spent two years in the Fresno Business College, after which he turned his attention to ranching, renting one-half section of land on the Kearney ranch west of Fresno. He also rented 160 acres of the Judge Campbell ranch at Lone Star. In addition he owned 160 acres of alfalfa and grazing land at Riverdale and also rented a vineyard at Malaga. He continued in this line of business for about ten years, when he sold out his interest and



became associated with the Fancher Creek Nursery Company. After four years he became superintendent of the company which position he held for twelve years, when he resigned and purchased an interest in the Fresno Nursery Company, becoming its vice-president and superintendent. After remaining with the Fresno Nursery Company for two years he sold his interest and became deputy sheriff under Walter McSwain, holding this position for three years and four months. Resigning his position as deputy sheriff he became manager of the Valley Fruit Growers Association. This association serves 4,000 growers in the San Joaquin Valley, covering four counties. In 1917 he was the means of securing 3,500 answers to help harvest crops, many coming from the eastern states. The association employs white labor exclusively. The officers and directors of the association are: S. Flanders Setchel, president; Wiley M. Giffen, vice-president; C. B. Harkness, secretary; S. P. Frisselle, treasurer; Frank Malcolm; P. H. McGarry; George C. Roeding and M. F. Vapley. Mr. Harkness was elected constable of the Third Judicial Township of Fresno County, November 5, 1918. On taking office January 1, 1919, he resigned his position as manager of the Valley Fruit Growers Association to give all of his attention to his office.

Mr. Harkness was married to Miss Emma J. Driver of Michigan. They have four children, Earl B.; Floyd J.; Margaret and Dorothy. Mr. Harkness is a Native Son, a member of the Woodmen of the World, a Forester and a member of Fresno Lodge, No. 186, I. O. O. F. He is justly entitled to the esteem in which he is held by his fellow citizens.

**H. M. McLENNAN.**—Among the early settlers here who deserve and who receive the highest esteem and good-will of their fellow-citizens, is the successful viticulturist, H. M. McLennan, well-known for his progressive methods, who is also overseer of the roads of his district. In both private and public affairs, Mr. McLennan has displayed rare business acumen. As a viticulturist, pointing the way to others as he blazes for himself, Mr. McLennan enjoys a prosperity none will gainsay; while as an officeholder he has proven one of the most successful and acceptable Fresno County has had for many years.

Having arrived in California in 1878, Mr. McLennan settled at Quincy, Plumas County, where he completed his schooling; and when the excitement concerning Tombstone broke out in 1879, he was not long in getting ready to visit the scene of new operations. In 1880 he made the trip from Tucson to Tombstone by stage, and reached there when the town was only nine months old. Even then it was as interesting as it was new, and for a while he prospected for himself. He also worked in the quartz mills. When he shifted, it was to continue as battery feeder, in the Tombstone Mill & Mining Company's mills at Charleston, nine miles from Tombstone.

In 1886 Mr. McLennan returned to California and settled in Fresno County. He bought his present place, then a tract of raw land, consisting of forty acres two miles west of Fresno, and at once settled upon it. He sunk a well, built himself a house, and made numerous improvements. He even had to construct a road over which he might haul the lumber needed for his operations, and he dug a mile and a half of ditch to bring water from the Houghton Canal with which to irrigate his place. Then he set out muscat vines and engaged in viticulture.

When the vines began to bear, he sold his 1889 crop for six and one-half cents a pound, and his second crop, the following year, at the same price. The price went down, however, to one cent, and a cent and a quarter a pound; and once through a commission merchant, he shipped four tons to Buffalo and sold them there for a quarter of a cent a pound less than the cost of the freight. Mr. McLennan gave his heartiest support to the various raisin associations as they were projected, becoming finally both a member and a stockholder in the present California Associated Raisin Company which has done so much to help the rancher do for himself. He himself stuck to his vineyard, and for

years his vines have been growing and bearing well. Having a keen, scientific interest in husbandry, Mr. McLennan has also heartily supported, as a stockholder and member, the California Peach Growers, Inc.

In national affairs he is a Democrat, but a citizen who believes in supporting local issues, when good, irrespective of party lines. Mr. McLennan in 1907 became road overseer of his section under Chris Jorgensen. He has also demonstrated his interest in the course of education by serving acceptably as a member of the board of trustees of the Madison School district for fourteen years, having been clerk of the board thirteen years of the time and helped build three different school houses in the district.

While at Tombstone, Mr. McLennan was married to Agnes J. Frazier; and they are among the social favorites in the circles of the Woodmen of the World, of which Mr. McLennan is a member.

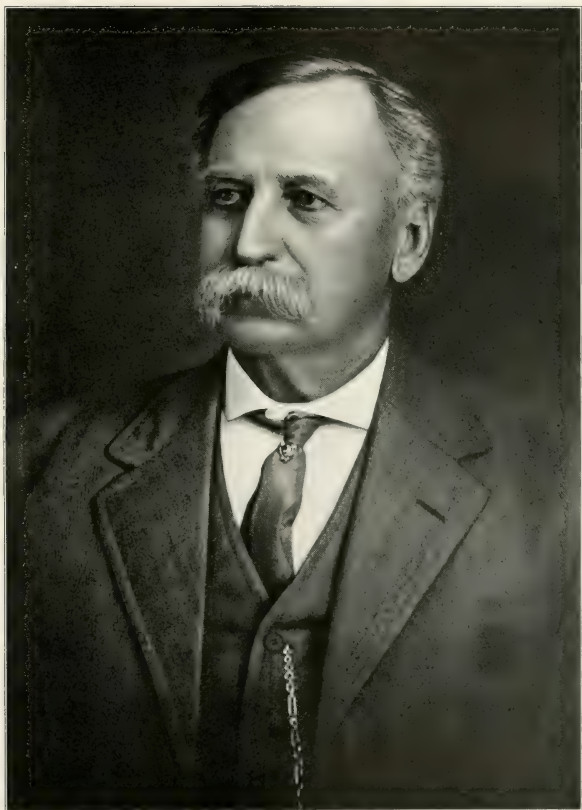
**HUGH B. BISSELL.**—A man who, by his indomitable energy, perseverance and business acumen, has risen to a place of prominence and affluence in the affairs of Fresno County, is Hugh B. Bissell, who comes of sturdy old New England stock that had much to do with the shaping of the political and economical affairs of their times. When the Bissell family first became identified with the industrial development of America it was established in Connecticut, the progenitor of the family coming from England, in 1629. Various members of the family became prominent in church and state, as well as in the Colonial and Revolutionary Wars, and among these was Hugh B. Bissell's great-great-grandfather, Zebulon Bissell, a commissioned officer in the latter war.

Hugh B. Bissell was born near West Point, Lee County, Iowa, on April 23, 1850. His father was Ralph Bissell, a native of Litchfield, Conn., born September 17, 1816. The father followed farming and milling in Connecticut until 1838, when he removed to Lee County, Iowa, becoming one of the pioneers of that state. In that county he married Mrs. Jane (Brunson) South, who was born in Pennsylvania, November 4, 1820, and who passed away April 4, 1869, they having four children, three of whom are living: Hugh B., the eldest; Julia A., who is Mrs. Garrett, of Clovis; and Frank, viticulturist of Easton.

Ralph Bissell was a very successful farmer in Lee County, being well known and highly respected. In 1871 he was married again, to Sarah Stevens, and soon afterwards removed to Macon County, Mo., where he resided until 1886, when he joined his son in Fresno County, Cal. He became interested in farming in Easton, and resided there until his death, September 26, 1888. His wife still survives him and is making her home at Easton.

Hugh B. received a good education in the public schools of Iowa. From a lad he assisted his father on the Iowa farm and after his school days were over gave all of his time until twenty-one years of age, when he began farming on his own account, making a specialty of growing corn, in which he was very successful. In 1871 he disposed of his farming interests in Iowa and removed to Callao, Macon County, Mo., and there, April 6, 1875, he was married to Missouri A. Paine, who was born in Mississippi, May 4, 1851. During his residence in Missouri he followed farming, as well as the livery business, at Carthage, Jasper County.

Having a desire to come to the Coast, he answered the call of the West, and in 1885 located in Modesto, Cal., where he engaged in farming for one year, and then removed to Fresno County in 1886. For two and a half years he leased land south of Fresno and at the end of that period he purchased a ranch on Elm Avenue, operating the place for about ten years, selling it in 1898. Meantime he also leased about 3,000 acres of land in the county, which he farmed to grain. In this business he used many big teams and a combined harvester for gathering the grain. During these years, he had many trying



*H. B. Bissell*



experiences from loss of crops and also the very low price of grain. He continued grain-farming until 1906, when he quit.

Meantime, during these years of struggle, he had purchased his present place, known as the old Shipp place, of 320 acres, at twenty dollars an acre, the nearest neighbor at that time being about two miles distant; nor did it have any water right from the canal. Later he purchased 160 acres adjoining so he had 480 acres in all. Nothing daunted, he immediately went to work to improve it for intensive farming. He sunk wells, found abundant water, which rose close to the surface, and although he was ridiculed by those who thought it impossible, he installed a pumping plant to irrigate his ranch. This was the first pumping plant in his section; it had a six-inch centrifugal pump, run by a twenty-horsepower engine. Thus it came that he set out the first vineyard above the general irrigation ditch, and, despite the scoffers, he made a success of his vineyard and orchard, which are now irrigated by three pumping plants. At various times he has sold a portion of his holdings, retaining 160 acres which he has developed into a wonderfully productive and valuable place, and erecting a large comfortable residence, constructed of cement blocks, making it one of the show places of the district. To evidence the wonderful change and development from the original stubble-field, it need only be stated that his last sale of eighty acres was for \$750 per acre—for the land which he had purchased for twenty dollars per acre.

Viticulture and horticulture, however, did not engross all of Mr. Bissell's time, for, among other activities, he was one of the original stockholders in the First National Bank of Clovis, in which he was afterwards chosen a director, being retained ever since. He has supported the various raisin associations from the days of Theo. Kearney, and is today an active member of the California Associated Raisin Company.

Mr. Bissell was bereaved of his wife on July 1, 1908, leaving two sons: Lora Clyde, who was married in 1904 to Miss Maud Early, but who passed away August 15, 1909, leaving a child, William Hugh; and Raymond H., who was born August 28, 1890, and who is married to Hilda Franck and has one child, Dorothy Ann, and who is assisting his father in his ranching enterprises. About six years after his wife's death, Mr. Bissell married again, the ceremony being performed in Oakland which united him with Miss Irene L. Bissell, who was born in Sharon, Medina County, Ohio, a daughter of E. S. and Mary A. (More) Bissell, farmers in that state.

Mr. and Mrs. Bissell are members of the First Presbyterian Church of Clovis, where they have many friends and are highly respected. It is to such men as Hugh B. Bissell that Fresno County owes much of its present development and greatness. Endowed by nature with energy, strength and ambition, and seeing the possibilities of the rich soil, and having faith in his own judgment, he proceeded to carry out his plans, and he has lived to see, not only his own section, but vast areas in Fresno County blossoming like the rose.

**CHARLES S. HAYCRAFT.**—Altruistic tendencies, uprightness and true Christian character make Charles S. Haycraft a safe counsellor and considerate friend. Jealous for his honor, he always keeps his word, and his generous impulses lead him to have a thought for the other fellow in all his transactions.

Mr. Haycraft was born in Lewis County, Mo., August 31, 1871. His father, E. R. Haycraft, was born in Kentucky, and died in Fresno County in 1908, at the age of eighty-four years. He was a pioneer California gold miner, his mines being located on the Feather River. He crossed the plains in 1849 with ox teams, and from that year until 1851 operated his mines. He went back to Missouri via the Panama Canal. At the time of his death he owned a place on Chestnut Avenue, Fresno. The mother was Amanda

Miller, born in Kentucky, near Elizabeth. They were married in Missouri, in which state the father was a farmer. In 1887 they came to California, Charles then being sixteen years old. There were four children to bless this marriage: L. M., who died in the fall of 1917, he formerly owned the old Haycraft ranch on Chestnut Avenue; Bettie D., wife of J. W. Briscoe, of Bakersfield; W. E., a rancher, now owning part of the old Haycraft home-stand ranch; and Charles S., of this review.

Mr. Haycraft attended the common schools in Missouri and California. He is the youngest of the family, and has lived in Fresno County since 1887. He went back to Missouri to marry Miss Edith Porter, with whom he became acquainted in California. She is the daughter of J. W. Porter, who resides near Malaga. They have no children.

Mr. Haycraft is now owner of two ranches: his home ranch of forty acres, lying two and a half miles from Fowler and the other on Chestnut Avenue, southeast of Fresno, of twenty-four acres.

Mr. Haycraft is a member of the Baptist Church in Malaga, of the Raisin and Peach Growers Associations, and of the Woodmen of the World, in Fresno. In politics he is a Democrat, and in his daily life a successful and influential man.

**CARL M. JACOBSEN.**—An honored pioneer of Fresno County, one who has taken an active part in its development, whose original idea concerning the establishment of the Cooperative Raisin Growers Association was afterwards adopted, and, withal, a man of progressive spirit and enterprise, is Carl M. Jacobsen, who came to Fresno County about thirty-eight years ago. He is a native of Denmark, born near Holstebro, Jylland, in July, 1860, a son of Jacob Petersen, a Danish farmer, who is now deceased. His mother, who in maidenhood was Christine Nielsen, came to California and spent her last days with her son. Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Petersen were the parents of seven children, five of whom emigrated from Denmark, three coming to the United States and two going to Australia.

Carl M. Jacobsen is the third oldest of the family and when nine years old his father died. His early education was received in the public schools of Denmark, which he attended until thirteen years of age, when he was apprenticed to learn the trade of a blacksmith and after serving his allotted time he worked as a journeyman for several years. When nineteen years old, having decided to see more of the world, he immigrated to the United States, arriving at New York City, where he remained but a short time, the following month continuing his journey westward until he reached Fresno County, Cal. For four years he was employed with Miller and Lux, extensive land-owners and cattlemen, being located on their Dos Palos ranch where he became a foreman and afterwards the blacksmith for the place. In 1883, desiring to engage in business for himself, he established a blacksmith shop in Fresno, locating on Front Street, where he remained until he removed to Livermore and there worked for four years at his trade, subsequently returning to Fresno where he continued. Later, Mr. Jacobsen engaged in the restaurant business for one year; however, this undertaking not proving a success he resumed work at his trade.

During the year 1894, Mr. Jacobsen purchased his present ranch of twenty acres, on Kearney and Boulevard Avenues. This was raw land when he bought the place, but was soon leveled and cultivated, a vineyard set out and alfalfa planted. He further improved the corner by establishing a blacksmith shop which he conducted for years and in 1910 sold the shop to Martin Hall, who moved it to Rolinda. In 1914, Mr. Jacobsen purchased the shop at Rolinda and again engaged in business, this time in a more extensive way and with better facilities, as he installed electric power, and up-to-date machinery, being the first person to receive electric power from the Kearney Electric line. Here he continued to follow his trade until March 1, 1918, when he rented his shop in order to give his attention to

his ranch which he plans to set out to sultana grapes. He has recently resumed the management of his shop and added a garage and auto repair shop.

The first marriage of Carl M. Jacobsen occurred at Livermore, Cal., when he was united with Miss Inga Christensen, a native of Denmark who came to California in 1884. She passed away in Fresno, leaving besides her husband, two daughters: Ida, now Mrs. Hugh Cox, residing at Surf; and Amanda, who married Charles Duncan and now resides at Coalinga.

The second marriage of Mr. Jacobsen was solemnized in Fresno, when he was united with Miss Alma Hegg, a native of the Hawkeye State. This marriage was blessed with six children, five of whom are living: Leonard, the manager of the telephone company at Dinuba; Ingwar, a student in the high school at Kerman; Mabel; Irving; and Earl.

Mr. Jacobsen is very resourceful and original in his ideas, and has taken the initiative in many progressive movements and business enterprises that have been carried to successful completion. He was one of the men to suggest an organization of the raisin-growers, through an article printed in the Fresno Republican, and also suggested the name of M. Theo. Kearney for president, who accepted and was elected. Mr. Jacobsen was also very successful in developing and enlarging the business of the Scandinavian Fire Insurance Association, by soliciting business and arousing interest in the organization which has grown to be very strong and successful, and in which association he was a director. Mr. Jacobsen is a member of the cooperative store in Fresno; was one of the organizers of the Danish Creamery, and was one of the first persons in his locality to have a telephone installed, going out and securing the first ten subscribers to the telephone line.

Fraternally he is a member of the Danish Brotherhood, Modern Woodmen of America, and was, at one time a member of the Fraternal Brotherhood and acted as the president of the local lodge for three terms. In political matters he supports the Republican platform and religiously is a member of the Lutheran Church in Fresno.

**CHARLES FRANKLIN McKEAN.**—The youngest child of a family of ten children of Archibald and Ellen (Stoutenberg) McKean, Charles Franklin McKean's father was born in Scotland and married in Canada where he engaged in the saw mill business and farmed in the Province of Ontario.

Charles Franklin McKean was born at Callenwood, Ont., Canada, November 3, 1876. He grew up in Canada, attended the public schools there and was fifteen years of age when he came with his parents to Pasadena, Cal., where he resumed his schooling in the public schools and in the Troop Polytechnic College.

At the age of sixteen he came up to Hanford where his brother A. D. was then engaged in running a threshing machine. Since that time his home has continued to be in Kings and Fresno Counties. He saw Riverdale before the advent of its railroad, viz., the Hanford and Summit Lake Railroad, now a part of the Southern Pacific system, and has watched with keen interest the growth and development of Riverdale. Mr. McKean, as in fact also his brother A. D. (before he became a banker), and his father and grandfather, all have a talent for machinery. Charles McKean worked at threshing, running the portable steam engine and tending the threshing separator for three years, for his brother A. D., and then he launched into business for himself. He bought a threshing outfit consisting of a 32x54 Case Separator and a forty-five horsepower Case traction steam engine. He now owns and operates two sixty horsepower Holt Caterpillar tractors and contracts with the farmers of his locality to do their plowing, seeding, harvesting and threshing, and in this line he is more than ordinarily successful.

Mr. McKean is now one of the oldest continuous residents and business men in Riverdale, where he has built several buildings, residences and the first and leading garage in Riverdale. He is at present contemplating its sub-



stantial enlargement. Mr. McKean owns some very choice inside property at Riverdale. He is one of the best builders and boosters for Riverdale and is highly regarded.

At Bakersfield on December 24, 1913, Mr. McKean was married to Miss Elva M. Monasco of Riverdale, a native daughter who was born at Watsonville and is a daughter of Mrs. J. Ahlman now living in Riverdale. Mr. and Mrs. McKean have no children.

Mr. McKean's father died at Pasadena when about sixty-five years old. His mother still lives at Pasadena and although seventy-three years old, is hale and hearty.

**JOHN DUNKEL GARMAN.**—A man who for many years was actively aiding in the building up of Fresno, is John Dunkel Garman, born in Cambria County, Pa., on October 25, 1854. His father, William A. Garman, was also a native of that state, being engaged in farming and brick contracting and building in Cambria County. His wife was in maidenhood Catherine Dunkel, also a Pennsylvanian; both were Presbyterians and passed away in Cambria County. Of the twelve children born to this worthy couple, John Dunkel was the fifth oldest and the only member of the family in California.

After completing the public schools at the age of sixteen years, he began working at the brick-layers' trade under his father, continuing with him until 1879, when he removed to Adel, Iowa, and there he worked at his trade until 1882, when he came to Fresno County, and in Fresno he worked as a brick-layer on the building of the Hughes Hotel and many other of the early brick buildings in the city. In time he became foreman on construction of buildings. This occupied all of his time until 1914, when he located on his ranch thirty miles northeast of Fresno, on Little Dry Creek. Here he has 400 acres devoted to grain and stock-raising, having improved it with a comfortable modern residence and other farm buildings.

The marriage of Mr. Garman occurred in Adel, Dallas County, Iowa, on February, 1882, uniting him with Miss Mary E. Loper, who was born at Adel, Iowa, a daughter of J. W. Loper, a pioneer rancher of the Little Dry Creek section, and who is also represented in this work. Mr. Garman was bereaved of his faithful wife on May 31, 1919. She was a consistent Christian all of her life. She was a charter member of the Christian Church in Fresno, where she was very active and much loved by everyone for her noble traits and exemplary life. She left one son, Roy, now city editor of the Fresno Herald.

Mr. Garman is a member of the Knights of Pythias Lodge in Fresno, and politically is a stanch Republican. In the fall of 1886, with his wife, he made a trip back to Pennsylvania and while there they lost their first-born child, Florence Myrtle. They returned to Fresno again in the spring of 1887, when a full appreciation of living in California fully dawned upon them.

**EDGAR SNOWDEN VAN METER.**—There are many names of eminence connected with Fresno's fraternity, among whom the well known city attorney of Fresno, Edgar Snowden Van Meter, has made a name for himself. A descendant of one of the old Knickerbocker families of New York, who in early days moved to Virginia, he was born in that state, August 1, 1850, at Morefield, Hardy County, in what is now West Virginia, and when two years old crossed the plains in a wagon with his parents, who removed to Illinois, at that time almost a frontier state, with its rich plains comparatively sparsely settled. Death claimed the father of the family while living in Illinois, where they remained until Edgar was five years old, when they returned to Virginia.

Educational facilities were far different in those days from the advantages enjoyed by children at the present time, and young Edgar received his education in the old brick church, which served as both school house and church. At the age of seventeen he taught school, and studiously inclined,





*John Borello.*

read law, studied history and the Bible. In 1870, when twenty years of age, he went to Illinois and for three years was on a farm in Piatt County, in the meantime studying law and teaching school. He reaped the fruit of his industry when he was admitted to the bar at Springfield, Illinois, January 1, 1877. For ten years he practiced law successfully in Clinton and Bloomington, Ill. He was city clerk of Clinton, district attorney of De Witt County and also deputy county clerk of that county. In 1888 he came to California, locating in Fresno where he has built a lucrative practice, and in 1890-91 was appointed deputy district attorney under W. D. Tupper. In May, 1917, Mayor William F. Tooney appointed him city attorney of Fresno, a position he is ably filling.

Mr. Van Meter has been twice married. His first wife, in maidenhood Carrie Summers, a native of Michigan, died in 1900. She bore him six children, namely: Edna, James P., deceased; Harry S., a member of the Fresno police force was shot and killed while on duty in 1902; Harlow G., who is in the butcher business in Coalinga; Mrs. Ethel Hooper of Fresno, who is the mother of two sons; and Walter, a member of Fresno's fire department. In his second matrimonial venture his fortunes were linked with those of Miss Cora B. Reynolds, one of California's daughters, born in San Diego, a woman of education and fine character. Mrs. Van Meter is very active in the order of "Native Daughters of the Golden West." Mr. Van Meter is fond of hunting and fishing, in the pursuit of which he spends much of his spare time. He is the owner of West Side undeveloped farm land and also city property. Fraternally he was made a Mason in Lodge No. 242, Clinton, Ill., F. & A. M., and is now a member of Fresno Lodge. He is also a member of the Chamber of Commerce.

**JOHN BORELLO.**—A progressive and prominent man who left his native heath to become a valued citizen of the state of California, is John Borello, president of the Borello Brothers Company, Inc., manufacturers of soda water and soft drinks.

Born in Torino, Piemonte, Italy, on January 17, 1861, he was the son of Andrew and Margarita (Chiamberlando) Borello. When but a lad his mother died in their native land; then his father came to this country, arriving in New York in the year 1874. In the meantime his brother Frank resolved to seek his fortune in America. Shipping before the mast on a vessel bound for California, he landed in San Francisco. Here he was joined by his father. Seeking a more favorable location in which to establish himself in business, he went from San Francisco to Merced. Finally, he moved to Fresno in 1881, where he started the present business. Again his father joined him, but only lived a short time, his death occurring in 1883.

John Borello remained in Italy during his childhood and early youth. He was educated in the public schools of his native land, receiving a good education. In 1886 he came to Fresno, where he went to work for his brother. Being desirous of learning the English language, he used his earnings to study each evening under a private teacher, Mrs. Cummings, continuing his studies for more than two years, perfecting himself in reading and speaking English, as well as in mathematics. He continued with his brother for ten years, at the end of which time he acquired a half interest in the business. On January 31, 1905, the business was incorporated, as Borello Bros. Company., with the older brother as president of the company and John as vice-president. After the death of his brother Frank, which occurred in May, 1912, he succeeded him as president, and has continued to increase and enlarge the business. In 1912 the present plant was built. It is equipped with all modern conveniences, and the average working force is ten men. The Borello manufacturing plant is located at 1235 G Street and has a large fireproof building, 100 by 150 feet, with concrete floor and a most modern and full equipment for making sodas and soda fountain supplies. The laboratory occupies a separate room, where cleanliness is the first thought. Here

all the extracts and syrups are blended and are kept in glass jars and bottles until prepared for shipment and delivery to the trade. The whole plant is kept in the best of order and in sanitary condition. Their exhibit was awarded a silver medal both at the Panama Pacific Exposition at San Francisco and at the Panama-California Exposition in San Diego.

On July 15, 1893, occurred the marriage of John Borello and Miss Eugenia Cebrelli. Four children have been born to this fortunate couple. Clara, a graduate of St. John's Academy, is her father's bookkeeper. Andrew served in the United States Army seven months and has just been honorably discharged; he is now assisting his father. Mary J. and Frank are attending St. John's Academy. Since Mr. Borello became a citizen of our country, he has voted with the Democratic party. Through membership in the Chamber of Commerce, Merchants' Association, Commercial Club and the Druid, he keeps in touch with his fellow men in a social way, and withal holds the respect and esteem of the community for his proficient business policy and good citizenship.

**ABRAM H. KEYSER.**—A real old-timer who, despite the vicissitudes of life, has always done something to improve a community in which he has lived and toiled, is A. H. Keyser, who came to California in the Centennial Year, after he had been eaten out of house and home in Kansas by the grasshoppers. When this experience had been repeated for several years, he asked a Mr. Klein what was best to be done, and the latter told him that he and his brother ought to go to California, for they were young, and this was the country of young men. So, instead of going to Philadelphia to see the great show, they came on to the Golden State. A. H. Keyser was then twenty, and his brother Andrew was eighteen, and they worked energetically for a year at Los Gatos, and then for another year at the New Almaden Quick Silver mine, leaving that line of activity to engaged in farming.

They bought some old horses and an outfit, leased land and put 500 acres near Hollister into wheat. The year 1878 was a good one, and they not only had good crops, but they were favored with good prices. They also ran a hay-baler between seasons, and were busy all the time. They continued farming there for ten years, leasing from two of the large landowners, and putting in 1,000 acres a year. About 1883 they moved their outfit to Fresno County. They helped to grade Kearney Avenue and to build it up, and leased land from Kearney, and for ten or twelve years raised large quantities of grain.

In partnership with his brother Andrew, A. H. Keyser in 1883 bought eighty acres on California and Kearney Avenues, making the purchase from Jeff James, and set the land out to vines. They otherwise improved it with various buildings, and some of the acreage they devoted to grain farming, and bought a combined harvester. They raised lots of hay; and they also contracted to level, check and grade land. They hauled lumber from Pine Ridge to Fresno, and on such a scale that 10,000 feet was considered a load. In this way the brothers continued together until 1900, when they engaged in vineyarding, leasing 200 acres of the Kearney Vineyard and running it until Andrew went to Nome, Alaska, to take up mining. A. H. Keyser followed later, and at Nome he succeeded. He made money, too, prospecting in the hills, but by unfortunate investments they lost all that they thus made—A. H., the hard earnings of three years and Andrew all that he had acquired in a year longer in the frozen North. In 1902 they returned to California and dissolved partnership.

A. H. Keyser then bought twenty acres of his present place at the corner of Valentine and California Avenues, improved the land and there farmed, and later added ten more; while his brother went to the Lone Star vineyard, bought first forty and then forty acres, sold the eighty acres, and then bought and improved another eighty; and now he resides, retired, on Blackstone Avenue, where he has twenty acres.

A. H. Keyser was born near Norristown, Montgomery County, Pa., on February 22, 1856, the son of Isaac Keyser, a native of that state, and Susan Swank, who was also born there. The parents removed to Linn County, Iowa, where the elder Keyser was a farmer, and then to Nemaha County, Kans., forty miles west of Atchison. There Isaac Keyser, after extending his enviable reputation as a farmer, died; and the mother, at the age of ninety-three, came to California and died at the home of her son, Andrew, in Fresno. She was the mother of four boys and four girls, of whom three boys and two girls are still living. Besides his brother, Andrew, there is another brother, Theodore, at San Jose.

Reared in Iowa and Kansas, where he attended school in a log school-house, with slab benches, Mr. Keyser grew up in a country infested with Indians, and struggled, as has been narrated, against such forces of Nature as the all-devouring grasshoppers. He was fortunate, however, in finding in Fresno County those favoring conditions so desired by the ambitious man who is handicapped, and here also he was married on August 28, 1895, his bride being Miss Georgia Luce, a native of Massachusetts. She was the daughter of John J. and Louisa G. (Norton) Luce, the former an old sea-captain who settled in the Liberty district about 1874 and became a Fresno County pioneer; so that both Mr. and Mrs. Keyser have interesting associations with the growth and history of this state. They have two children, Helen A. and Katherine.

A Republican in national politics and a booster for all projects to better the community, Mr. Keyser is also a member of the California Associated Raisin Company and of the California Peach Growers, Inc., and in fraternal affiliations he is an Odd Fellow.

**REV. CARL W. WOLTER.**—Distinguished among the clergy of Fresno County, to whose untiring efforts society at large owes much, is the Rev. Carl W. Wolter, pastor of the Free Evangelical Lutheran Cross Church of Fresno. He was born at Belgard, Pomerania, Germany, on August 9, 1876, the son of Carl W. Wolter, who was paymaster in the German Army, and died in 1881. Wilhelmina Katherine Wolter was the good mother who brought the family of three children to the United States in 1892, and located in Dayton, Ohio, where she was married again to the Rev. J. Moeller, M.D., a minister in the United Brethren Church, who was also a physician and surgeon. By preference he followed clerical work, and the worthy couple both died in Cleveland.

Carl W., the oldest of the three children, was educated in the excellent public schools in Belgard, and then entered the gymnasium, from which he was graduated after finishing his classical studies. Immediately after this he came with his mother to Dayton and entered the United Brethren Seminary, taking the theological course and graduating in 1897. He then preached in the United Brethren Church at Cincinnati, and in 1900 was ordained to the ministry of that church.

After preaching for seven years in Cincinnati, Reverend Wolter came to Peoria, Ill., as pastor of the German Congregational Church, where he remained for six years. In 1910 he accepted a call to Parkston, S. D., as pastor of the Congregational Church, and he ministered to that congregation for three years. He was then elected financial secretary of Redfield College, S. D., filling the position until May 1, 1913, when he resigned to come to Fresno.

He had accepted a call to the Free Evangelical Lutheran Cross Church, and has ever since given his best efforts to build up the church, in which work he has been very successful. He has increased the membership from five hundred to over one thousand, and instead of the small building in the center of the block, there is a fine edifice at the corner. The building was commenced in May, 1914, and completed the following February. It is a large brick edifice at F and San Diego Streets, and has a seating capacity of

1,600. It is the largest church structure and congregation in Fresno, and cost \$50,000. There is a main auditorium, with galleries, a beautiful altar and pulpit, and a pipe organ costing \$3,000. Their service flag numbers fifty-six stars, one of them being a gold star. The basement is fitted up for the Sunday School rooms. This congregation was started about twenty-five years ago, and was the first German congregation in this city. On coming to Fresno, the Reverend Wolter also built a large modern parsonage, which was completed in 1913.

His first marriage was at Dayton, Ohio, in 1897, when he was joined to Miss Annie Moeller, a native of Portsmouth, Ohio. She passed away in Peoria, about ten years after their marriage, leaving two children, Marie and William. He was married a second time, in Cleveland, Ohio, in 1908, to Miss Amalia Seitz, a native of that city, by whom he has had three children, Carl, Howard, and John.

The Reverend Wolter (who is also a graduate of the American University, Chicago, from which he received the degree of D. C., in 1914) is a trustee of the Northern California Conference on the Congregational Church, with which the Free Evangelical Lutheran Cross Church is affiliated. He is editor of the *Brothers Paper*, a religious semi-monthly published in Chicago and devoted, as its name indicates, to the entire brotherhood of Churches in the United States and Canada.

**GEORGE R. MATTHEWS.**—A young, wide-awake manufacturer of foresight and marked general ability, who, while developing his own industrial interests, is helping to build up Fresno and vicinity along commercial and civic lines, is George R. Matthews, proprietor of the Novelty Iron Works. He was born near Louisville, Ky., on March 23, 1874, the son of Quincy M. Matthews, a native of Newburg, Ind., where he first saw the light on February 26, 1849. Quincy's father, Aaron Matthews, was a native of Kentucky, and was taken to Indiana when he was two years of age. Growing up, he assumed the duties of citizenship, and was fife major in the home militia at Newburg. Quincy's grandfather was a contemporary of the famous Daniel Boone of Kentucky, and they served together as two pioneers renowned for their prowess in the Indian wars. Aaron Matthews was a butcher in Indiana, and he died at Hartford, Ky., aged eighty-seven years. George's grandmother Matthews, who was Louisa Shaul before her marriage, was a native of Indiana and died in that state in 1863.

Quincy Matthews learned the machinist's trade in Louisville, and worked three years on the construction of the bridge across the Ohio River at Louisville. After that, he worked in the coal mines in Kentucky and Indiana. At Hendersonville, Ky., in 1876, with several associates he opened a coal mine that bid fair to yield large returns, but the panic came on and they lost all their investment. He next went to Coal Valley, near Rock Island, and later to Cable, Mercer County, Ill., where he engaged in the restaurant and grocery business, and in 1888 he established himself in the same line of trade at Lincoln, Nebr., enjoying there the same reputation for untiring service and honest dealing. In 1903 he came to California and settled at Fresno, and for six years he busied himself as a viculturist, turning away from that field in 1909 to start again in the grocery business. He built a store at the corner of San Pablo and McKenzie Streets, and having already become experienced, attained a satisfactory degree of success. While at Carmel, Ind., Mr. Matthews had married Miss Lizzie Irwin, a native of that section, and by her he had six children: George R., the first-born, is the subject of our sketch; John M. is foreman for Guggenheimer at Fresno; Henry L. is in Los Angeles; Winifred, with the gas company in Fresno; Mrs. Gail Parker resides at Fresno; and Ruth assists her father. Mrs. Matthews passed away here in 1915.

When five years of age, George removed with his folks to Cable, Ill., and until he was fifteen years old, he attended the public schools. Then he







*H. H. Backer.*

went to Lincoln, Nebr., and was apprenticed to the moulder's trade, more and more filling responsible positions with the Nebraska Iron Works. So well was he satisfied with his experience that after finishing the four years for which he was bound, he continued a couple of years more as a journeyman in the same establishment. Then, for a couple of years he traveled and worked in the middle states west of the Mississippi, moving from Galveston to Minneapolis, then to the Rockies and back to Lincoln, where he became foreman of the Lincoln Iron Works. With that firm he continued until the spring of 1903, when he came to the Pacific Coast and Fresno.

The day after his arrival here, he entered the service of the Fresno Agricultural Works, with which he continued as a moulder for eighteen months, leaving to take a year's service at the Novelty Iron Works. He was next foreman, for over a year, at the Burnett Iron Works, and for another year with the Valley Foundry and Machine Works, and once more with the Novelty Iron Works, where he was made foreman and continued for a couple of years. In 1915, having well established his reputation as one of the best iron-masters in this vicinity, he bought of Mr. Halford the Novelty Iron Works, and continued to manufacture not only iron, but bronze, brass and aluminum casting. He has recently purchased six lots for a new site in Prather's Addition, on Railroad Avenue, where he plans a new foundry about 150x150 feet in size. He employs eleven men and with his up-to-date equipment makes all the castings for the Fresno Agricultural Works, as well as for many other concerns.

At Lincoln, Nebr., Mr. Matthews was married to Miss Lovana Robinson, a native of Peoria, Ill., and the daughter of James K. Robinson, a master machinist. Two children have blessed their union: Cecil, a graduate of Heald's Business College and now with the Fresno Natatorium; and Percy, a moulder, who is assisting his father. Mr. Matthews owns nine lots on Washington Street at Fresno Heights, and has built a fine residence at 3665 Washington, where he has installed a good pumping-plant; and he also has other residence property.

**HENRY H. BACKER.**—Nowhere are the advantages of a good, practical business training better shown than in the phenomenal career of Henry H. Backer, the well-known rancher, who has devoted some of the best years of his life to work in several fields, where in each case his efforts have proven highly productive and successful. A man of strong character and original initiative, Mr. Backer believes in doing whatever is worth undertaking in a worthy manner and seeing it through to the finish in the best shape possible.

His father was named Henry Backer and, as a sturdy pioneer, settled in Sierra County, Cal., in 1859, when he engaged in mining, suffered the usual vicissitudes, and finally, in 1878, came to Fresno with his wife and five children. In that year, highly honored as a Californian builder, he died. Mrs. Backer was Miss Augusta Busch before her marriage; and she, also mourned by many, passed away on September 1, 1904.

Born near Downieville, Sierra County, Cal., October 27, 1872, Henry H. enjoyed the superior educational facilities of Fresno's school system, and later took a thorough course at Heald's Business College. But perhaps he received the most valuable preparation of all in the great school of life, where he had the rough corners smoothed down and learned both how to give and take a blow straight from the shoulder. Completing his studies, he worked for a year in San Francisco as a bookkeeper.

Viticulture made a stronger appeal to his capabilities, so Mr. Backer engaged in ranching with the other members of the family, adapting himself with wonderful facility to the new line of activity and easily demonstrating his claim to fitness in that line. Their products vie with the best of those produced in the vicinity, and he has made some reputation for his own investigations and experiments.

With the other members of his family, Mr. Backer incorporated as the Backer Vineyard Company, and they own and operate a very productive vineyard of 120 acres, eight miles east of Fresno. They are pioneers in the raising of all kinds of grapes, making a specialty of Emperors, and have a large vineyard of this variety now twenty-three years old, and are expert growers of table grapes. Their acreage contains thirty acres of Emperors, twenty of Malagas, ten of Cornishons, twenty acres of Servian Blue or Fresno Beauty, and forty acres of Muscats. The sharp competition with the Tokay grapes from Northern California in the Eastern markets led to the necessity of finding some means of packing their table grapes so they would keep in cold storage until the tokays were out of the market. Backer Bros. had shipped table grapes packed in crates in refrigerator cars to New York City but, finding a glutted market, placed the consignment in cold storage, which resulted in their spoiling, and they suffered a severe financial loss. Henry Backer, having made the journey to New York at the time, watched the success or failure of the cold storage experiment and while waiting around New York his attention was called to the splendid condition of the Spanish table grapes which had arrived packed in cork. Packing in cork being impracticable, if not absolutely impossible in California, Mr. Backer began thinking about substitutes. He broached his idea to his commission merchant, Charles Thurston, and they together sought the advice of the Viticultural Department at Washington as to substituting sawdust for cork in which to pack the grapes. This was in 1908. The government assisted Mr. Backer in 1909 in experimenting, shipping the grapes packed in various kinds of sawdust, but it proved a failure; the sawdust used was too fine, and also gave an unpleasant flavor to the grapes and they would not keep. In 1910 they made further experiments with the sawdust from redwood trees and this led to fair results in 1911 and further experiments in 1912 until they developed a method of making and treating a coarse sawdust from the redwood, which now meets all practical wants and Fresno County table grapes are now being shipped to the great cold storage establishments, not only in the large cities of the United States but to important cities and ports all over the world, packed in this substitute for cork, and it has been found that grapes, when thus properly packed, will keep all winter.

After proving the packing and shipping of table grapes a success, the Backers readily and enthusiastically showed others the success of their experiment and this method of shipping became universal and has been the means of bringing great wealth to the state and probably no other enterprise did more to bring Fresno County to the fore and aid in bringing the price of Fresno County lands to the present high value and standard. So it is readily seen that in this Mr. Backer has rendered a valuable service. In addition to his interest in the Backer Vineyard Company's 120 acres, they also own a splendid grain farm of 760 acres, eight miles north of Sanger.

Although coming of an old pioneer family with valuable social and other connections, Mr. Backer is still a bachelor, and as such is a very popular member of the Odd Fellows and the Elks. A loyal Democrat, he is even a more loyal American, and being brimful of civic pride, finds time for participation in movements making for the public welfare.

**EMIL PEARSON.**—For the past quarter of a century Emil Pearson has been a well known figure in the Kingsburg Colony. He is known as a successful man in the vocation of his choice, that of horticulture and viticulture, and his well kept ten-acre home place, as well as his ten-acre piece one and one-half miles further northeast, testify to the efficacious methods employed by their owner in their care.

Mr. Pearson was born in Sweden, April 1, 1864, received his education in the schools of the land of his birth, and was confirmed in the Lutheran Church. As a young man he followed the occupation of farming before

coming to the United States. His parents, Per Nilson and Brita (Eglund) Nilson, lived and died in Sweden where the father owned a small ten-acre farm and was also a carpenter. The father, who was married twice, had three children by his first wife. The eldest, Gustav Eden, was a tailor in London, where he died leaving three children, Oscar, Carl and Hedwick by name. The second child, Annie, is the wife of Nils Chelgren, a rancher in Washington Colony. Maria, is the widow of Mr. Bergrooth and lives in Kingsburg. The father's second wife bore him four children: The eldest, Tilda, is single and lives in Sweden. Augusta, or Jennie, is the wife of W. T. H. Martin, a rancher near Kingsburg. Alfred, was a storekeeper in Fresno, where he died. Emil is the youngest of the family, and as his parents grew old he assisted them.

In 1892, Emil left Sweden and came to Kingsburg, Fresno County, Cal., where he had a brother and sister living. At this time he had but sixty-five dollars. He worked out, carrying his blankets from place to place, and experienced the vicissitudes that accompany hard times. It was difficult to get work owing to the financial stringency, but perseverance finally won the day, and in 1895 he bought his present ten acres, then practically unimproved. It had no house, barn, well or pump.

In April, 1898, he was united in marriage with Miss Lena Lindholm, a native of Sweden and daughter of Erik Person and Johanna (Johnson) Person. Mrs. Pearson's parents died in Sweden, where the father was a farmer and timber-worker. There were five children in the family: Lars, who died at Ishpeming, Mich.; Louisa, the wife of Mr. C. G. Pahlm, a rancher of Kingsburg; Lena; Remhold, a farmer in Sweden; and Anna, the wife of Robert Thompson of Berkeley. Mrs. Pearson came to America and worked in Berkeley and San Francisco. While on a visit to her sister in Kingsburg she became acquainted with Mr. Pearson. They are the parents of two children: David, a farm laborer, nineteen years of age, and Paul. Their home is one and one-half miles northeast of Kingsburg, and they belong to the Kingsburg school district.

Mr. Pearson is a member of the Swedish Baptist Church at Kingsburg, and the family is held in high esteem.

**EDWARD J. GOODRICH.**—"Back to Nature" is the impelling slogan of the day. Whatever the needs, in the last analysis nature must supply them. They who study and cultivate nature in all its various moods are the people who are to provide the remedy for want. The sturdy farmer is the solution of humanity's problem.

Edward J. Goodrich's parents, Charles H. and Maggie (McCarthy) Goodrich, were from the great state of Maine. In 1856 they came to California, locating in Monterey and San Benito Counties where the mother died in 1878. Here they followed stock raising and farming until 1880, when they removed to Fresno County, leasing land in the Coalinga district, where they engaged in sheep and cattle raising. Later they followed farming near Selma. They had four sons: Edward J., of 221 Coast avenue, Fresno; Charles F., and John A., of Tranquillity, and Leonard J., of Stockton. The father died in 1894 at Selma.

Edward J. Goodrich was born in San Juan, San Benito County, Cal., March 25, 1869. He finished his schooling in the Washington Colony school district, Fresno County. At the age of thirteen years he began working for wages and in 1891 he started into grain farming for himself on leased land near Selma, Caruthers and Wheatville. In 1898 a partnership was formed with Ed Vogelsang for the purpose of grain farming in the Huron district, Fresno County, on leased lands. They have been partners ever since in that district. Mr. Goodrich is the personal owner of a 200-acre tract of alfalfa in the Wheatville country, which he leases to others. He also owns 880 acres in the Huron district. In addition he is also farming 320 acres of leased land in grain for himself near Wheatville. This is aside from his partnership

with Mr. Vogelsang. It will thus be seen that Mr. Goodrich has contributed largely to the supply of humanity's needs, and by a consistent and loyal devotion to the welfare of the community, has established for himself a high standing in the regard of his neighbors.

On October 30, 1892, Mr. Goodrich was married to Sadie Gingrich, a native of Pennsylvania, who came to California when a young woman. They are the parents of three girls: Gladys, now the wife of P. H. Drew, of Bakersfield; and Erma and Elsie Kathryn, school children. The girls are all members of the First Presbyterian Church.

**GEORGE W. BARR.**—It has been more than a quarter century since George W. Barr, the subject of this sketch, located in Fresno County, and during his long residence has witnessed wonderful changes and marvelous developments in both the city and country of Fresno. George W. Barr, is a Hoosier by birth, having first seen the light of day in Jennings County, Ind., March 27, 1842. When a small boy he left Indiana for Adams County Ill., and it was in this county that he attended the country school of his district and received his early education.

In 1864, George W. Barr accompanied a party across the plains to California, and in the caravan there were twenty-five wagons, horses and mules. While in the Platt River country the party met about five hundred Indians, and, contrary to their expectations, they found that the Indians were friendly, consequently their trip across the plains proved uneventful and the party arrived in the Golden State in safety.

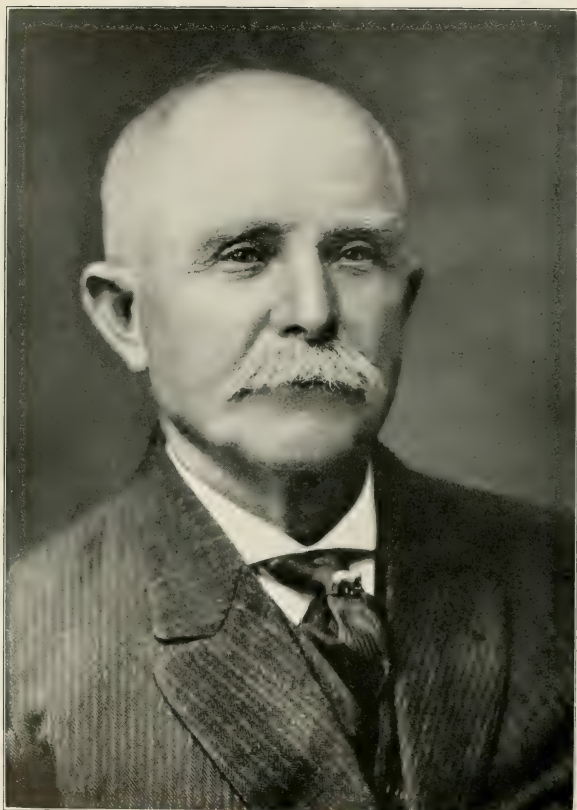
After his arrival in California, George W. Barr secured work on a ranch in Solano County, where he remained three years, afterwards removing to San Bernardino County, later he went to Santa Ana, Orange County, where he engaged in farming and ran a threshing machine. In 1891, George W. Barr moved to Fresno County locating near Oleander, where he purchased twenty acres which he improved by setting out a vineyard and an orchard, residing there for fourteen years. After selling this property he bought forty acres of the Barton vineyard and lived there two years prior to moving to Fresno, afterwards purchasing twenty acres north of the McKinley school where he resided for four years. Mr. Barr's next purchase was twenty acres west of Caruthers which he continued to operate until June 1918, when he sold the place and moved to Fresno where he is now living retired from active business and is located at 306 Olive Avenue. An interesting fact connected with the place where he now resides is, that, in the early days of the city of Fresno, Mr. Barr threshed grain on this very spot.

George W. Barr was united in marriage with Mary A. Garner, a native of California, the ceremony being solemnized in San Bernardino County. This union was blessed with two children: Wallace L. Barr, and Mrs. Mabel Henderson.

**ALBERT JULIUS OLSON.**—A native of California, born in San Francisco April 16, 1877, Albert Julius Olson is the son of Gustav Olson, who was a cooper by trade in his native place, Smålon, Sweden. Coming to the United States while yet a young man, the father worked at his trade in Boston, Mass., until he came to San Francisco via Panama, about 1870. He followed his trade in San Francisco until 1878, when he located in Fresno County. He was one of the first settlers in the Scandinavian Colony, where he purchased forty acres of land, which he had improved to vineyard while he followed his trade as a contractor of cooperage. He built the cooperage in the Barton Winery, reset the cooperage in the Fresno Winery after it was burned, and also installed the cooperage in the St. George and Margherita Wineries, as well as the Scandinavian and Eggers Wineries. He retired from active business two years before his death on April 30, 1893. Albert Olson's mother was Jennie Marie Hanson, who was born in Stockholm, Sweden. She died at her home in Fresno County in 1904. Seven







*Robt W Rhea*

children were born to this worthy couple, of whom five are living, Albert Julius being the second oldest.

Albert Julius Olson came to Fresno County with his parents during the first year of his existence. He received a good education in the local schools, after which he took up the work of a viticulturist and by study and close application mastered the cultivation of vines, so that when his father died he took charge of the vineyard, later adding forty acres to it. On this eighty acres he and his brother Charles O. built a winery and engaged in the making of wine. They added still another tract of sixty acres, operating the whole as well as the winery until 1914, when they sold out.

In 1900 Mr. Olson had purchased his present place of twenty acres in Helm Colony, which he had set to vineyard of Thompsons, sultanas, malagas, and wine grapes. In 1914 he moved onto this ranch, having completed the building of his residence and farm buildings. He also owns twenty acres in National Colony.

The marriage of Mr. Olson occurred in Fresno, where he was united with Miss Carrie Louise Dauner, born in San Francisco, whose father, Frederick A. Dauner, was a pioneer of San Francisco and then, in 1878, located in Scandinavian Colony, Fresno County, where he improved a vineyard, now the Roessler place. His wife is dead, and he now makes his home with Mr. and Mrs. Olson. Mr. and Mrs. Olson have two children, August Albert, attending Clovis High School, and Dorothy May. Mr. Olson is a Republican and protectionist. He is a member of the California Associated Raisin Company.

**ROBERT W. RHEA.**—For thirty-two years as a resident of Fresno County, Robert W. Rhea well deserves the title of pioneer. He has not only witnessed the steady development of the West, but has rendered valuable service in the improvement and growth of this section. He was born on February 15, 1851, in Ringold, Platte County, Mo., the son of Spartan F. and Lamanda (McKey) Rhea, the latter being an aunt of John McKey, ex-Governor of Nebraska.

When only a year old, Robert was left motherless, and when three years of age his father moved to Kansas in the late fall of 1854, where he not only engaged in farming, but for twenty years held the position of county surveyor. He was an early settler of Easton, Leavenworth County, Kans., and the first government land sale was held at his house. For ten years he was identified with the growth of this town, then removed to Platte City, where Robert received the most of his schooling. When his school days were over he continued to assist his father on the home farm until he was twenty-two years of age. He was reared on the frontier and hunting appealed to him, living in an atmosphere where boys led active, outdoor lives, only five miles from where Buffalo Bill Cody was raised. He engaged in hunting buffalo for four years, from the Platte to the Red River, hunting them for their meat and hides. He has seen as many as thirty-five carloads of Buffalo hides in bales shipped out of Kit Carson at one time; they were sold to an English firm. As a buffalo-hunter he had many thrilling experiences and also narrow escapes from the Redskins. He has seen some high stakes played and had some hard enough frontier experiences.

After four years of hunting the buffalo he went to San Luis Valley, Colo., where he rode the range for Dickie Bros., and soon became a trusted man and left to carry out large undertakings, and one of the first of these was to drive a herd of cattle from Colorado to Black Hills, Mont. In 1884 he went to Apache County, Ariz., taking charge of a cattle ranch for J. H. Bowan and at the same time was engaged in cattle-raising with a partner, George Lockhart. While residing in Apache County he was elected Justice of the Peace and filled the office with general satisfaction. His partner and two of their men were killed by Navajo Indians, and after this he remained on his ranch another year when he sold out and located in Fresno County, in 1887.

During his residence in Arizona Mr. Rhea was united in wedlock to Miss Laura A. White, a native of Pennsylvania. The marriage took place at St. Johns, Ariz., on November 27, 1885. After selling his Arizona interests, he first visited San Diego, where he met a Mr. Thornton, who advised him that Fresno County held wonderful possibilities. Consequently, in July of 1887 he settled in Fresno, where he purchased forty acres of farm land, his present home. He built a house, purchased a number of calves from D. D. Fowler, and in a small way made a venture at stock-raising. Finding it a profitable business, he continued, until at present his home place consists of 100 acres of valuable land. Besides raising stock, he makes a specialty of dairying. He has a fine herd of thoroughbred Jerseys, and has established a reputation for dairy products. He is also connected with the Danish Creamery, having been a director for fourteen years and president for ten years, when he requested to be excused from the presidency. He was president when the new brick building was built.

Aside from his varied business, Mr. Rhea finds time for outside interests. He has been a member of the County Democratic Central Committee for the past twelve years. He became identified with the First Christian Church twelve years ago, and has served in the capacity of deacon. He is an industrious worker in any undertaking, be it business, civic or social; and as a citizen of Fresno is well known and highly respected for his inherent good qualities.

**WALLACE L. BARR.**—Is the only son of George W. and Mary A. Barr, and was born in Santa Ana, Cal., June 11, 1881. His early education was received in the public school at Oleander, and the Washington Union High School, at Easton, after which he supplemented his knowledge by pursuing a business course in the Fresno Business College, under Prof. J. N. Sproule. After leaving school he accepted a position as bookkeeper for the Einstein Company remaining with the firm for one year and a half, afterwards keeping books for the Kutner Company. His next position was with the advertising department of the Fresno Democrat, remaining with this paper four years when he accepted a position as traveling salesman which he held six years. In 1910 Wallace L. Barr entered the real estate business in Fresno, being associated with W. E. Bush and Company for three years when he engaged in business for himself with an office at 924½ J Street.

Wallace L. Barr was united in marriage with Georgia H. Jones, of Kansas City. Fraternally, Mr. Barr is a Mason and a member of Las Palmas Lodge, No. 347, F. & A. M., at Fresno.

**MRS. MARY M. DONLEAVEY.**—A very interesting pioneer whose life-work seems to have been very fruitful in service to her fellow-men, and especially in much needed orphanage work, is Mrs. Mary M. Donleavey, of 306 Olive Avenue, Fresno. Her maiden name was Branham and she was born in Culpepper County, Va. Her first husband was Joseph W. Roberts, and he was killed at the Battle of Bull Run. After his death, she became a nurse in the Civil War, and saw heroic service at Antietam, Harper's Ferry and other centers in the thickest of the fight. She was in Washington when President Lincoln was shot, and so came to know Booth personally.

Later Mrs. Donleavey took up orphanage home work and resolved to make that her life ambition. For five years she conducted an orphanage at Bloomington, Ill. In 1871 she married W. H. Donleavey, a native of Illinois, who served in the Civil War as a member of an Illinois regiment. Being a miller by trade, he settled at Rush Center in Rush County, Kans., where he built and ran the Walnut Valley Rolling Mills. He invented an iron roller for grinding the grain, and installed the invention in the mills at Keokuk and Independence, Iowa, and at Warsaw, Ill.

Mr. Donleavey came to California in 1886, and at Smithville, Colusa County, he ran a mill. In 1887 he came to Fresno; but a year later he was

taken sick and died in Lake County. After the death of her husband, Mrs. Donleavey came back to Fresno and opened the first orphans' home in that town. She went before the town trustees and told them of her experience, and advocated an orphanage at Fresno station. She became matron of the same on May 1, 1893. The first location was at Woodman's Addition, in a large, two-story house; later she moved to Gilbert Street, and afterwards bought ten acres of land on West Olive Avenue, where she built a cabin and moved her ten orphans, later on she had a home erected. Selling her ten acres, she bought five acres farther west on Olive Street near Merced. Still residing in that section, she gave up her orphanage some few years ago, after having done a lot of good for the orphans and poor people of Fresno. She still retains one acre of the five, the remaining four having been subdivided and sold. She was the first to build and buy on West Olive Avenue, having farmed some seventy acres there to grain and at one time she had sixty acres in melons.

By her first marriage Mrs. Donleavey had a daughter, Mrs. Georgia Senior, of Hayward, Cal., to whom three children have been born: James; Robert; and the other is Mrs. Grace Prism.

Mrs. Donleavey has nine great grandchildren, and has adopted a son, an orphan who took her name—Joseph W. Donleavey. When at home, he worked in the office of the Fresno Republican, and now he is in the U. S. A. aviation service.

**B. F. NEIKIRK.**—The appearance and environment of a man's home clearly indicate his character and taste in life. This is especially true of the cozy home of Mr. and Mrs. B. F. Neikirk, which nestles in the midst of orange, peach and nectarine trees on their highly cultivated fifty-acre ranch devoted to the culture of fruits and vines. Mr. Neikirk is a practical and enterprising rancher and has always confined his interests to the cultivation of the soil and, by hard work, persevering and intelligent efforts, has gained success in his horticultural and viticultural enterprise and now has attained the enviable position in life where he and his estimable wife can now take life easier.

B. F. Neikirk is a native of Smith County, Virginia, where he was born in 1852, a son of George W. and Mary J. Neikirk, who were also residents of Virginia. Of their family of five children, B. F. Neikirk, the subject of this review, was the only member to migrate to California, which occurred in 1891. After arriving in the Golden State he became the foreman of a large ranch for eight years, after which he held a similar position on another, for two years.

In 1901 he took possession of his present ranch, containing fifty acres devoted to the culture of nectarines, apricots, peaches, muscat and Thompson seedless grapes.

When he purchased the property the land was in an uncultivated condition, but through hard toil and judicious management, he has brought the land up to a high state of cultivation and his persistent efforts have been duly rewarded by abundant crops.

In 1877, Mr. B. F. Neikirk was united in marriage with Miss Mattie McCall, a daughter of John and Rebecca (Edmondson) McCall, the ceremony being solemnized in the state of Texas.

The Neikirks and McCalls are both old and highly respected families of the Old Dominion State and their ancestors can be traced back to the Revolutionary War, in which conflict members of the family rendered valiant service.

John McCall, the father of Mrs. Neikirk, was a soldier in the Civil War and served in the Confederate Army. Her maternal grandfather Edmondson, was an extensive slave owner and an old settler of Washington County, Va.

The Neikirk family were also old settlers of the South and took an active part in defending and upholding what they believed a just cause, the principles of the Southern Confederacy.

In 1917, Mr. and Mrs. Neikirk took an extended trip to the South and Middle West, leaving home in April and returning in November. During their vacation trip they visited in Virginia, Washington, D. C., Tennessee, Oklahoma, Denver, Salt Lake City and many side trips of interest were enjoyed among which was a visit to Boone's monument. The pleasures of this enjoyable trip will never be forgotten by Mr. and Mrs. B. F. Neikirk.

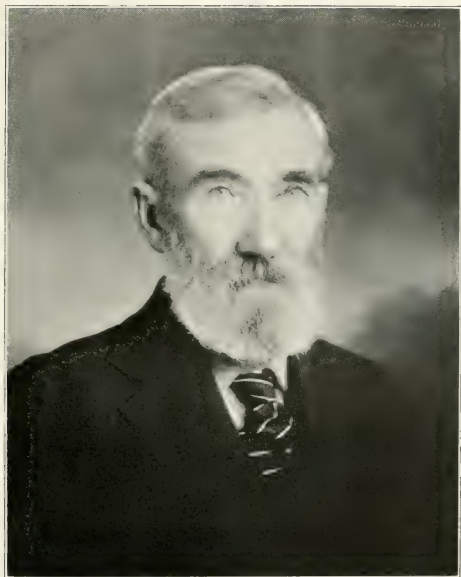
**JONATHAN C. GIBBS.**—Especial interest attaches to the life of Jonathan C. Gibbs, the successful raisin grower and owner of a highly improved fifty-acre vineyard on North Avenue, one mile east of Lone Star. From the early age of ten years he was compelled to make his own way in the world, and, although handicapped through lack of money and the advantages of a good education, he has achieved marked success through his own efforts and untiring energy.

Jonathan C. Gibbs was born at Lyons, Wayne County, N. Y., on May 5, 1840, a son of Aaron Swaine and Mary (Clark) Gibbs. Aaron Gibbs was a farmer in the Empire State and passed away when his son Jonathan was seven years old. The mother continued to operate the farm for three years after the death of her husband, when she went to make her home with one of her daughters. The family of Mr. and Mrs. Aaron Gibbs consisted of ten children, seven girls and three boys. Two of the boys grew to manhood. Jonathan C. is now the only member of the family living.

Jonathan C. Gibbs, the subject of this sketch, hired out by the month at ten years of age, working on farms, and when fourteen years of age was able to do the work of a man in the harvest field, binding grain after the cradlers. In 1858, being then about eighteen years of age, Jonathan C. Gibbs, left his native state and journeyed westward to Adams County, Ill., where in 1860 he was united in marriage with Elizabeth McGibbons, a native of the same county, whose parents came from Westmoreland County, Pa. Mr. Gibbs rented a farm and engaged in agricultural pursuits until the Civil War was declared, when he showed his patriotism and loyalty by enlisting in Company A, One Hundred Nineteenth Regiment, Illinois Volunteer Infantry, being mustered into service at Quincy, Ill. He was engaged in several skirmishes but was taken sick and developed a chronic disease, on account of which physical disability he was honorably discharged in 1863. In 1880 he removed to Chariton County, Mo., where he was engaged for five years in farming, after which he migrated farther westward, this time coming through to the Pacific Coast and locating in San Francisco, in 1885, where he remained six years, being employed in the agricultural implement business.

In 1891 Mr. Gibbs moved to Fresno County, and although his total cash at that time amounted to but eighty-five cents, he was undaunted by adversity. He was a large and powerful man, possessing strong brain power and marked executive ability; and being an indefatigable worker and very economical in his habits of living, by 1898 he had saved \$2,200, with which he purchased his present ranch of fifty acres. This property is now an exceptionally productive raisin vineyard, and its present value is placed at \$50,000. It is a cozy, homelike place, equipped with every convenience.

Mr. and Mrs. Gibbs were the parents of nine children, two of whom died when about two years of age. Mrs. Gibbs passed away on July 26, 1908, leaving, besides her husband, seven children to mourn the loss of a loving and devoted mother. The seven children are: Jennie B., now Mrs. Horstman, of Fresno; Linda B., the widow of Daniel Burgan, residing at Lindsay; Albert Grant, a rancher living near the home ranch; Charles E., a resident of the state of Washington; Maud F., the wife of Walter Pool, living in Fresno County; Almeda Carrie, who married Starr Williams, a rancher living near Fresno; and Hazel Kirk, who is the wife of Baalam Cannon, living



*J. C. Gibbs.*





on the home ranch. Mr. Gibbs has three grandchildren: Bernice Clanton, mother of two children, Fern and Ralph; Roy Gibbs; and Charlene Gibbs. Of a sociable and companionable nature, Mr. Gibbs is one of the best-liked men in this section of the county. He is a member of the California Raisin Growers' Association, and in politics is a Progressive Republican. In the spring of 1918, he met with a severe accident that resulted in a broken hip, from which he was a sufferer for months, but he is now slowly recovering.

**GEORGE M. BOLES.**—An experienced and influential business man, such as is always to be prized in the formative period of any state, is George M. Boles, one of the representative business men of Fresno. His father was Cornelius Boles, a furniture dealer of Iowa, who came west to California in 1885 and engaged in ranching near Fresno, and there died, in 1910, at the age of seventy-two. His mother, before her marriage, was Eliza Rolens, and she is still living, having passed her eighty-fourth milestone.

George M. Boles was born near Des Moines, Iowa, March 17, 1868, and was educated at Cherokee, in the grammar and high schools, to which town the family had moved, continuing his schooling at Fresno. Leaving school, he became bookkeeper for a number of firms, and even in that routine line of work he showed capacity for larger responsibility.

In 1890, he married Miss May Wafford, of Texas, by whom he has had two sons, George C. and C. E. Boles; and with his family he resides in comfort at 1561 J Street. C. E. Boles served in the Coast Artillery for six or seven months, and after the armistice was signed he received his honorable discharge.

In 1900 Mr. G. M. Boles engaged in the harness business at 1144-46 I Street, and there his extensive stock was constantly added to for seven years. Selling out his harness interests, he went into the meat business for a couple of years; but in 1910 he disposed of that store, to devote himself entirely to real estate operations. He formed the Boles Realty Company, which dealt largely in San Joaquin Valley lands and in fire insurance; and in that field, Mr. Boles was assisted by his two sons. For ten terms, at different times, he was director of the Fresno Chamber of Commerce, and also director of the Fresno Traffic Association for five years.

Always a public-spirited man, Mr. Boles served a couple of terms as city trustee from the Second Ward, being first elected in 1901, and reelected in 1913. He was also for seventeen years a member of the Second Infantry—the first battalion in San Joaquin Valley—of the California National Guard, and retired full of honors in 1911, with the rank of Major. A Mason, an Odd Fellow and a Woodman of the World, Mr. Boles also has long been one of the pillars of the Commercial Club.

**REV. G. R. EDWARD MAC DONALD.**—Noteworthy among the active and talented ministers sent to California and to Fresno County, Rev. G. R. Edward MacDonald, Dean and Rector of St. James Episcopal Pro-Cathedral, Fresno, has carried on his work here with the same earnestness of purpose for which he has been noted in other fields. Broad and liberal in spirit, and sincerely devout in his convictions, he is a practical Christian, and his kindly, sympathetic nature make him a true minister of the gospel, and a helper of man. Born in St. Andrews East, Quebec, Canada, July 21, 1877, Dean MacDonald is a son of Samuel and Emily Elizabeth (Roberts) MacDonald, the former a native of old Oregon, his father being a chief factor of the Hudson's Bay Company, and the latter of Fredericton, New Brunswick. When he was a small lad of six years, the family moved to Fredericton, and he received his early education in the schools of that city, graduating from the University of New Brunswick in 1898, and from Kings Theological College of Windsor, Nova Scotia, in 1899.

Mr. MacDonald was ordained Deacon December 24, 1899, by Bishop Kingdon, and was ordained a priest July 21, 1901, by the same Bishop, in

the Diocese of Fredericton, N. B. His first charge was as curate of Bathurst, New Brunswick, where he had charge of a large mission field in Gloucester County. He was next rector at South Hampton, and Queensbury, N. B. For three and one-half years he was curate of Trinity Church, at St. John, New Brunswick.

On February 1, 1906, Mr. MacDonald became rector of the Church of the Savior, at Hanford, Kings County, Cal., where a new church was erected during his pastorate. In April, 1912, he was called to the charge of St. James Pro-Cathedral, Fresno, and brought to the larger field a largeness of purpose, and a genuine devotion to the best interests of his congregation, and of the growing municipality. He is president of the Council of Advice of the San Joaquin Episcopal Diocese, and is secretary of the Missionary Commission of the same district. His faithful and disinterested devotion to worthy causes has also won him public recognition, and he is a member of the Department of Public Welfare of Fresno County, appointed by the board of supervisors of the county.

The marriage of Mr. MacDonald, which occurred June 4, 1902, at Fredericton, N. B., united him with Lilla Clifton Tabor, a native of that city, and two children have been born to them, Lilla Klyne, born at St. John, N. B., March 7, 1903, and Charles Ranald, born in Hanford, Cal., September 9, 1909.

**HARRY M. JOHNSTON.**—The senior member of the well known law firm of Johnston and Jones, in the city of Fresno, is a native of the state of Mississippi, born December 15, 1865, at Coldwater, De Soto County. Brought up on a Southern plantation, Mr. Johnston, after completing his education at the South Western Presbyterian University, Clarksville, Tennessee, and graduating from that institution with the degree of M. A. in the year 1888, spent a year in European travel, after which he took a course in the Columbia Law School, in the city of New York. In 1890 he came to California and was admitted to the bar the same year. He opened a law office in Santa Cruz, California, and served that city in the capacity of city attorney for two years. April, 1893, he came to Fresno, where he has since been engaged in the practice of his profession. For four years, from 1908 to 1912, Mr. Johnston was the city attorney of Fresno.

By his marriage with Laura M. Barksdale, a native of Arkansas, he established domestic ties. They are the parents of three interesting children, namely: William B.; Harry M. Jr. and Evelyn S. In his religious convictions Mr. Johnston is a Presbyterian and a member of the First Presbyterian Church of Fresno. Fraternally he is connected with Fresno Lodge, No. 247, F. & A. M.; Fresno Lodge, No. 162, Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, and is Past Council Commander of the Woodmen of the World.

**A. D. CRIBB.**—An exceptionally fine old settler who has done his "bit" toward the development of the State of California and sending it forward to its magnificent destiny, is A. D. Cribb, who has improved various vineyards, and in doing so has attained a comfortable prosperity for himself. In the early seventies he came to California, having been born at Racine, Wis., June 22, 1848. His father was James Cribb, who was born at Land's End, Cornwall, England, and as a young man came to the United States and Wisconsin, settling at Mineral Point. He was married to Elizabeth Clenes, who was born near London. He engaged in mercantile business at Mineral Point, and then removed to Racine County, where he secured some land, improved it and built there a home, and in that hard won home he died, a rugged pioneer, in 1860, at the age of forty-two. His wife had preceded him to the life beyond two years before, the mother of four children, who had called her blessed.

A. D. Cribb was the eldest of the family, and was brought up as a farmer. He had but a limited training at the public school, and after his father died he made his own living and way in the world. He lived with John McKinzie,

a Scotch Presbyterian of the old-school type until he was twenty, and in 1868 he removed to Bates County, Missouri, where he followed the stock business. The region, however, was cursed with malaria, and as Mr. Cribb was in bad health he determined, in 1872, to come to California. Twenty-four hours after he had reached San Francisco and the attractions of bay city life he made for the San Joaquin Valley, and there he was lucky in securing employment with a sheepman, which line of work he continued until he was able to buy a band for himself. By 1877 he had two thousand sheep, but the dry year forced him to sell at a great loss, and he was just about able to pay his bills.

Summoning anew his courage and resolution, Mr. Cribb started for Fresno. He had a few dollars left, and with this small sum he bought a tract of forty acres at Malaga, and set it out as a vineyard with muscat grapes, being among the first to make a muscat vineyard, but, after a few seasons, alkali developed and he sold the land for about what he had originally paid for it.

Nothing daunted he bought a place at Lone Star of forty acres, which he set out to muscat and Thompson grapes and to peaches. The land proving good the investment was a success, so that at the end of eight years he was able to sell it at a fair profit. In the meantime he had bought twenty acres on Chittenden Avenue, which he devoted to peaches and muscats, and with care he has made this also a successful orchard and vineyard. Intensely interested in his line of activity, he has supported the various cooperative raisin associations from the original T. M. Kearney Association, and has for years been an active member of the California Peach Growers' Association and the California Associated Raisin Co.

With a long, practical and rich experience in daily life and with human nature, Mr. Cribb has worked hard for civic improvements and uplift of the community, and has also never failed to give a thought to the spiritual side of existence and the attractions of the future life. He is a consistent member of the Methodist Church, and in national affairs is a Republican; but when it comes to local issues he knows no party lines and supports the best man and the best measures.

**RAY W. BAKER.**—A representative citizen of California, of which state he is a native son, Ray W. Baker, tax collector of Fresno County, first saw the light of day on February 22, 1881, in Visalia. His parents P. Y. and Augusta (Ferguson) Baker, were representative of the pioneer element that laid the foundation for our future prosperity. The elder Baker was a civil engineer and contractor. He organized and promoted the company that built the 76 Canal and was associated with much of the early development work in Tulare and Fresno Counties, having settled there in the early seventies. He served in the United States Army in California. After an active and useful life he passed away May 24, 1899, respected and honored by all who knew him. His widow is still living.

Ray W. Baker received his education in the grammar and high schools of Fresno, but did not quite complete the high school course for he found an opportunity to enter upon the career of a journalist, an ambition he had nourished for some years. He entered the office of the Fresno Democrat and during the nine years he was with that paper he served in all departments. Later he was a member of the staff of the Fresno Republican. He is still a member of the Typographical Union.

At a public meeting of citizens of Fresno, Mr. Baker was chosen a member of a committee to select men for public offices of the city. For eight years he held the office, by appointment, of deputy county recorder of the county. In 1914 he was a candidate for the office of tax collector of the county, was elected and installed into the office on January 1, 1915, which office he now fills with credit to himself and to his constituents, having been

reelected without opposition in 1918, when he received the highest number of votes of any candidate for public office in the county at that election. In 1916 Mr. Baker was chosen for the office of secretary of the California Tax Collectors' Association and held the position three years. He was then elected vice-president and now fills that office in the Association.

On November 14, 1910, Ray W. Baker was united in marriage with Miss Belle Drew, of Selma and they have had two children, Ramona and Elaine. Politically Mr. Baker was a prominent worker in Republican ranks and wielded a strong influence in the county as secretary of the County Central Committee, serving for six years. He was president of the City Library Board at the time the city and county libraries were consolidated into one system, and he has been president of the Fresno Labor Council two terms. He is a thirty-second degree Mason and a Shriner, and has served as secretary of Las Palmas Lodge, No. 343, F. & A. M., for ten years; he is a member of the Fraternal Brotherhood and of Fresno Parlor, No. 25, N. S. G. W. In all progressive movements for the upbuilding of the county or the advancement of the people's interest, he is always found among the leaders and wherever he is known he is highly respected.

**FRANK B. HARRIS.**—Undaunted in the midst of failures that were enough to put out of business one less fitted for big things, Frank B. Harris has come up through them all with great credit to himself and those connected with him. He was born in Sioux City, Iowa, October 26, 1861. His parents went to Kansas and it was in Lawrence that he grew up, and attended the public schools. This was just at the time of the border troubles at the close of the Civil War.

His father, Amos Harris, was a pioneer of 1850 in California, coming via Panama and engaging in mining in Nevada County very successfully. He returned to his eastern home after eight years and there married. While living at Lawrence, Kans., he was in the dairy business. During his sojourn in the East he had a longing to get back to California but it was not until the year 1874 that his wish was gratified. Once more in California, he spent four years looking over the state for a location, the family meanwhile remaining in Lawrence. In 1878 they joined him at Turlock, Cal., where he farmed three years. The mother was Nettie P. Pelham before her marriage; and she had two sons, Frank B. Harris and Howard A. Harris, of Fowler. Both parents are dead. They were people of force in the community in which they lived, having pioneered from the early days in that part of the state. The mother was a woman of especially high character, and was widely known and loved for her admirable life.

The Harris family first settled at Turlock, but came to Fowler in 1881, and bought some Southern Pacific land. Frank Harris worked with his father on this place, and also worked out and assisted his father in paying for it. He became an expert sheep-shearer and followed this business for several years. He also rented land and leveled it, and was a contractor for ditching and leveling. He leveled and prepared for planting several sections of land in the vicinity of Fowler, and also made ditches for irrigation at Fowler and Kerman, and later at Hanford. In 1890 he farmed wheat and barley in the vicinity of Fowler, and it was in this year that he married Miss Ella McDowell, of Fowler, daughter of Calhoun and Mary (Martin) McDowell, both born and married in Evansville, Ind., who came to California in 1882, settling first at Colusa. There the father died as the result of blood-poisoning, and in 1885 the mother, who had married Wm. Westcott, came with her two children to Fowler. These were: Ella McDowell, born in Posey County, Ind., and Edgar, rancher and vineyardist on the McCall Road, who owns a forty-acre vineyard in partnership with his brother-in-law. No children of the second marriage are living. The mother died at Fowler at the age of sixty-three years.



Frank St. James



Ellen M. James



After marriage Mr. and Mrs. Harris rented the Harris home place where they lived, and he continued to farm hundreds of acres of wheat. While living at Fowler, their only child, Ella Belle, now the wife of Floyd Pendergrass, a mechanic in the garage at Fowler, was born. She occupies a responsible position in the First National Bank of Fowler. Mr. Harris went onto the Burrell estate in the Wheatville section, rented 5,000 acres of land, and sowed 3,500 acres to wheat. He bought one of the first big tractors that was ever used in Fresno County for plowing, harvesting and threshing wheat. For this tractor he contracted to pay \$10,000. Unfortunately this was at the time of the panic during Cleveland's administration, and he met with great financial reverses. About 1891 he went to the West Side and operated 5,000 acres of the Burrell Estate, remaining there from 1893 to 1905. This did not prove a success, for it was too dry.

In the meantime Mr. Harris became acquainted with Hector Burness, of Fresno, superintendent of the Balfour-Guthrie interests, an English syndicate which at one time owned 3,500 acres; and of this property Mr. Harris became foreman in 1907. Since that time the land has been divided into twenty-, forty-, and eighty-acre tracts, and sold to prospective fruit-growers, it having been demonstrated that the land is particularly fitted for raising table grapes and olives. There are now but 400 acres of the original holdings, and the place is called Waverly Ranch, of which Mr. Harris is the foreman.

Mr. Harris has raised a great deal of grain during his life, and it was his reputation as a farmer that secured him the position he now occupies. Through all the vicissitudes of his life, Mrs. Harris has been found ready to uphold his hands and encourage when days were dark and dreary.

**HENRY HAWSON.**—Widely known in professional and civic circles, is Henry Hawson, a native of England and the youngest son of James and Susannah (Craddock) Hawson. His grandfather was Thomas Hawson, a farmer of the Southwest Riding in Yorkshire, and the descendant of an old family of yeomen. His mother was a member of a Leicestershire family; and such was the character of these worthy parents that the boy started well-equipped, in many ways, for the race in life.

Born at Sheffield, the famous industrial center, Henry at first received home training, later attending one of Sheffield's well-known parochial schools; after which, when less than twelve years of age, he commenced to work for a living. He also attended night school and, like so many Britishers, learned short-hand. He was employed as errand boy in a lawyer's office, and later as stenographer in a manufacturing establishment. There he served an apprenticeship to the Sheffield cutlery trade, and then, until he was twenty-two years of age, as a salesman, traveled England, Scotland and Ireland.

Coming to America, he joined two brothers already established in business in Oregon, and soon was doing newspaper work there and on Puget Sound. His fitness for the new field soon made him known in British Columbia, where he became City Editor of the Victoria Times. Moving south to California in 1900, Mr. Hawson continued his journalistic activity on the San Francisco papers, after which he was on the Redding Searchlight, in Shasta County. He remained there until 1901, when he came to Fresno, and served on the staff of the Democrat until 1903, and on the Republican until 1907.

At Berkeley, in 1904, Mr. Hawson and Elsie May Tade, adopted daughter of the Reverend Dr. E. O. Tade, a pioneer minister of the Congregational Church in the West, were joined in matrimony.

Taking up the study of law, Mr. Hawson passed the State Bar examination in 1907, and at once began private practice. In September of that year District Attorney Denver S. Church appointed him Deputy District Attorney of Fresno County, from which office he resigned in August, 1910. He returned to private practice and so continued until he was again appointed, this time Assistant, by District Attorney McCormick, in May, 1915.



Elected Assemblyman from the Fifty-first district in November, 1914, and reelected in November, 1916, each time with the backing of the Democratic party, whose platform he espoused, Mr. Hawson was nominated for Congress from the Seventh district in 1910, but withdrew, and in 1918 he was a candidate for that office. He has been a delegate to every state convention of the Democratic party since 1906, served as chairman of the County Committee from 1908 to 1912, and as vice-president of the Woodrow Wilson League of Northern California 1911 and 1912. He also served as a member of the Board of Directors of the Fresno County Chamber of Commerce during 1911 and 1912, and since 1910 as chairman of the Joint Committee on Improvement of the San Joaquin River for Navigation.

Mr. Hawson is a member of Manzanita Camp, Fresno, Woodmen of the World, with which he has been identified since 1903, and was Consul Commander of that camp for two terms. He was a delegate to the Triennial Head Camp Session, at Portland, in 1910. He also belongs to Fresno Lodge, No. 186, I. O. O. F., and is a member of the Commercial Club of Fresno.

**CHARLES PLUNNEKE.**—The romantic linking of two lives and their combined contribution, as developers of California, to help make this glorious commonwealth still more attractive and desirable as an abiding place, is narrated in the story of Charles and Katherine Plunneke. Mr. Plunneke was born in Hanover, Germany, and reared to the life of a farmer, and received the best common-school education, so that he was well equipped when he came to America. He spent some time in the East, and might easily have been persuaded to settle there, had it not been that he was happily attracted to California. He came west to see for himself, and he had no sooner gazed upon Fresno County, than he decided to remain. This was over thirty years ago, and Mr. Plunneke was one of the first to improve his immediate environment; he made viticulture a special study, and worked hard in the Barton vineyard, making good and lasting friends.

Mr. Plunneke first purchased twenty acres of the present place of forty acres in Temperance Colony and set it out to muscatel grapes. He afterwards bought forty acres more in the same section which he devoted to a vineyard which later was sold at a good profit. A fine residence was built and other improvements were made on the original place which increased its value and attractiveness. Mr. Plunneke was an influential member of the Odd Fellows, and a very patriotic citizen and was held in high esteem. He passed away October 2, 1913.

Mrs. Plunneke is a native of Vienna, Austria. Both her grandfather and her father were portrait and landscape painters, but her father died early in life, before he had an opportunity to distinguish himself by his unquestioned talent, and his widow; still a resident of Vienna, was left with the responsibility of educating her family. Mrs. Plunneke attended the Vienna Lyceum, where she graduated with honors, and when she had put aside her books, she accepted employment as a stenographer and bookkeeper. Owing to the failure of her health, however, she was advised to go south, so she embarked for Egypt, and remained in Cairo eleven years. Her health improved, and she returned to her mother, but soon the climate caused the same old trouble, and she was advised to try California. In 1906, she came to Fresno, and here she first met Mr. Plunneke, their acquaintance eventually resulting in marriage. Being possessed of a commercial education, as well as much native ability, and business acumen, she immediately entered heartily into her husband's enterprises for the developing and improving of their lands. Having traveled much, Mrs. Plunneke realized the great possibilities of Fresno County lands under intensive farming. Thus she was well qualified, when her husband died, to take up the responsibilities of the affairs and interests left her, so she continued viticulture, and firmly believes that it has great possibilities. Mrs. Plunneke has purchased the Beall vineyard, adjoining her place, and now has sixty acres in a body. This tract is devoted to the

raising of emperor and malaga grapes, and muscatel and Thompson seedless raisins. By her careful oversight, she has brought her ranch to a high state of cultivation, as well as making of it a profitable investment. But this is not the limit of Mrs. Plunneke's ambition or activity, and her recent enterprise gives great promise for the future. In 1917, she purchased a ranch of 160 acres near Kerman, and she is planning to improve this property with vines, orchards and alfalfa. Rather naturally, she is an enthusiastic member of the California Associated Raisin Company. A cultured and refined woman, of an artistic temperament and high ideals, Mrs. Plunneke is intensely interested in every movement for improving the social, religious and economic conditions of the community, and is generous toward those less fortunate. Fraternally, Mrs. Plunneke finds recreation with the Rebekah Lodge of Fresno.

**ALBERT HAMLET SWEENEY, M. D.**—Enjoying not only a lucrative practice, but an enviable reputation for scientific ability and the most painstaking conscientiousness in the treatment of every patient committing his life and comfort to him, Dr. Albert Hamlet Sweeney easily occupies a foremost position among the medical fraternity of Fresno County. His father, James Sweeney, was a native of Canada, and came to California by way of the Horn, sailing from Maine for the Golden Gate. In time, he became a real estate agent at Truckee, where he built the Sweeney Block. He conducted a hotel, was pleasantly acquainted with thousands and passed away in 1895. His mother, a native of Ohio, had been Anna Oboy, before her marriage, and she came west by crossing the plains. She also is dead, having passed away in 1894.

Born at Truckee on December 23, 1869, Albert H. Sweeney was educated in the grammar and high schools of that enterprising town, and in time entered the Cooper Medical College, from which he was graduated in 1896. Since that time, he has done post-graduate work, in several successive years, in New York, eager to get the latest and the best that the metropolis had to offer for his patients, and sparing neither expense, time or trouble in their behalf.

He first practiced as a police surgeon at San Francisco, for a couple of years, then went as government surgeon for six years to the Pyramid Lake, Indian Reservation, in Nevada, and then came back to California and to Sanger, where he was surgeon for the Hume-Bennett Lumber Co., which had a hospital of nineteen beds. At the end of five years, or in 1905, Dr. Sweeney took up medical practice at Fresno, which he has always considered his home. Untiring in research and reform, Dr. Sweeney has long been active in the national, state and county medical societies.

In July, 1901, occurred the wedding of Dr. Sweeney and Miss Clara May Lindsey, of Sanger, a marriage blessed with their two children, Ethel A. and Irma May Sweeney. The family attend the Methodist Church.

A Republican in matters of national politics, Dr. Sweeney is prominent in the Commercial and the Riverside Country Clubs. He also belongs to the Masons and the Knights Templar, the Odd Fellows, the Elks, the Woodmen of the World, the Eagles and Stags.

**ABSALOM WELLS.**—Southeast of Del Rey lies the highly improved fifty-three-and-one-quarter-acre ranch owned in partnership by the brothers Absalom and G. C. Wells, who came to this section of the country before the Santa Fe was built through Parlier and before the Southern Pacific was built through Sanger and Reedley.

Absalom Wells was born in Tyler County, W. Va., August 29, 1862, and is the son of Benjamin and Jerusha (Headley) Wells. The father was a miller by trade and an old steamboat man on the Ohio River. He served for a while in the Civil War. In 1880 he came to California. His brother Caleb Wells, who preceded him to the West in the early days crossed the plains with horses in the days when prairie schooners were the popular vehi-

cles for transportation across the trackless wastes of the western plains, and when men enjoyed life roughly, but heartily and vigorously. He became a large wheat rancher in Solano County.

Benjamin Wells was the father of eight children, six boys and two girls. A. J. Wells, his eldest child, was born August 3, 1853, near Wheeling, W. Va., and was married at the age of twenty-eight in his native state, sixty miles north of Wheeling, near the Ohio River, to Miss Elizabeth Underwood, a native of West Virginia. They became the parents of five children, namely: Florence Etta, who married A. A. Channell, a rancher, and became the mother of nine children; E. A., a carpenter at Del Rey; Bessie Ruffner, who married Bernel Hopper, a rancher and large landowner residing in Fresno, and is the mother of three boys; Frank Russell who trained at Camp Lewis for service in the World War; and Theresa, who died as an infant. A. J. Wells resides on his well-improved eighty-acre ranch near Del Rey, which he purchased of his father. Benjamin Wells' second child, Alfred, is a merchant at Joseph's Mills, W. Va.; Emery E. is a hardware merchant at Pensboro, W. Va.; Absalom is the fourth child; Flora Lola is the wife of R. E. Nash, a rancher near Del Rey; Frank died in California, single; Narcissus also died in California, single; Gilbert C. is the youngest of the family, and was six years old when his parents came to California. Benjamin Wells lived to the mature age of eighty, and his good wife attained the age of seventy-five. Both died in California. The father owned 160 acres and deeded eighty acres to his son A. J. Wells before his death. After his death the other eighty acres went to his wife.

Absalom Wells in earlier years worked as fireman on a portable steam engine with a threshing machine. He has experienced the privations incident to a pioneer's life, planting and waiting for vines and trees to come into bearing. He is an intelligent man as well as very industrious, and is a most excellent business man. A worthy descendant of an old and honored family, he is held in high respect in the neighborhood in which he lives.

The two brothers are bachelors, and their fifty-three and one quarter acres represent their joint inheritance. A Republican in politics, Absalom Wells is loyal to the administration and to the flag.

**HANS A. UHD.**—An enterprising and progressive early settler in the vicinity of Rolinda, whose hard, incessant work with the aid of his good wife has not only acquired a comfortable competency but has contributed to the betterment of the community, is Hans A. Uhd, the owner of a trim dairy farm of forty acres of well-improved land and a nice herd of milch cows. He came to Fresno County in 1890 and has ever since been counted among the most desirable of Central Californians.

He was born at Varda in Jylland, Denmark, on November 25, 1863, the son of Anton Uhd, also a native of that section, and Johanna (Knudsen) Uhd who, like her husband, died there. There were three children in the family, and Hans was the oldest. He was brought up on a farm and was educated in the public schools of his native place. His father died when he was eighteen years of age, and very early he assisted his mother to run the home place. When he grew up, he served the regularly prescribed time in the Danish Army, and was messenger on the staff of the commander.

In 1890 Mr. Uhd came to California and settled in Fresno County, where he was early employed on various ranches, his first engagement being in the Washington Colony. Then he worked for the Butler Company, in Sackett's Vineyard and other vineyards, and then he came to Kearney Park. He hauled the cuttings to the different places and helped level the land.

In the Spring of 1891, Mr. Uhd was married to Miss Mary Jacobsen, who was born in Denmark near Esbjerg, Jylland; and then he rented land near Rolinda and began in the dairy and poultry business. He worked out and for three years rented more land until, in 1898, he was able to purchase twenty acres of his present place.





*A. J. Junderland.*

It was then mere stubble-field, but he leveled it, put in alfalfa and some orchard, and continued dairying. Later he bought forty acres beyond Rolinda, which he afterwards sold, and bought twenty acres more adjoining his original twenty, so that he now has forty acres in a body. This he has fully improved with the sowing of alfalfa, so that he is dairying with great success.

He has an exceptionally attractive herd of about twenty-five Holstein milch cows, and he also raises cattle, leasing land from the Kearney estate. He sells his milk to the Jersey Farm Dairy through the San Joaquin Valley Milk Producers Association, of which he is a stockholder. He is a stockholder in the Danish Creamery Association and is a member of the California Peach Growers, Inc.

Three children have blessed the union of Mr. and Mrs. Uhd and added to their popularity socially: Clara is Mrs. John Peelman and resides on Fillmore Avenue, where Mr. Peelman is a successful dairyman; and Agnes and Axel are both at home, assisting their parents. Mr. Uhd is a welcome member of the Danish Brotherhood.

**AL E. SUNDERLAND.**—A prominent, many-sided business man who has dedicated his talents, time, energies and capital to one of the most important of California's fruit industries, is Al Sunderland, the secretary and treasurer of the California Peach Growers, Inc. He was born at Pavilion, N. Y., on October 5, 1866, the son of E. R. and Mercy (Cronkhite) Sunderland, the former of an old New York State family, the latter a descendant of the Cronkhites of Mayflower fame, who later migrated from Massachusetts to Connecticut and then to New York, and who boasted the most active and honorable participation (as indeed did the Sunderlands) in both the Colonial and Revolutionary Wars. E. R. Sunderland was a New York farmer who removed to Kansas City, where he resided for a few years; then he went to Tacoma; and after his son Al came to Fresno County, he also came here and was in business for some time in Clovis, becoming well and favorably known. His good wife, a devout member of the Baptist Church, passed away in 1907, and he died in 1915. They had two children, our subject being the only son.

Al E. was educated at the public schools in Pavilion, but when fourteen years old he came to Kansas City, Mo., and soon after worked as billing clerk for the Armour Packing Company. Then he became manager of the Kansas City Towel Supply Company for two years, and during that period, in 1888, he was married to Miss Lillian Gilliam, a native of Missouri and the daughter of Robert and Elizabeth Gilliam, the former a Civil War veteran who was a farmer in Kansas and was marshal of Kansas City, Kans., and who came west to Fresno in 1886 and still resides there.

In 1889 Mr. and Mrs. Al Sunderland came to Fresno County, and he engaged in viticulture in Kutner Colony. Then he moved into Clovis, when that town started, and entered the employ of the Fresno Flume and Irrigation Company, soon after it was established there, and ran the big planes in the mill for three years; however, he met with an accident which caused the loss of his left eye, and he then came to Fresno and associated himself with the Home Packing Company, as secretary and office manager, in which position he was kept increasingly busy for twelve years. Next he engaged in the drug trade, buying out George Monroe's interest in Webster Bros. and continuing under that firm name on Mariposa and K Streets, until the organization of the California Peach Growers, Inc., in which he took a prominent part. In January, 1916, he was elected secretary, whereupon he sold his interest in Webster Bros., that he might give all of his time to the secretaryship. As secretary and office manager, Mr. Sunderland meets heavy responsibilities, for the Peach Growers, Inc., disburses from seven to eight million dollars each year to growers. Mr. Sunderland is a member of the Commercial Club, the Rotary Club, and the Chamber of Commerce; in national politics

he is a true-blue Republican; he was city trustee of Fresno and was chairman of the building committee which supervised the erection of the City Hall. He was also president of the board of education of Fresno for four years.

Mr. and Mrs. Sunderland have four children living: Le Roy is a plumber at Turlock, is married and has one child, Al. E.; Hazel has become Mrs. Carl La Maine, the wife of the Dinuba druggist; Netta is a graduate of the high school and Fresno Junior College; and Pearl is still in the Fresno high school. Mr. Sunderland resides with his family at 727 Mildreda Street.

He was made a Mason in the Las Palmas Lodge, F. & A. M., Fresno, and he is a member of the Fresno Chapter, R. A. M., of the Fresno Commandery, Knights Templar, the Fresno Consistory of the Scottish Rite, and Islam Temple, San Francisco. Mrs. Sunderland is a member of the Order of the Eastern Star, and is a prominent leader. Besides belonging to the Odd Fellows, Mr. Sunderland is a prominent Woodman. He was the charter Counsel Commander at the time of the organization of Pine Burr Camp, W. O. W., at Clovis, and he organized the first uniform drill team of the Woodmen of the World in the Valley, and his membership was transferred to Manzanita Camp, No. 160, W. O. W., Fresno. In 1902, at the Head Camp session in Los Angeles, Mr. Sunderland was elected Head Adviser, and at the next Head Camp session in 1907 in Seattle, he was elected chairman of the Law Committee. In 1910, at Portland, he was elected Head Banker of the Pacific Jurisdiction embracing nine western states, and since then he has been re-elected at each Head Camp session to the same high and honorable office. Through his office is handled each month approximately \$250,000, so that much accuracy and work on his part are entailed.

Mr. Sunderland has much natural ability as an actor, and in Kansas City he had considerable experience in dramatic art. On coming to Temperance Colony he organized a dramatic company, and for two winters he gave several plays, so successful that with the proceeds the hall in the colony was built. In Clovis he again called into existence a dramatic club, which gave plays through a period of several years. The first play was given in the old warehouse there, and later the new hall was used; and in this commendable intellectual and social activity, he enlisted the active cooperation of such men as J. G. Ferguson, Fred Ewing and others. Inheriting this dramatic talent to a high degree, Miss Netta Sunderland is now studying dramatic art in Los Angeles. All in all, Mr. Sunderland has led a most useful life, in which hard work has been again and again rewarded, and through which he has contributed to the betterment and to the increased happiness of the world.

**JAMES G. GREGORY.**—A representative fruit-grower, and a resident of Fresno County for thirty-two years, James G. Gregory has developed many pieces of property from grain and sheep-grazing land into valuable fruit-ranches, and, be it said, his places give evidence of the thrift and intelligence of the owner.

Mr. Gregory was born in the State of Oregon on August 14, 1873, the son of Levi N. and Sarah Jane Gregory, both born in Missouri, but residents of California since 1881. Mrs. Gregory passed away some years before her husband, and he died in 1914, aged about seventy-five years. They had seven children, three now living: W. A. and B. W. Gregory, in Tulare County; and our subject.

J. G. Gregory attended school in Oregon until his parents came to California, after which he completed his schooling here. At an early age he began working on ranches, especially in the fruit sections, until he became an authority on orchards and vineyards. He soon became a landowner, and since then he has owned many different ranches, all of which he has sold at a profit. One of these, near Parlier, consisted of 167 acres divided as follows: 55 acres of Thompson's, 60 acres of muscats, 10 acres of prunes, 15 acres of



apricots and 16 acres of peaches. These acres yielded a handsome sum in 1917 when he had 300 tons of Thompson's, 120 tons of muscats, 22 tons of dried fruit, 28 tons of prunes, \$2,500 worth of apricots. He also had ten acres in alfalfa. The return from all his products for the year 1917 was \$34,000. He bought the ranch in 1916 and after gathering the 1917 crop he sold the place and bought 60 acres near Fowler and 50 acres near Hanford, all in fruits of various kinds, and these he sold in 1919. He now owns 280 acres in Vinland Colony on the river bottom, all fine land and in vines and orchard; also he became owner of 480 acres of grain-land in Glenn County, in the vicinity of Orland. He has been a fruit-grower all his active life in the county and has great faith in the future of Fresno County.

In December, 1897, Mr. Gregory was united in marriage with Miss Metta C. Patterson, a native daughter, born in Shasta County and the daughter of J. M. Patterson. Four children have come to them: Leonard; Carl; Sherrill; and Roy. Mr. Gregory is a man of high ideals, and his family enjoys the respect and good will of their many friends. They are members of the Christian Church, in which Mr. Gregory is a deacon. He has been a member of the various associations of raisin-growers and holds stock in the California Associated Raisin Company and the California Peach Growers, Inc. He believes in progress and supports all measures to further his ideals.

**JAMES ROSS.**—Of the many foreign-born citizens who have enriched the country by their coming here, none have contributed more to advance the science of gardening and the higher orders of agriculture than the industrious and far-seeing Scotch, and, among these, few, if any, deserve more esteem and good-will than James Ross, whose intelligence and hard work have enabled him to improve some property and make of it a fine place, and who now has a valuable Thompson seedless vineyard. He was born near Aberdeen, Scotland, on February 21, 1868, the son of John Ross, a farmer and representative of an old and historic family. His mother was Jane Milne before her marriage, and hers also was a name that long had a place among those of established Scotch households. James was the oldest of the three children, and he was reared and educated in the land of his birth. There he learned to farm; and there he acquired the stamina and shrewdness which, guided by the highest and noblest of principles, have helped him forward on his way in the New World.

At the beginning of the nineties James Ross crossed the ocean and the American continent to California, and reaching Los Angeles, remained there for a year. In twelve months, however, he became convinced that Fresno County offered the best opportunities to the newcomer with small capital, and so he came here and settled, commencing work in a livery stable. At the end of a year, he switched off to ranching for grain, and drove a big team in the grain fields, finding work on the Jeff James-ranch and also at Wheatvale, where he was soon singled out as above the average in capacity, and was put in charge of places. In 1904 he entered the employ of R. N. Barstow and continued with him as foreman for five years, and then, for three years, he was with the Fresno Canal and Irrigating Company, now the Fresno Land and Canal Company, where he was given the responsible task of caring for the ditches.

In 1913, Mr. Ross bought his present place of forty acres, his choice showing good business judgment and thorough understanding of agricultural conditions. It was the rawest land, but the soil was rich, it was well located, and he set to work with energy to check it off and improve it. He set out eight acres of Thompson seedless grapevines, planted most of the balance to alfalfa and, established a small dairy, equipped in the most up-to-date and sanitary manner. He built a residence, barns, and outbuildings, the whole constituting a profitable business machine.

By 1909, Mr. Ross was able to make a trip to his old home, where he spent some six months enjoying again the scenes of his boyhood and the

companionship of old friends. While there he was married to Miss Annie Cuthill, a native of Bonnie Scotland who was born near Arbroath, Forfarshire; and they had two children, Mildred and Gertrude. They attend the Presbyterian Church, in which they were reared.

Mr. Ross is an active member of the California Associated Raisin Company. In national politics he is a Republican, working always for improved American conditions. He is an Odd Fellow, and belongs to Lodge No. 343 at Fresno. Mr. and Mrs. Ross are awake to every proposition making for a better community, as well as better agricultural conditions and a greater commercial prosperity, and are always among the first, in local civic affairs, to lend a helping hand.

**WILLIAM H. LEWIS.**—Among the enterprising and industrious ranchers of the Kerman section of Fresno County, who are engaged in viticulture and horticulture, especial mention is made of William H. Lewis, who resides on his highly improved ranch in the Empire district, located on Vinland Avenue. He has been a resident of the Golden State since 1897 and a citizen of Fresno County for over eleven years.

William H. Lewis is a native of the Empire State, born near East Hamlin, Monroe County, N. Y., July 6, 1872, a son of Jeremiah and Charlotte (Goodrich) Lewis, both of whom were natives of New York state. The father followed farming in New York until 1881, when he migrated with his family to Montana, locating near Lewistown, now in Fergus County. Jeremiah Lewis engaged in cattle-raising for many years until his health becoming impaired, in 1907, he sought a milder climate and it was but natural that he came to California where he had a son residing, W. H. Lewis, the subject of this review. He did not long enjoy the cheerful sunshine and salubrious atmosphere of California, for he passed away in 1908. His widow makes her home with her son W. H. Lewis.

When nine years of age, William H. accompanied his parents from New York state to Montana, where he was reared to manhood. He attended the public school of his district, which was three miles distant from his home. When he was old enough William rode the range on his father's ranch and being a very ambitious youth he started to develop a herd of cattle of his own when but sixteen years of age, and continued in the business until twenty-two years of age. About that time he sold his stock and drove to Idaho, locating for two years near Genesee. Mr. Lewis strongly desired to locate in the Golden State, in consequence of which he drove from Idaho to California, locating in San Benito County, in 1897. He followed ranching for eight years, five of which were spent on the ranch of C. N. Hawkins. In May, 1906, he removed to Berkeley where he was engaged in carpentering and in December of the following year located in Fresno County, on a ten-acre tract in the Empire district, west of Madera Avenue. He improved this place by planting an orchard and setting out a vineyard and in addition leased 100 acres of alfalfa land and engaged in dairying. Mr. Lewis sold this ranch in 1912, and subsequently purchased his present ranch of twenty acres on Vinland Avenue, in the Empire district, which is devoted to a vineyard of Thompson seedless grapes and a peach orchard. Again Mr. Lewis decided to engage in the dairying business, and for the purpose leased alfalfa land, bought a carload of cows in Nevada County and shipped them to his ranch, where he conducted a dairy for three years, after which he disposed of this business. His present ranch is highly improved and since locating there he has built a residence and installed a pumping-plant.

William H. Lewis was united in marriage on August 5, 1893, with Miss Jennie M. Batdorf, a native of Kansas, the ceremony being solemnized in the state of Montana. This union has been blessed with eleven children: Jesse J., a graduate of Kerman high school who also attended the Fresno Normal school, and served in the United States Army as a member of Coast Artillery; Verna, also a graduate of the Kerman high school and living at home; Helen,





*L. M. Frederick & Family.*

a graduate of Kerman high school and now a sophomore in University of California, at Berkeley; Harold, Arthur, Alice, Carl, Thelma, Lloyd, Ethel, and Darrell are all at home.

Mr. Lewis is a charter member of the Beulah United Brethren Church, has been a trustee since its organization, and is now president of the board. He is highly esteemed in the community for his sterling qualities and is interested in every worthy movement to advance the interests of the horticulturists and viticulturists of the county, and is a member of, and stockholder in, both the California Peach Growers, Inc., and the California Associated Raisin Company.

**L. M. FREDERICK.**— A resident of San Joaquin Valley for forty years and the owner of a well improved ranch of ninety acres situated two and one-half miles northeast of Fowler, is L. M. Frederick, a very optimistic and justly popular raisin-grower. He is a native of the Hawkeye State, born August 20, 1854, at Monticello, Iowa, a son of L. S. and Mary (Torrence) Frederick, both natives of Ohio and in which state they were married. This union was blessed with nine children, the fourth child being L. M., the subject of this sketch. His father kept a country store at Monticello, Iowa, and in 1858 moved his family to Adams County, Ill., and it was in that state, on a farm sixteen miles from Quincy, that L. M. was reared. He attended the public schools of Adams County and later was a student at the Christian University, Canton, Mo., for two years.

His first business undertaking was as a buyer and shipper of live stock. He became a buyer for the firm of Smith and Farley of Chicago. His operations included the buying and shipping of horses and mules as well as cattle and hogs to the Chicago market. He was extensively engaged in this line of business from 1874 to 1877. He bought extensively throughout the state of Missouri but mostly in Adams, Pike and Hancock Counties in the state of Illinois.

In 1877 a combination of circumstances, especially the panicky times incident to the demonetization of silver, caused his financial failure. Undaunted by discouragements and financial losses, Mr. Frederick started again, by working as a farm hand for wages. In 1878, he decided to come out to Fresno, Cal., and after his arrival, he went to San Joaquin County where he worked for wages in the wheat fields. After following this kind of work for several years he became interested in wheat farming, going to Tulare County, near Visalia, where he rented a ranch from 1880 to 1883. His farming operations then ended in another financial failure and again he was compelled to work for wages and he continued as a farm hand for another three years. His next business venture was to go to Stanislaus County, where he likewise engaged in farming. He met with reverses in Stanislaus County, also, but, possessing indomitable courage and a large degree of self-confidence, he would not yield to discouragements, being confident that he would succeed in time. For the next few years he was variously engaged. Among other things he did was to take up a homestead in western Fresno County which he proved-up in due time. He moved down to Hanford and there he tried his hand at various lines of business and occupations. While there the tide finally turned in his favor, and he did well. In 1905, he moved to the city of Fresno and busied himself with ranching, and also tried the real-estate business. He made a fortunate investment in Fresno in the month of February, 1906, when he purchased property on L Street, which has steadily increased in value, and four years ago he exchanged it for the ranch of 110 acres, where he has resided and worked ever since. He sold twenty acres of this ranch to his son LeRoy M., a few years ago, and when this son entered the army, Mr. and Mrs. Frederick took charge of both ranches—a task which calls for hard work and careful management; but a peep in at their place shows that they are masters of the situation. They have one of the best cultivated ranches and one of the nicest homes in the county.

In 1883, L. M. Frederick was united in marriage with Miss Ida E. Griggs, daughter of John and Angeline E. (Williams) Griggs, both of whom are well known in San Joaquin County. The mother of Mrs. Frederick was born in the Green Mountain country, Vt., and is now living at Modesto, Cal., at the advanced age of eighty-three years; the father having passed away at Traver, Cal. Mrs. Frederick has one sister living, namely, Lillie Belle, the wife of F. A. Littlefield, a prosperous dairy farmer near Escalon, San Joaquin County, Cal.

Mr. and Mrs. Frederick are the parents of four children: Albert is an electrician in the employ of the Pacific Electric Company at Stockton. LeRoy M. is at Brest, France, where he is serving as a military police officer, having been detailed to that service since the signing of the armistice. He trained at Camp Fremont before being sent over to France, where he served as signal-service man in the Machine Gun Company of the Eighth Infantry, until the armistice. He is still, July 4, 1919, in France. Lillie May is now the wife of C. C. Crowell, a rancher at Turlock. Jessie E. is the wife of J. C. Holland, contractor, builder and rancher at Turlock.

Mr. Frederick possesses a very cheerful disposition, is a true optimist, always looking on the bright side of life, which makes him justly popular in his community. Besides his splendid ninety-acre ranch two and one-half miles northeast of Fowler, Mr. Frederick also owns the Lone Oak, sixty-five-acre stock-ranch, twenty miles due south of Fresno, in the north edge of the Laguna de Tache Grant, in southern Fresno County, where Mr. and Mrs. Frederick lived and farmed many years ago, and where they have many friends who, in that locality, shared the joys as well as the discomforts of a pioneer experience.

**MRS. RUTH L. HAYES.**—The noble part women have had in the history of California, contributing their intelligence, heroic endeavor and indomitable courage to bring the Golden State up to the high-water mark of accomplishment, and to what extent the thousands of progressive women among the citizens of Fresno County are a guarantee of a still more glorious future, may be seen in the life-story of Mrs. Ruth L. Hayes, a refined, well-posted and inquiring lady of pleasing personality, and of more than ordinary interest on account of her gift as an entertaining conversationalist.

She was born in Greensburg, Knox County, Mo., the daughter of Alexander H. Dalton who was a native of Tennessee and came to Missouri, where he married Mrs. Martha (Williams) Trimble, of Scotch-English descent leading through Washington County, Ind. They were farmers in Missouri, but California began to look good to them, and in 1882 the mother brought the family to the Coast and bought land near Lemoore. There she improved an orchard and vineyard and took such good care of them and herself that she still resides on the old place, having attained her eighty-eighth year on Christmas, 1918.

Mrs. Hayes is the only child of this marriage, and received her education in the schools of Lemoore, thence going to Portland, Ore. There she met Dr. James L. Hayes, a native of Alabama, who was reared at LaFayette, Ore., where he practiced as a graduate of the St. Louis Medical College, class of 1892, having previously spent two years at Rush Medical College in Chicago. The acquaintance grew into romantic friendship, and the friendship led up to marriage, but she was bereaved of her husband six months after she became his wife. He was a Mason, a Knight of Pythias, a member of the Ancient Order United Workmen and the Woodmen of the World; and in all these organizations he stood high and was honored of all men.

Resolving, despite this sorrow and loss, to make her own way in the profession of nursing, Mrs. Hayes entered the Mt. Zion Training School for Nurses in San Francisco, where she was graduated with honors in January, 1900. She followed her calling in San Francisco, and then in Kings

and Fresno Counties; but in the meantime she also became interested in horticulture and viticulture.

Purchasing twenty acres at Orosi, in Tulare County, she set to work improving the land; and such was the intelligence, together with the industry, expended on the problem that, although the field was new to her, she brought the ranch to a high state of perfection, devoting it to sultanas, muscats and figs.

In 1910, persuaded that her more imperative duty lay along the new path of this agricultural venture, Mrs. Hayes, although in constant demand as a professional nurse gave up that work, and has since devoted all of her time to her ranches. In February, 1917, she purchased twenty acres in the Dakota Colony, Fresno County, and this she reserves for the cultivation of peaches, Thompson seedless grapes and alfalfa. While personally superintending both ranches, she makes her home on her Fresno ranch which is an ideal residence retreat.

Mrs. Hayes is a member of the Luzerne Chapter of the O. E. S., at Hanford, and both within and outside of that society she has a host of esteeming and well-wishing friends. Her success in horticulture and viticulture reflects in the highest degree creditably on the neighborhood, in which she has become a leader in good works making for better citizenship.

**MRS. MARY J. GOBBY.**—Among the well-rewarded heroines who, by their years of faithful work and self-sacrifice have helped to make California the land of opportunity and the realm of happy homes, must be mentioned Mrs. Mary J. Gobby, widow of the late Peter Gobby, who owned a ranch of 320 acres two miles west of Riverdale and another ranch of eighty acres north of Riverdale. He was born in the village of Niva, Canton Ticino, Switzerland, on March 11, 1858, and although the oldest of three brothers he was the last to come to California. Louis Gobby came first and two years after his arrival in Petaluma he sent back money for his youngest brother, Rocco, to join him, in 1886; and two years after that Louis and Rocco remitted passage money for Peter.

Peter Gobby returned to Switzerland in 1891, and that year he was married in his native canton to Mary Jane Guglielmoni, who was born in Niva and who was, therefore, familiar with the scenes of his boyhood. Her father was a successful bridge-contractor in Switzerland; he later went to Australia during the gold excitement and was quite lucky for several years in seeking the shining dust. On his return he resumed bridge-building; and he then married Mary Agatha Calanchini and became the father of three children: Mrs. Gobby, the eldest; Martin, who died when he was twenty-three years old at Crescent City, Cal.; and Charles, who married May Baker of Riverdale, and who owns 100 acres and is a dairyman at Burrel, in Fresno County.

Mrs. Gobby's father died when she was eight years old; her mother passed away when she was eighteen, and she was married in her twentieth year. She remained seven years in Switzerland after her marriage, during which time Peter Gobby went back and forth between California and Switzerland; and five children were born to her in the old country. One of these died and four accompanied her to America. She has had fourteen children, twelve of whom are still living: Adeline, at home; Josephine, a trained nurse in San Francisco; Arthur and Oscar, who served in the World War for Uncle Sam; Pauline, Mary, Emma, Elvin; William, who is ten; Albert, who is eight; Walter, who is six, and Allen Bon Homme. Two died in infancy, the one in Switzerland and the other here. Mr. Gobby died on July 15, 1917. He was a director in the creamery and he sold the right of way to the railway running through Riverdale.

At first Mr. and Mrs. Gobby lived in "The Adobe" on the Johns Tract. Her husband rented 6,000 acres of the Burrel estate, and for several years husband and wife worked almost day and night. They kept from 120 to 150



cows, made cheese and hauled loads of cheese to Fresno. Peter Gobby operated the cheese factory himself and Mrs. Gobby helped him. They also lost fifty valuable cows through the Texas fever, and at one time had to struggle very hard to get a start again. Finally, Peter Gobby became a stockholder in the First National Bank of Riverdale and the First National Bank of Laton, Fresno County. He served as a director in the Riverdale Cooperative Creamery from its organization in 1911 until the time of his death.

One of the happy results of the hard work and self-denial by Mr. and Mrs. Gobby is that no mortgage burdens the two ranches operated by her with the help of her sons and daughters. They live on the large dairy farm of 320 acres two miles west of Riverdale, and reside in a commodious two-story frame country house built a few years before Mr. Gobby died. Mrs. Gobby is a hard-working, intelligent and plucky woman who kept close tab on the business end of the ranching operations. She had a good education in Switzerland and she has acquired the English language here. In her various business operations she has amply demonstrated her executive ability.

Mrs. Gobby has the undivided love of her children and is highly respected in the community where she lives. She continues to maintain the family home; to keep her children together, and to work and sacrifice for them. Some are still attending the Riverdale grammar school, and among the bright and industrious pupils there they give evidence of becoming useful and honored members of society.

**M. P. BISCHOFF.**—An oil man who has worked himself up from the lowest round of the ladder and is not only well-qualified to hold his present position of responsibility, but is fortunate in having many loyal friends, is M. P. Bischoff, superintendent of both the Caribou Oil Mining Company and the Record Oil Company. He came to Fresno in 1903, and has since been identified with the development of important Central California interests. He was born in Denver, Colo., on February 9, 1882, the son of Leopold and Mary Bischoff who were farmers in Kansas and had settled in the Colorado metropolis. There his father died, and his mother is still living at Denver, the mother of eight children, five of whom are living. The oldest in the family, M. P. was brought up in Denver and there attended the public schools until he was thirteen, when he went to work at the butcher's trade. This occupation took him to Fort Collins for three years, and there he was in the employ of Beach & Schrode, packers.

On August 7, 1903, Mr. Bischoff came to Fresno and for some time was employed in packing-houses and at ranching. The following May, however, he came to Coalinga and entered the service of the Associated Pipe Line while it was building its conduit to Monterey. He was next with the Independence Oil Company on No. 28, and after that with the California Oilfields Limited. In fact, he served with different oil companies until 1907, when he accepted the post of production foreman with the Caribou Oil Mining Company. In July, 1917, he was offered the position of field superintendent, accepted it, and has held it ever since. He has entire charge of the Caribou Company, which is operating on 100 acres, with twenty-six wells producing; and, as has been said, he has charge also of the Record Oil Company interests, on forty acres in the same section, where nine wells are producing. The high averages in well-yieldings reflect most creditably on Mr. Bischoff's experience and methods.

At Oakland, Cal., he was married, some years ago, to Ethlyen Graves, a native of Santa Rosa, and they have one child, Ethlyen Janyce. Mr. Bischoff belongs to the Odd Fellows of Coalinga and the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of Fresno, as well as the Growlers Club in Coalinga. Loyal and active in all patriotic movements, he was director in the Coalinga district war fund association and with his wife, was active in the Red Cross.



*M. J. Biehoff*



**EARL C. BUCHANAN.**—Many years of successful buying of live stock and activity in the cattle business have won for Earl C. Buchanan the reputation of being one of the best posted men on live stock in Fresno County. He was born in Vernon County, Wis., August 7, 1869. At a very early age Mr. Buchanan became interested in the cattle business while living in Nebraska. In 1889 he migrated westward and arrived in Madera, Cal., while that section of the state was still a part of Fresno County and during the campaign to cut off the northern part of the county, to form what is now Madera County, E. C. Buchanan took an active part in favor of the project. For ten years he resided in the town of Madera where he was engaged in buying and selling horses and mules and also raised grain for two years.

In 1899, Mr. Buchanan located in the city of Fresno where he conducted a livery business, operating the Palo Alto and the Crescent Stables as well as a horse and mule market. After selling his stables he operated a horse and mule market on L Street for five years, when he disposed of it. That Mr. Buchanan is regarded as an expert buyer of cattle by leading cattlemen outside of the state, is shown by his large purchases for prominent stockman in other states. For four years he was buyer and salesman for D. M. McLemore, the well known cattleman of Klamath Falls, Ore., and during that time purchased and shipped from Old and New Mexico and Arizona to California and Oregon, 72,000 head of cattle. During 1917, Mr. Buchanan bought some 2,000 head of cattle in California which he shipped to the Siegel Campbell Company at Denver, Colo. In April, 1918, he became associated with F. M. Haws, in stock-raising, leasing 2,400 acres four miles southwest of Caruthers, the land being known as Pacific Acreage, and they have 250 acres in alfalfa. The ranch is under the Liberty Ditch, and has three large pumping-plants.

Earl C. Buchanan was united in marriage in the city of Madera, on December 20, 1893, with Anna Harris, a native of Colusa County and of a prominent family in that section. They are the parents of three children: Mabel, who is now the wife of C. B. Bender, of New Dayton, Canada; Herbert, who served his country in the Signal Corps of the United States Army, stationed at Camp Fremont, and was honorably discharged at the close of the war; and Helene, a graduate of Fresno High School.

**GEORGE EHNER FRAME.**—A successful stockman of Warthan Canyon, Fresno County, George Ehner Frame was born at Copperopolis, Cal., July 10, 1867. His father, James W., was born in Indiana, of Welsh descent; he crossed the plains to California with his father, David, who settled near Stockton afterwards removing to Lakeport, where he died. James W. Frame was engaged in sheep-raising; but afterwards he moved to the mountains on the Fresno and Monterey County line, where he owned a ranch and ran cattle, most of his ranch lying in Fresno County. About 1899 he sold his ranch to his son, George E., and moved to Hanford, where he died, April 17, 1913, aged seventy-five years. The mother of George E. was Mary Turner, born in Wisconsin. Her father, James Turner, brought his family across the plains in an ox-team train in 1849. After following mining for some years he located in Monterey County, where he was one of the first settlers of what was called Turner's Valley but now called Wayland Valley. Here he raised cattle and hunted bears, lions and deer. When he finally sold his holdings he moved to Gilroy, but spent his last days at Riverdale, Fresno County, where he passed away, aged eighty-four years. Mrs. James W. Frame died on the old home ranch. Five of her six children grew up, namely: Adeline, Mrs. Victor Roberts of Jacolitos Creek; George E., of this review; Isobelle, Mrs. Lake of Hanford; Era, who was Mrs. Dickman, died in San Francisco; and William, in business in Stockton.

From the age of nine years George E. was reared in Fresno County, receiving his education in the public schools, with one year at school in

Hanford. When twenty-one years of age, he entered 160 acres of land on Jacohlitos Creek, later buying railroad land. He was successful in raising cattle, in time purchasing his father's ranch and becoming the owner of 3,000 acres of land. In 1918 he sold all of his land except his Warthan Creek ranch of about 900 acres, where he is raising alfalfa and cattle, his brand being the diamond half circle. His residence is built on Warthan Creek, about the center of his ranch, under four beautiful giant oak trees.

In Fresno, in July, 1895, Mr. Frame was married to Miss Mary E. Morton, born in Mantorville, Dodge County, Minn., the daughter of Asa C. and Mary (Sanford) Morton, born respectively in New York and Illinois. Her father was a wheelwright in Mantorville, Minn., till 1876, when he located with his family in Santa Cruz County, Cal., and in 1879 took a homestead on top of the mountain on the Fresno-Monterey County line. There being no school in the vicinity and having a large family, he moved to Fresno in 1881, where he followed his trade and also ranching near Fresno, on White's Bridge road. He passed away in Fresno, his widow surviving him in that city. Mrs. Frame received a good education in the schools of Fresno, where she is well posted on the early landmarks of that city.

Mr. and Mrs. Frame have two children: Eva, a graduate of Coalinga Union High and Fresno Junior College, and who is now attending the Santa Barbara State Normal Training School; and Era, who is attending Fresno High.

For seventeen years Mr. Frame was clerk of the board of trustees of Warthan school district, until his resignation. Politically he is a Democrat.

**GEORGE FORSYTH.**—Since his coming to Fresno County, nearly forty years ago, George Forsyth has witnessed many wonderful changes. He is a native of Scotland, born May 26, 1846, in the County of Aberdeen, Fyvie Parish. His parents were James and Mary (Shand) Forsyth, the father being a farmer and country storekeeper, operating forty acres of land and conducting a grocery store at Mactarry, Fyvie. He lived to be eighty-six, while his wife passed away at the advanced age of eighty-nine, and grandfather Forsyth lived to be ninety-nine years and nine months of age.

Mr. and Mrs. James Forsyth were the parents of four boys and two girls, George being the third child.

George Forsyth was reared on his father's farm and was brought up in the Scotch Episcopalian Church and attended the Episcopalian school. When he was eighteen years of age he went to Aberdeen where he learned the trade of stone-cutting which he followed for four years, when he moved to Westmoreland, England, working at his trade for ten years with D. D. Finning. While living at Westmoreland, Mr. Forsyth was united in marriage with Jane Harrison, daughter of Robert and Elizabeth Harrison. Her father was a building contractor, dealing in stone and brick.

Having a strong desire to see America, he left his wife and three children in England and sailed for Canada with the intention of cutting stone for the Wellington Canal, then in course of construction. Arriving at Merritton, Ontario, on the Wellington Canal, Mr. Forsyth was disappointed in both the project and the country and consequently did not remain long there. While in Merritton the citizens were celebrating the Queen's birthday. Subsequently he left for Boston, Mass., where he found the citizens celebrating the One Hundredth Anniversary of the Battle of Bunker Hill. The next day he left for Quincy, Mass., where he cut stone for three weeks when he received a letter from a friend asking him to come to Dix Island, off the coast of Maine, where granite was being cut for the postoffice building at New York City. After remaining sixteen months at Dix Island, cutting stone for the postoffice buildings at both New York City and Philadelphia, Mr. Forsyth returned to England, where he remained one year.

In 1881, he returned to the United States, this time accompanied by his wife and family, his destination being Fresno County, Cal., where he had a brother, James Forsyth, who owned a half section of land known then as "the Adobe," but at the present time it is the property of Louis Gobby. That section of the county was then called Liberty. In partnership with his brother James, Mr. Forsyth farmed 200 acres on Dry Creek, but the very dry years of 1881-82 caused them to abandon their enterprise. Afterwards George Forsyth went to Placer County where he cut stone for Griffith Griffith, from Carnarvonshire, Wales. For two years he remained in Placer County when he secured employment with Frank Dusey, a contractor who built the stone steps for the Fresno County Court House. At the time the Hall of Records was built by Smiley Brothers, Mr. Forsyth cut the stone for this building. Afterwards, for eleven years, Mr. Forsyth was employed by the Fresno Canal and Irrigation Company. In the meantime he purchased 160 acres near Elkhorn, where he raised alfalfa. At Laton, in 1910, Mrs. Forsyth passed away, after which he located at Caruthers, where he bought the store building where he now conducts a pool hall, cigar stand and an oil-filling station.

Mr. and Mrs. George Forsyth had four children: Mary E., now the wife of Fred Goodrich, a rancher at Tranquillity; Margaret Jane, the wife of H. A. Adams, a rancher near Riverdale, whose sketch is given elsewhere in this history; James, who married Lucy Cirini, he is now deceased, and left one daughter, Margaret; and Robert Harrison, who was born on Dry Creek, Fresno County, and who is a mechanical engineer connected with a large farming enterprise in Mexico, and who married Miss Effie Goodle of Wheatville.

Mr. George Forsyth is a Mason, and holds membership in Mechanics Lodge, A. F. & A. M., Aberdeen, Scotland.

**WM. L. GREENUP.**—The late Wm. L. Greenup was born in Springfield, Mo. His father, John Greenup, was a farmer in Missouri and spent his last days in California. Wm. L. was only a boy of fifteen when he enlisted in the Confederate Army and served until he was taken prisoner, just before the close of the war, and held at Little Rock, Ark., after his release returning to Missouri. In 1872 he came to Fresno County, where he was married on November 25, 1875, to Nancy J. Baley, born in Nodaway County, Mo. Her father, Judge Gillum Baley, was a very prominent character in the early history of Fresno County. He was born in Cairo, Ill., June 19, 1813, and was reared in Nodaway County, Mo. There he married Permella Myers, born near Knoxville, Tenn., June 22, 1819. Judge Baley came to California via Panama in 1849, following mining for three years and then returned to Missouri. In 1858 he brought his wife and nine children across the plains, coming the southern route, on the Rio Grande. They were attacked by about fifteen hundred Indians, who killed eight of the men in the train. The guide told Mr. Baley if he could kill the chief the Indians would leave and not molest them. Having had the chief pointed out to him, Mr. Baley took a dead rest and killed the chief and the Indians withdrew, taking their dead with them. The train had lost most of its cattle, for they had been driven away by the Indians. The train then made its way to Albuquerque. Two young men volunteered to go ahead for relief and their effort was successful as government teams, with needed food and water, met them 200 miles from Albuquerque. The men of the train went to work and after nine months, in the spring of 1859, they started again and arrived safely in Southern California that fall, and in January, 1860, Mr. Baley and family came to Miller-ton. He mined on the Chowchilla River, and later on the Fresno River. He was elected county judge in 1869, and was reelected, and he was county judge when the county seat was moved to Fresno, in 1874. He held the office intermittently for fourteen years and then was county treasurer for one term,

after which he was engaged in the grocery business for five years until he retired in 1887. He helped build the first Methodist Church in Fresno. He died in November, 1896, aged eighty-three years, and his widow died December, 1905, aged eighty-seven years. Of their eleven children, ten grew up: Rebecca, Mrs. Shannon, died in Alameda; Mrs. Catherine Krug died in South America; Mrs. Frances Yancey lives at Tollhouse; Mrs. Elizabeth Ashman died at Millerton; George, who resides at Academy; Mrs. Ellen G. McCadle, of Fresno; Patience died in Missouri, a little girl; Charles, who resides in Fresno; Mrs. Nancy J. Greenup; Mrs. Berthena McKeon of Los Angeles; and Leach, who died in Fresno.

Nancy J. was reared at Millerton and at Tollhouse until 1874, when the family moved to Fresno, making their home on M Street between Fresno and Mariposa, and there she resided until her marriage. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Greenup moved to the ranch of 480 acres which they had purchased, above Academy, and here Mr. Greenup was engaged in farming and grain-raising until his death, on October 8, 1886, at the age of forty-one. He was for eight years deputy sheriff under Sheriff Stroud.

Mr. and Mrs. Greenup had four children: Pearl died in infancy; Joe assists his mother in farming, he married Alice Sarah Beals, born in Tennessee, and they have three children, Jack Baley, William Robert and Willetta Margaret; Bertha W. is Mrs. Faber, who resides with her mother; John died in infancy.

After her husband died, Mrs. Greenup resided with her father in Fresno and rented the ranch. In 1908, they moved back to the ranch and are raising grain and stock. The soil is rich and there is an abundance of spring water, making it suitable for fruit as well as for a stock ranch. Mrs. Greenup is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, at Academy.

**J. C. THOMSEN.**—An able and experienced ranchman, who has improved and now owns a large orchard and vineyard with which he has done exceptionally well, is Jens Christian Thomsen, viticulturist and horticulturist, active in both the California Associated Raisin Company and the California Peach Growers, Inc. He was born at Blaakjerskov, Jylland, Denmark, on March 28, 1871, the son of Niels Thomsen, a native farmer of that section, and Mette Marie Jensen, by whom he had three children. Both parents are now dead. Of their four children two are living—the subject of this sketch and his sister Bolletta, now Mrs. Iversen, resident in Denmark.

From a lad J. C. Thomsen was brought up on the farm, and attended the school of the district until he was fourteen, when he was apprenticed to a cabinet-maker in Kolding, for whom he worked five years. On completing his trade, however, he was convinced that he did not like the work; and as farming had been his hobby from boyhood, he resolved to win his fortune in that field. Thinking the matter over carefully with respect to the future and to opportunity, he resolved to come to the United States. On May 25, 1890, after an eventful trip across the ocean and the great continent, he arrived in Fresno, and was soon fortunate in finding employment in a vineyard at Oleander. He liked the work, took to it naturally, and remained there for two and a half years. Then, full of ambition, he decided to start business for himself. He had saved some capital, and with that he bought an outfit and leased land just west of Fresno. He operated 320 acres for three years, got ahead, and won the respect of his neighbors, business customers and friends.

Having thus established himself, Mr. Thomsen moved to the Red Bank district, where he leased 800 acres from D. C. Sample. He had the land for seven years, and in its operation used two big teams, a header and a thresher. He had his full share of the ups and downs of the times, and oftentimes suffered from hammered-down prices, which were as low as one dollar or less per cental. One year, however, he had a bumper crop and good prices. In 1900, at







*M. L. Boles.*

the end of five years, he found himself with enough earnings and savings to be able to buy some forty acres of raw land in the Enterprise Colony. He continued grain-farming thereafter for two years. In 1902 he built his fine residence, moved onto his present home-place, gave up the raising of grain, sold his outfit, set out his vines and orchards, and began the sowing of alfalfa. From that time on, he has been busy with viticulture.

In 1904, Mr. Thomsen bought fifty-four acres of land adjoining in the Eggers Colony, across the road from the original forty of his holding. It was raw land, but he soon had it set out with a fine orchard and planted to alfalfa. Now he owns ninety-four acres in all. Thirty-four of these are devoted to pasture-land, twenty-five to alfalfa, fifteen to Lovell, Muir and Alberta peach trees, and twelve acres of vineyard to muscat and Emperor grapes. Many of the Alberta peaches are shipped, and the balance of the peaches are usually dried there. The ranch is under the Enterprise Canal, and he has installed a pumping plant with a twelve-horse-power engine. All the wells are sixty feet deep, the water is within ten feet of the surface, and he can irrigate with the greatest ease and efficiency. He has one of the desirable places of this region, and his house, for which he hauled the lumber from Pine Ridge, is comfortable and attractive.

On March 24, 1897, in Washington Colony, Mr. Thomsen was married to Miss Marie Amelia Frikka, a daughter of James G. and Anna K. (Petersen) Frikka, who are referred to on another page in this history. Mrs. Thomsen came to Wyoming, where her uncle, George Frikka, lived, in 1892, and six months later came to Fresno, where she wed Mr. Thomsen. She is a native of Kolding, Denmark. Mr. and Mrs. Thomsen have three children: Metta Christene is a graduate of Heald's Business College at Fresno and is employed in the office of the county assessor; Anna Marie assists her mother in the home; and James Gearhart attends the Clovis High School. Mr. Thomsen is a Republican in national politics, but is absolutely independent in local affairs, and aims to support the men and the measures most likely to advance the interests of the community and the county in which he lives. He belongs to the Danish Brotherhood in Fresno.

**MERL LEE BOLES.**—A deservedly popular gentleman, whose experience has naturally brought him to the high position of responsibility that he now enjoys, is Merl Lee Boles, who has been a long time in Coalinga, and is one of the oldest of the "old-timers" in the oil fields. Although born in Bradford, Pa., on May 17, 1881, he was reared in California from the age of five years. His parents were John and Lillian (Gish) Boles, natives of Kentucky and Virginia, respectively. The father was a machinist by trade.

Merl was brought to Ottawa, Kans., before he was a month old, and there remained with his mother until 1886, when he came to Fresno, Cal. For a year the family resided in the Lone Star district, and then they moved to Los Angeles, where he received his education in the public schools. When fourteen, he went to work in the Los Angeles oil-fields on North Figueroa Street, dressing tools, and he continued there until 1898 when he came to the Coalinga field. At that time there were only four producing wells in the district. Chanslor and Canfield had two wells, besides their discovery well, and the Home Oil Company had one well.

At first, Mr. Boles was employed at dressing tools, for a year with the Old Home Company, and then with different companies in the same capacity until 1905, when he became a driller for the Pittsburgh-Coalinga Oil Company, later drilling for other companies. About 1907 he undertook certain work for the W. K. and Turner Oil Company, as a driller on Sec. 2-20-15, and brought in their first well, which yielded 5,000 barrels a day. Afterwards he was foreman on the leases; and when the Shell Company of California purchased the property, about 1914, he left that concern and became superintendent for the Coalinga-Mohawk Oil Company. Now he has charge of the

development and production of the Company's holdings, comprising 640 acres on Sec. 12-20-15, development having been begun about 1907. Their deepest well is 4,760 feet, and besides being the deepest wells in the Coalinga fields, they are among the very deepest producing wells in California and have the record for increasing their production. Mr. Boles is also interested in the company as a stockholder, and in 1917 he was made manager.

In 1919 the Mohawk penetrated a deeper sand than any heretofore in the district. The well is below 4,200 feet and yields the highest gravity oil—900 barrels; and is the biggest gasser of any well in the field—1,000,000 cubic feet per day.

Coalinga was the scene of Mr. Boles' wedding some years ago when he was married to Miss Lilian Stickler, a native of Oregon, by whom he has had two children: Earl and Evelyn. Popular, like his good wife, socially, Mr. Boles was made a Mason in Coalinga Lodge, No. 387, F. & A. M., and he is a member of the Fresno Lodge of Elks and the Coalinga Growlers' Club. As a member of the Coalinga War Fund Association, he rendered valuable service in the war fund and Liberty Loan drives.

**MARTIN S. GREVE.**—A native son of California, Martin S. Greve was born near Hollister, San Benito County, June 5, 1884. His father, Paul Greve, was born in Germany on the border of France, where he married Sophia Eberhart and soon afterwards they migrated to San Francisco, Cal., about 1863. Later they located in San Benito County, engaging in stock-raising for some years. Then he moved to Priest Valley, Monterey County, locating a homestead where he resided until his death, about 1895, aged sixty-four years. His widow, hale and hearty, at the age of seventy-four, still resides on the old home. Of the ten children born to this worthy pioneer couple, nine are living, of whom two were younger than Martin.

From a boy, Martin was reared on the stock-ranch, learning to ride after cattle, meantime attending public school in King City. When he was of age, he and four of his brothers located homesteads in Warthan Canyon, Fresno County, and here they engaged in raising cattle. He followed cattle-raising actively till 1910, when he sold his ranch and stock, to follow the oil business, entering the employ of the Associated Pipe Line Company, on the Coalinga-Monterey Division. After three years in the repair department, he became foreman and in 1916 was promoted to engineer, and is now engineer in charge of the Associated Station No. 2, which is located only eight miles from his homestead.

Martin S. Greve was married, in Fresno, to Miss Clara Grant, a native of Kalamazoo, Mich., and they have three children: Adelle, Adeline, and Jean. Mr. Greve is a member of the Christian Science Church, at Coalinga. He is enterprising and progressive, and lends his aid to movements for the upbuilding of the county.

**WM. BURROWS.**—A native son of the Golden State, Wm. Burrows was born at Sacramento, September 10, 1867. His father, Phillip, was born in Michigan, where he learned the woolen manufacturing business under his father; he was married to Sarah Knight, a native of New York, and a week later they started across the plains in an ox-team train, arriving in Calaveras County in the fall of 1849. He followed mining in that county for twelve years and then built the Sacramento Woolen Mills, thereafter building woolen mills in Stockton, San Jose and Los Gatos. After selling out, he located in Santa Cruz where he engaged in lumbering and getting out tan bark and ties, having as his partner Charles McKiernan, known as Mountain Charley. Later he removed to San Miguel, engaging in grain-farming, in Vineyard Canyon, until he retired. He spent his last years near Parlier and died about 1907; his wife died in San Jose. Of their six children, five are living.

From the age of eight until eighteen, Wm. Burrows' life was spent principally in the public schools of Santa Cruz. Moving to San Miguel when he

was eighteen, he continued to assist his father for three years, though he was for a time engaged in driving stage from Soledad to San Luis Obispo, being the youngest driver on the road.

Mr. Burrows then went to the redwoods at Watsonville, where he followed teaming to the mills until December, 1895, when he came to Sanger and assisted in setting out the East Oakland Vineyards, and one year later was made superintendent of the place, filling the position for two years. He then bought a small farm near Parlier and set it to vines and orchard. This was during a period of hard times and he worked out at fifty to seventy-five cents a day to help pay expenses. He finally sold the place and then for two years engaged in the tallyho business in Fresno, at L and Fresno Streets.

Selling the tallyho business, Mr. Burrows bought fruit for different companies and then became foreman for the Minnewawa Vineyard of 600 acres. After six years he resigned and leased the Ben Epstein ranch on San Joaquin River, raising grapes and peaches for three years. In March, 1918, he became superintendent of the Wawona and Glorietta Vineyards, having 300 acres in vines, figs and peaches. He also has charge of the Riverview Ranch and the Clover Glenn Orange Orchard at Centerville, so his time is well and fully occupied, but he is well qualified by experience for his position.

Mr. Burrows was married, in Fresno, to Mrs. Lizzie (Young) Hustler, born in Missouri, who came to California in 1904. By a former marriage Mr. Burrows has two children: Edna and Cora; the latter is Mrs. Coleman and both reside in Fresno. Mr. Burrows is a member of the Stags Lodge at Fresno.

**LEONARD D. RAMACHER.**—A family whose activity and usefulness in social, civic and charitable work is as well-known as their success in business undertakings and enterprises designed to advance the agricultural prosperity of the state, is that of Leonard D. Ramacher and his forbears. He is the son of Henry Ramacher, who was born in Alsace and came to America and Indiana when he was only ten years of age. Growing up, he became a farmer and a merchant at Linton, in that state, and in time married Mary A. Fainot, a native of Ohio and the daughter of worthy French parents. In 1884 he disposed of his farm and brought his wife and three children to California; and arriving in Fresno on May 10, he followed ranching in the foothills near Letcher. After that he moved to the Scandinavian Colony, where he was in the employ of George Bernard for three years. Having made a careful study of the propagating of plants, and the care of vineyards, he purchased a twenty-acre tract in the Kutner Colony and set it out to vines; but finding after five years that it was not what he wanted, he sold it and bought eighty acres in the northeastern part of the same colony. The soil there proved good and all that could be expected, and so he built a residence and made other improvements, and as soon as possible turned half of the acreage into a vineyard. Mrs. Ramacher died in 1909, but he continued on the ranch until 1913, when he sold it to his oldest son, and retired to a residence he had purchased on White Avenue, Fresno.

Born at Linton, Indiana, on April 17, 1882, the third eldest of eight children in the family, Leonard Ramacher came to this section with his parents when they moved West, and was educated in the public schools of Fresno County. When a lad he learned viticulture under his father while working on the home place and helping run the vineyard; and he also assisted in the care of other ranches, so that he became familiar with every department of viticulture.

On July 10, 1912, Mr. Ramacher was married at Fresno to Miss Ruth Miller, a native of Burlington, Iowa, and the daughter of Champ C. and Della D. (Biddle) Miller, of Connorsville, Ind., and Fulton County, Ohio, respectively. Mr. Miller, who had come to Iowa when a lad, was a merchant at Burlington; and from Iowa he enlisted for service in the Civil War, and did

his duty valiantly in supporting the Union. Later, he became manager of the John H. Gear mercantile establishment at Burlington and Governor Gear's close associate; and when the latter took his seat as United States Senator from Iowa, Mr. Miller was made assistant postmaster of Burlington, and held that office for twenty-four years, under every change of administration. Finally he resigned on account of his health, and moved to California; and here he has been greatly improved. He was at one time chairman of the Postal Association of Iowa. After reaching California, Mr. and Mrs. Miller became interested in viticulture in Fresno County, having purchased, as early as 1892, a vineyard in the Kutner Colony; and there they now make their home.

One of two children, Mrs. Ramacher was educated in the Burlington High School, and later graduated from Marshalltown College, Iowa. She came to California in 1911, and for a while was engaged in teaching at the County Orphanage. Of the union of Mr. and Mrs. Ramacher one child has been born, named Baldwin D. In 1913 Mr. and Mrs. Ramacher bought their present place of seventy acres in the Kutner Colony; and having much improved it, they now have a fine vineyard, raising muscat, tokay and malvaize grapes and raisins. Mr. Ramacher is identified with the California Associated Raisin Company. In politics Mr. and Mrs. Ramacher are Republicans, and Mrs. Ramacher is a trustee of the Kutner school district. They are members of the First Christian Church of Fresno, and Mrs. Ramacher is chairman of the Kutner Colony Auxiliary of the Fresno Chapter of the Red Cross. Few worthy appeals fail to elicit a helpful response from this family, now so pleasantly identified with Fresno County and its growth and development.

**JACOB HINSBERGER.**—An old-timer who has been identified with California since 1870 and with Fresno County for the past quarter of a century, having come to Fresno when there were only two brick buildings in the town, and who is today as well-liked as he is highly respected, is Jacob Hinsberger, an active viticulturist who has done much in his time to improve Fresno lands for viticultural purposes. Born in Germany on February 20, 1842, he was brought to Illinois when a child by his father, John Hinsberger, who was a farmer at Arlington Heights, Cook County, where he died.

Jacob Hinsberger was educated in the public schools of Illinois, and growing up, followed farming. When he reached his twenty-first year, he went to Muskegon, Mich., and engaged in lumbering there, as also later in Manistee. He drove logs in the river for four years, and had many hard experiences and narrow escapes. He also took part in breaking the roadway, and many times was nearly caught by the separating jams.

In 1870 Mr. Hinsberger came to California, and settled for a while near Colfax, where he was employed in a saw-mill. He became an expert sawyer, and after three years went to Chico, where he worked with the lumber company for several years. In 1880 he came to Madera, and then to Fresno County, and here he secured work with the Madera Flume & Trading Company, now known as the Sugar Pine Company. He had charge of the flume; and as foreman responsible for keeping the lumber moving, he rode horse-back up and down the waterway. For six years he was "on the job," day and night when necessary, especially in storms, continuing with the firm until 1886, when he resigned to engage in farming. In that year he bought the twenty acres in the Scandinavian Colony, which he improved, and on which he erected a residence and other buildings; and afterwards he purchased a tract in the Wolters Colony consisting of forty acres, which he set to vines; but this he gave to one of his sons. Later he purchased another twenty acres in the Wolters Colony, which he set out to grapes, but later sold at a good profit. Lately, he has rented his own vineyard, but has continued an active member and supporter of the California Associated Raisin Company.







*William J. James,*



*Elizabeth James,*

At Salt Springs, in Fresno County, on December 26, 1886, Mr. Hinsberger was married to Mrs. Sarah (Lynch) Allen, a native of Renfrew, Ontario, and the daughter of James Lynch, who was born in Wales and there married Miss Mary Hill, of Scotch descent. They settled as farmer folk at Renfrew, Ontario, and there the daughter Sarah was educated in the public schools. Attaining to womanhood, she was married in Ontario to William Allen, a native there, and with him, in February, 1876, entered the United States and came West to California. For a while Mr. Allen was a carpenter at Chico, but later he removed to Redding, where he died. Following Mr. Allen's death, his widow was married to Mr. Hinsberger; and by this second marriage she had two children: Emory Ralph, who is a moulder by trade and was in the government employ at Mare Island Navy Yard during the war, but is now operating the home place; and Chester Rowell, a machinist in Fresno. She had also two children by her first marriage: Arthur W. Allen, a farmer in Wolters Colony; and Herbert W. Allen, a machinist at Sugar Pine Mill, Madera County.

Mr. Hinsberger was made a Mason in Madera Lodge, F. & A. M., but is now a member of Fresno Lodge, No. 247. Public-spirited to a high degree, he has been a school trustee in the Scandinavian district for a couple of terms, and has also served as a member of the grand jury.

**WILLIAM T. JAMES.**—An enterprising, broad-minded and liberal-hearted old settler is William T. James, the genial nephew of the pioneer, Jeff James, so widely esteemed by all who knew him. He was born near Elk, Lick Springs, Rollo County, Mo., on May 10, 1858, the son of Thompson B. James, a native of that section who was a farmer there. In 1852 he crossed the great plains with his brother, Jeff, traveling by means of ox teams and wagons, and engaged in mining at Virginia City, Nev. The boys were with a cousin, old Joe Douglas, and they struck a lucky vein, and were rewarded for all their trouble. Thompson returned to Missouri at the end of three years with a big "stake," and there bought a farm. He went in for scientific agriculture of the most practical kind, and developed into a champion cradler. Finally, in a contest he was smitten with sunstroke and died, in 1861. Mrs. James had been Puss Crousen, and she was born in Callaway County, Mo., and died there in 1867. There were three children in Mr. and Mrs. Thompson James' family, and our subject—now the only one living—was the second eldest.

William T. was reared in Missouri and was early supposed to be afflicted with consumption; but by working out-doors on the farm he recovered his health. He was educated in the public schools; and after his mother died, he was reared by his grandfather, John R. James, in Pike County, famous for its pioneer traditions. When seventeen years old he began to work for himself. He and his sisters owned 960 acres in Rollo County which they inherited from their father, and on his portion of this estate he located and went in for general farming and stock-raising, doing well; but when Cherokee Strip was opened in Cleveland's administration, he lost \$7,000 through an unfortunate investment in buying and shipping cattle. This ruined him for the time being, at least.

On January 12, 1890, Mr. James arrived in Fresno County; and leasing land from Jefferson James, he went in for grain-farming and stock-raising. In 1906, however, a flood caused him to lose everything and for a second time he "went broke," but removing to Barstow, he leased 400 acres of alfalfa and in the raising of hay was very successful. At the end of three years, that is, in 1912, he bought his present place of nearly eighty-two acres of raw land in Tranquillity, and having leveled it and checked it for alfalfa, he now has twenty-five acres in that very desirable grass, and the rest in golden grain. He leases additional land for grain-raising, and there raises, besides, hogs and alfalfa.

While still in Audrain County, Mo., December 1, 1881, Mr. James was married to Miss Elizabeth Watkins, a native of Rollo County, by whom he has had three children: William D., of Tranquillity; Roy L., who served in the United States Naval Reserve until his discharge, now living at home; and Jeff G., who is in Los Angeles.

Always ready to support any local movement, regardless of party lines, for the advancement of the community, Mr. James is a Democrat, and as such has done his share toward raising the standard of citizenship. In fraternal matters he is an Ancient Odd Fellow, and lends a hand whenever and wherever it is needed for the bettering of social conditions. Any community might regard itself fortunate in having as permanent residents two such public-spirited and sympathetic citizens as Mr. and Mrs. William T. James.

**WILLIAM RUTH.**—Ireland has furnished the United States with many of its most substantial citizens, and in every state of the Union the natives of the Emerald Isle have become prominently identified with various enterprises. Thrift, unremitting energy, perseverance in the face of obstacles, and native wit are characteristics of the Irish race, and are an innate possession of the subject of this sketch, William Ruth, who is a native of Queens-town, Ireland, where he was born on September 28, 1840.

When a lad, Mr. Ruth emigrated to the United States, and up to the time of his majority was engaged in various occupations. In 1861, at the opening of the Civil War, he enlisted at New York City in the United States Navy. After faithfully fulfilling the term of his enlistment before the mast, he re-enlisted in the service of the United States; but this time he joined the army, where he served valiantly until the close of the war. Like many other young men, he felt the call of the great undeveloped West, and desiring to try his fortune in seeking for the precious metal, he migrated to California in 1865. For a while he engaged in mining in California, but later went with others to Arizona, where also they intended to engage in mining. The company being attacked by the Indians, however, they returned to California, and Mr. Ruth then took up quicksilver mining. For a short time he resided at Los Angeles, and afterwards moved to Visalia. Later he settled on Smith Mountain, where he engaged in the stock business on a large scale, raising cattle, horses, mules and smaller stock by the thousand. He continued in this business until 1916, when he sold his entire interest.

William Ruth is a pioneer of Reedley, having been located in the neighborhood since its beginning. He is a man of unquestioned uprightness of character, whose word is always as good as his bond.

**HERBERT J. CLARK.**—A very successful horticulturist and viticulturist who has developed for himself a fine estate and is an influential member of the California Peach Growers, Inc., and the California Associated Raisin Company, as well as the Melvin Grape Growers Association in which he is a vice-president and director, is Herbert J. Clark, who came to Fresno in the middle eighties. He was born in London, England, July 17, 1875, the son of Joseph Clark, who was a well-known stationer in the world's metropolis. Joseph Clark had married there Miss Esther Parker, and in 1886 crossed the ocean and the American continent with his wife and eight children. He settled in the Central Colony, Fresno County, and laid out a vineyard and orchard, and there he continued until 1905, since which year he has lived retired, with our subject. Mrs. Clark died in Fresno, and seven children, six girls and a boy, survive her.

The youngest in the family, Herbert J., attended a private school in London and continued his schooling at the Orange Center School when he came to Fresno County. He grew up to assist his father, and until he was twenty years of age was under his leadership as a viticulturist and horticulturist; and having mastered these fields of important California husbandry, he leased a vineyard and started in for himself in the raising of grapes and other fruit.

In 1899, Mr. Clark located in Jefferson District and bought forty acres of unimproved land. It was mere stubble field when he began to develop a vineyard and orchard, but he set out three acres of peaches and the balance in muscat and malaga vines. As might be expected from persistent labor guided by foresight and experience, the ranch has become one of considerable value and of much interest to the grower following scientific methods.

While at Fresno, Mr. Clark was married to Miss Kathryn Rogers, a native of Iowa. They have three children: Josephine, Vivian, and Marian. The family attends the Episcopal Church. A Republican in national politics, Mr. Clark supports every local movement to better the community. He belongs to Fresno Lodge, No. 439, B. P. O. E., and to the Manzanita Camp of the Woodmen of the World.

**HENRY F. BAREFORD.**—An expert carpenter favorably known in Fresno, who has also improved a twenty-acre vineyard, is Henry F. Bareford, who first came to California in the middle eighties. He was born in Waretown, on Barnegat Bay, near the famous lighthouse, on December 20, 1861, the son of Samuel Bareford, who was born there and was also a carpenter and builder. Grandfather Joseph Bareford was a fine mechanic and was also a good blacksmith. The great-grandfather, who was born in New Jersey, served in the Revolutionary War and was captured by the Hessians, but as he understood and could speak German, and they had no place to keep him where he could not hear what was being said and done, they let him go. Samuel Bareford moved to Mitchell, Ind., and then to New Albany, in Floyd County. He served in the United States Navy during the Civil War. Mrs. Bareford, Sarah Creby before her marriage, was born in the same vicinity, and died in Indiana. Grandfather Creby was a native of Switzerland. Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Bareford had four children, three of whom grew up, and among these Henry Bareford was the second oldest.

Brought up in New Jersey and Indiana until he was sixteen, Henry Bareford attended the public schools, and in 1879 he came to Mitchell, where he worked on a farm for three years. Then he went to New Albany, Ind., and began to learn the carpenter's trade, and in time was able to superintend the erection of buildings. He continued until 1886, when he came to California. He really started for Hastings, Nebr., in the fall, but found no work, so he returned to Kansas City, and then came to Riverside, where he helped build the first cold storage warehouse there. Thirty days later he went to Los Angeles, and there he saw an exhibit advertising Fresno County, which so interested him that he came here in January of the great boom year, 1887. When he came to Fresno, he helped erect some of the larger buildings here, some of his first work being done on the Hughes Hotel.

In 1891 Mr. Bareford was married near Bowling Green, Mo., to Miss Nannie L. Smith, who was born there, the daughter of Elias Washington and Margaret (Biggs) Smith, both of Missouri. Mrs. Bareford's parents were farmer folk, and were Union patriots in the Civil War. Mr. and Mrs. Bareford have a son, Samuel, a graduate of the high school, who is attending the University of California and has been in training for the United States Army.

On coming to Fresno, Mr. Bareford purchased a residence here. About 1905 he purchased ten acres on Blackstone Avenue, and in 1906 he added to his holding ten acres adjoining. He set out ten acres of malagas, and this tract he sold. He still owns ten acres, which he is setting out to vineyards. Besides grapes, he also grows peaches.

Mr. Bareford belongs to Manzanita Camp, Woodmen of the World, and to Central California Lodge No. 343, I. O. O. F., of Fresno; while Mrs. Bareford belongs to the Neighbors of Woodcraft, Fresno Circle, and is filling the chair of Guardian Neighbor. Formerly she was a member of the Fresno Rebekahs. She is a member of the Christian Science Church, and has been active in Red Cross and war relief work.

**JOHN JAY VANDERBURGH.**—To the judicious management and business acumen of John Jay Vanderburgh, the efficient editor, publisher and proprietor of the Selma Irrigator, this up-to-date semi-weekly newspaper owes its successful career. Although a resident of California for over forty years, the Hawkeye State claims J. J. Vanderburgh as a native son. He was born on April 13, 1866, in Waterloo, Blackhawk County, Iowa, the son of Isaac K. Vanderburgh, a native of Norwich, Oxford County, Canada.

Isaac K. Vanderburgh was united in marriage with Pluma A. Gaines, who was a native of Barre, Oswego County, N. Y. After their marriage they settled in Iowa. Isaac K. was a member of a party that made the governmental survey of Iowa. In 1875 he migrated to California where he settled, for four years, in Fresno County, afterwards locating for two years in Santa Cruz County. In 1881 he returned to Fresno County where he purchased forty acres of land located five miles north of Selma. He passed away in 1890, at the age of seventy-one years.

The mother was a woman of considerable business ability and, after the death of her husband, very successfully managed the home ranch. Her death occurred in 1913, at the age of seventy-nine. She was the mother of six children, three boys and three girls, the subject of this review, John J., being the fifth child and the youngest boy. He spent the first nine years of his life on his father's farm in Iowa, and in 1875 accompanied his parents to California. He attended the high school at Selma, after which he supplemented his education by a course in the academy at Tulare. Having decided to become a teacher he took the required examinations and received his certificate. In the fall of 1887, he assumed the cares and responsibilities incident to the life of an instructor, following this profession for four years.

In 1891, Mr. Vanderburgh accepted a position with Chappel & Lyon, the publishers of The Irrigator, at Selma, Cal. Possessing a penchant for journalistic work, and catching a vision of the future importance of the publishing business, he soon became so deeply interested in his new field of endeavor that he purchased Mr. Chappel's interest in the paper, in 1892, and from that date until 1897 the business was conducted under the name of Lyon & Vanderburgh. At the latter date, Mr. Vanderburgh purchased the interest held by Mr. Lyon, thus becoming the sole owner of the Irrigator. He is a man of ability and wields a strong influence for good in the promotion of every worthy movement that has as its aim the upbuilding of the educational, commercial and civic interests of Selma.

An important epoch, in the life of this successful citizen of Selma, began upon September 11, 1889, when he was united in marriage with Isabelle Bowen, a native of Missouri. She arrived in Fresno County on Christmas Day, 1885. Mrs. Vanderburgh is a daughter of Levi Bowen, a native of New Jersey. Her mother in maidenhood was Maria Zuck, a native of Pennsylvania. Mrs. Vanderburgh's maternal great-great-grandfather, Abraham Morris, was a lineal descendant of Robert Morris, the American patriot who used his personal funds to purchase supplies for the American army, during the Revolutionary War.

Abraham Bowen, the grandfather of Mrs. Vanderburgh, married a granddaughter of John Marshall, the ex-chief justice of the Supreme Court of the United States. Levi Bowen, the father of Mrs. Vanderburgh, was a successful pioneer farmer in Schuyler County, Mo. Her mother passed away only a year ago at the advanced age of ninety-six and one-half years. Mrs. John J. Vanderburgh was the twelfth child of a family of thirteen. She received her education in Missouri, at the Kirksville Normal School. For three years prior to her coming to California she was engaged in teaching. At present she is ably assisting her husband in editorial and office work on the Irrigator. They have had three children: Zoe, a graduate of the Selma High School and the Normal School at Fresno, taught in the Selma grammar school for three





Frank Bass



years, and is now married to Clarke W. Crocker, graduate of Stanford University; Isabelle, is a third-year student at the Selma High School; the other child, a son, died in infancy.

Fraternally, J. J. Vanderburgh is a Mason, being Past Master of Selma Lodge, F. & A. M. He is also a member of the local lodge of Odd Fellows and has passed all the chairs; and is affiliated with the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and Woodmen of the World. His public-spiritedness and keen interest in civic affairs, was duly recognized by the community in his selection as a member of the city board of trustees. He is a member of both the Raisin Growers and Peach Growers associations, also of the Chamber of Commerce. Mrs. Vanderburgh is interested in both the Red Cross and Belgian Relief work.

**FRANK CASS.**—One of the most enterprising and active citizens of Fresno County is Frank Cass who, from the time that he was first able to start out for himself, has been doing things with a view to improvement and expansion. He was born in Connecticut, in August, 1863, and was reared and educated among the down-east Yankees who had something more to their credit than wooden nutmegs. His father was Nicholas Cass, born in Ireland, Queens County, who came to Connecticut with his mother and there he was educated and married Catherine Clansey, a Canadian.

Nicholas Cass was well versed in both tempering and sharpening metal, and so came to be a skilled tool-maker. This business brought him out to the Golden State in 1850, and here he followed his trade, attaining rapidly a popularity with miners, whom he supplied with what they then so much needed—tools that would do the work. He stayed in California a few years and then returned to the East; and on the breaking out of the Civil War, he joined a Connecticut regiment and served the cause of the Union until the close of the great struggle, after which he followed farming until his death. Eight children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Nicholas Cass, but only two of them are now living. These are Frank, our subject, and his brother, A. J. Cass, now a vineyardist in Enterprise Colony.

Frank Cass spent his childhood on the farm in Connecticut, receiving a good education in the public schools. In 1883, when the nation needed men to protect the pioneers in the West, who were the advance-guard of civilization, from Indian interference, he gave five years of service in the regular army, enlisting June 1, 1883, in Troop B, Seventh United States Cavalry, and being sent to Fort Meade as his headquarters, and from there he served in different parts of the West. In one campaign of seventeen months, his detachment brought old Sitting Bull back from Canada, and in the spring following this he was in a party that prevented the half-breed chieftain Reel from crossing into the United States from Canada, on his expedition of depredations. After five years' service Mr. Cass was honorably discharged in June, 1888, at Fort Sill, I. T.

From a boy, Mr. Cass had been greatly interested in the stories his father told of the wonders of California, the land of gold and sunshine, and he early decided that as soon as opportunity afforded he would locate on the Pacific Coast. As soon as he was discharged from the army he immediately came to California, first locating in San Luis Obispo County, but attractive as he found that region, in 1890 he came down to Fresno and the following year bought his first farm of twenty acres. This was some of the choice land in Enterprise Colony, and Mr. Cass and his brother were among the first to make a beginning in the colony. He was pleased with Clovis and retained the tract as long as he could; but he was finally obliged to abandon it on account of the hard times of 1893-94. In 1897, trusting that conditions had improved, he bought the place back again and improved it further but in 1906 he sold it once more at a good profit, and fortunately moved nearer to his ultimate goal.

He then came to Sanger and purchased 100 acres on Kings River, which he still owns. It is bottom land and produces an abundance of grass. For some years he engaged in dairying but gradually drifted into cattle-raising, in which he has been very successful, it being demonstrated that his meadow will keep two animals to the acre. He also purchased a ranch of 320 acres lying eight miles northeast of Academy, which he uses for winter range. He has also built a residence, and suitable farm buildings, and has utilized a mountain spring for irrigating his field of alfalfa, making a splendid stock ranch. He also owns a 120-acre ranch on Pine Ridge where there is an apple orchard that produces very fine fruit. Taking it all in all, Mr. Cass is a very successful and enterprising man, who has established an enviable record.

In 1898, Mr. Cass was married to Miss Nalilla A. Turman, a native daughter from El Dorado, Cal., whose people were among the early settlers at Coloma, having come to the Golden State not later than 1850. Thus in the lives of both Mr. and Mrs. Cass are elements connecting them with the history of the Pacific Slope and enrolling them with those who have paved the way, for thousands, to a glorious future.

**JAMES G. FRIKKA.**—Prominent among the men of affairs in Fresno County, and especially well-known among the leaders of Clovis and closely identified with its wonderful development, is James G. Frikka, who first came to California in the early seventies. He is a native of Dalby, Jutland, Denmark, where he was born on October 18, 1848. When he was a little boy, his father died; and his mother having remarried, the lad was raised in Dalby and there attended the public school until he was fourteen. He learned farming, and when he had grown to manhood he married there Miss Anna K. Petersen. He continued to follow agriculture for a livelihood until, hearing of the wonderful opportunities in California, he concluded to leave Denmark and to try his fortunes in the New World.

In 1872 he crossed the ocean to New York and made for New Jersey, where he found employment for a year in an iron mine. Having kept the goal toward which he started ever before him, however, in 1873, he pushed on west, and at length reached Solano County, near the Montezuma Hills. He was in the employ of Mr. McDonald for a year, and then went to the Redding-ton mine in Napa County, for another year. After that he came to Greenville, Plumas County, where he worked in the Green Mountain Mine and the National Mine, as a miner, until 1879; and in April of that year, passing through Fresno, he came to Tombstone, Ariz., where he was employed as a miner, and especially later as a shift boss, at the Top Knot Mine for the Tombstone Mining and Milling Company. His work there lasted five years.

In 1885, however, when a strike caused the closing down of the works, Mr. Frikka went back to Denmark, to his wife, whom he had left there with a baby; and he remained there from June of that year until April, 1886. He had a little property in Denmark, and as his wife did not like to leave there, he bought some more at auction. Meantime some property in Tombstone had called him back to America, the trip being necessary properly to guard his interests; and not long after, the auction property in Denmark was knocked down to him and he had to cross the ocean again to take charge of that. On his return to his native land, he undertook the management of a farm and hotel; and at this he continued for eighteen years. His family meanwhile increased. The oldest child, Marie, had migrated to Fresno County, Cal., and his son Hans had come out to Fresno when fifteen; and as Mr. Frikka always liked California and still longed to return here, and the mother finally showed a desire to come, Mr. Frikka sold out and prepared to move to America, once and for all.

The family arrived in Fresno in 1902, and joined the son and daughter already here. Mr. Frikka engaged in grain farming on the Sample ranch,

and ran three, ten and sometimes twelve mule teams, tilling about 3,000 acres. A dry year, with rust, coming upon him, he was nearly ruined; however, he kept on for eight years more, but in 1910 sold his outfit and bought his present place. He obtained forty acres of stubble land in the Fincher Colony, and there he set out a vineyard and a peach orchard and planted some of the land to alfalfa. This choice property is under the Gould Ditch, and he has a fine pumping plant. With his sons, Hans and Andrew, he has also bought twenty of the adjoining acres, and these he has set out to vines. He has built a fine residence, with an avenue of fig trees. There are twenty acres of alfalfa and fifteen acres of raisin and muscat grapes, and the balance of the land is given up to peaches. He is an active member of the California Peach Growers, Inc., and of the California Associated Raisin Company.

Mr. and Mrs. Frikka have five children. Marie, Mrs. J. C. Thomsen, lives in the Enterprise Colony; Carrie is Mrs. Jensen, of the Grau Colony; Hans and Andrew are in the United States Army, Hans in the Thirty-first Infantry, serving in Siberia, and Andrew in the Three Hundred Sixty-fourth Regiment, Ninety-first Division, United States Expeditionary Forces in France, with which he served in the Battle of the Argonne Forest and at Ypres, Belgium; and Josie lives at Fresno. The family attend the Lutheran Church and encourage and support every worthy movement for the uplift of the community. Mr. Frikka is a member of the Odd Fellows, having joined in Tombstone, Ariz., but is now a member of the Kolding Lodge in Denmark. In national politics a Democrat, he enthusiastically supports all local movements without regard to party lines.

**MRS. MARGARET MULLIGAN.**—A native daughter, the widow of a genuine '49er and one of Sonoma's famous pioneers, who is generous-hearted and liberal to a fault, and in her old-time hospitality recalls the brilliant days of early California, when no stranger was turned away uncared for and without cheer, is Mrs. Margaret Mulligan, whose husband passed away in 1914, mourned by many friends. Born in St. Louis, Mo., from which city came so many of the best pioneers of the new commonwealth destined to be formed this side of the Rockies, William Mulligan came to California by way of the Isthmus in 1849, and settled at Healdsburg, and in 1868, in Alexander Valley, Sonoma County, he married the lady who now so well honors his name. Before her marriage she was Margaret Alexander, the daughter of Cyrus and Rufina (Lucero) Alexander, her father coming from Pennsylvania, while her mother was a native daughter proud enough of her origin. He was one of the early settlers in Sonoma County, and was a member of the Bear Flag party that played such an historic role in the annals of the Golden State. Having come to that section early, he acquired a vast stretch of territory; and this was called Alexander Valley. Twelve children were born to this couple, only five of whom grew up; three are still living, a fourth having passed away recently: Margaret, the subject of our very interesting sketch, is the eldest of the four; Joseph, who was a large ranch-owner at Santa Rosa, died at that place, in April, 1918; Thomas resides in Alexander Valley, and George lives at Healdsburg.

Margaret attended the public schools in Alexander Valley and the Young Ladies' Seminary at Healdsburg, and in 1868 she was married to William Mulligan. They at once began to farm in Alexander Valley and in time Mr. Mulligan had a ranch of 500 acres of vineyard. This involved much responsibility, expense and labor; and when the panic came, due to low prices, he found that he had so over-reached himself that he was all but ruined.

With characteristic and commendable courage, however, Mr. and Mrs. Mulligan started all over again by coming to Selma, in January, 1894, and purchasing thirty-five acres, which they improved in various ways. In 1914 they built a large and attractive bungalow as their country residence, but in June of that same year Mr. Mulligan died. Mrs. Mulligan still lives on the

home place, a devout member of the Roman Catholic Church at Selma, while in politics she is a supporter of the Progressive party.

Mr. and Mrs. Mulligan had ten children, most of whom growing up, have become hard-working, progressive and highly respected citizens. Their children are: William A., a railroad man who married Edith Gross and has one child, Genevieve, and resides in Los Angeles; Leo Vincent, single, is a rancher near Selma; Inez, single, lives at home; Julian, who married Mae Felters, by whom he has had one child, George William, is a bee man and lives five miles to the north; Francis M., who married Alameda Cunningham, has one child, Jack, and works at the fruit company's packing house at Selma; Teresa, single, a graduate of the University of California, is a teacher in the Haywood High School; Lewis, a rancher living five miles to the north, is single; Fred, who married Emma Metzler, owns a twenty-acre ranch five miles south of Selma and also rents the old home ranch here; Margaret Cecilia, who died on July 4, 1895; and Genevieve, who died on November 14, 1916.

For many, many years two of the most honored names in California pioneer history will be those of the path-breakers and empire-builders, Cyrus Alexander and William Mulligan, recalling their heroic work and that of their devoted wives and families.

**JOHN DUNKEL.**—A kind and helpful early settler in the Kutner district, who is well liked and who, with his brother George, also an early settler in these parts, did much toward the wonderful development of Central California, is John Dunkel, the well-known vineyardist, who hails from the picturesque republic of Switzerland. He was born at Schaffhausen, Switzerland, on March 12, 1859, the third oldest of six children, and the son of George Dunkel, who was a clever cooper. He was educated in the excellent public schools of Switzerland, and when eighteen was apprenticed to a brewer in Canton Zurich. Here he remained three years, and then, according to the custom of his country and his time, he went as a journeyman brewer to Germany, Belgium, and France, working from place to place and gathering a wider experience than would have been possible had he remained in Switzerland; and he visited Paris in particular. Returning to his native country, he entered the Swiss army when he was twenty-one, and served the required time as a soldier in Division Six of the Sixty-first Regiment; and finally received the coveted honorable discharge.

In 1882, Mr. Dunkel came to America, landing in New York City, and soon found employment on the upper Hudson, near Albany, with a farmer. He began to find the winters, however, too cold, and hearing of the wonderful climate of California he determined to push further west and see for himself what the Pacific Slope had to offer. In December, 1883, John Dunkel landed in San Francisco, and after taking a good look at the western metropolis he went to Napa, where he found employment on a ranch at Yountville. He liked his surroundings, and he remained for four years; and then coming to Sonoma County he secured good employment on a ranch near Sonoma, where he remained until 1890.

In that year he returned to his old home across the ocean on a visit, and while there was married to Miss Christene Wilmer, a native of Germany, and one who was well fitted by experience and temperament to be his helpmate. After nine months in his native land he entered the Swiss army again for eighteen days, as he had taken out only his first papers leading to American citizenship; but in 1891 he returned to California and located in Sonoma, where he once more engaged in ranch work.

In 1904, Mr. Dunkel fortunately turned to Fresno County, and here entered the employ of his brother George, who had a vineyard in the Kutner district, and was a very successful viticulturist. He worked for him for four years, and during this time bought thirty acres adjoining his brother's place,



John Dunkel



which he also set out as a vineyard. In 1908, he bought forty acres of his brother, and continued as a viticulturist for himself, his two sons being associated with him in ranching. Finding that they had somewhat more land than they needed, they sold twenty acres of the ranch in January, 1918, and now have a fine tract of fifty acres, thirty of which are devoted to malaga shipping grapes and twenty acres to muscat raisin grapes. They are also leasing forty-five acres adjacent devoted to malagas and muscats. Mr. Dunkel has built a handsome residence, and made many needed improvements, and as a member of the California Associated Raisin Company is justly proud of his estate. He has an electrical pumping-plant for irrigation, and this furnishes him also with electric lights for his place.

The two sons, who further honor John Dunkel's name are: Frank, farming with his father; and Herman, who served in the Three Hundred Sixty-first Regiment, Ninety-first Division, U. S. A., overseas, for nine months, taking part in the battles of the Argonne and Odenard, Belgium; he was honorably discharged, May 5, 1919, and is now engaged in ranching with his father and brother. The Dunkels are greatly interested in every civic movement for the bettering of the State and the community, support the best men and measures in local affairs, and do their part in national politics in the ranks of the Republican party.

**LEWIS JACOBSEN.**—A veteran sower in the wide fields of spiritual endeavor, who has also reaped, and abundantly, in the harvests of successively fruitful years, is Lewis Jacobsen, the rancher who owns forty acres on the Canal School Road and there lives retired as a Danish Baptist preacher. He was born on March 8, 1842, at Jutland, near Aalborg, in Denmark, and was brought up in that country. He early joined the Baptist Church there, and at the age of twenty-two entered the Baptist College at Hamburg, where he studied theology. On his return to Denmark, he was ordained as a Baptist minister, and for ten years he traveled in Denmark as a general missionary of the Baptist Conference.

In 1874 he came to the United States and Minnesota, and for four years was a missionary in the Danish Baptist Church in this country, and did missionary work in Kansas, Illinois, Iowa, Wisconsin and Minnesota, when he was regularly ordained as a minister. Thousands owe to this good and untiring expounder of the Gospel, who brought to them the Bread of Life, their encouragement to endure in the hard struggle against the forces of sin, and their ability to find the paths that led to green meadows and pleasant waters.

At Clarks Grove, in Freeborn County, Minn., the Reverend Jacobsen was married on July 18, 1878, to Elizabeth Matilda Jensen, who was born at Tisdad in Jutland, Denmark, on September 27, 1850. Her father was Jens Jensen, who married Annie Nelson, and he was a well-known storekeeper in the section in which he lived. She was an only child, and her mother died when she was nineteen. Her father married again, and he very much desired her to accompany him to America. At that time, having visited England and learned English there, she had an excellent position as ladies' maid to the Countess Gravenkoep Castenskold, but she yielded to her father's request, and accompanied him and her step-mother to America, and arrived in Chicago in 1873. There she was converted and became a Christian, and joined the Baptist Church; and it was thus that she came to meet her husband, who was doing missionary work there.

Seeing that the hard work of his ministry was telling on his health, Mr. Jacobsen was persuaded to resign from the pulpit, whereupon his parishioners and friends purchased for him a farm in Minnesota, which he improved and sold. The new income gave him the means and opportunity to visit California, and leaving Clarks Grove, he and his good wife settled about one and a half miles east of Selma. Here they have worked hard and long and have prospered. They have never lost sight of the spiritual and religious



life so necessary to be eternally happy, and have sacrificed in order properly to bring up and educate their children, of whom they have had eight: Jacob, the first-born, died when he was three years old; Albert, whose birth occurred in Iowa on February 2, 1882, is a well-known rancher, living single, near Selma; Noah, who was born on March 9, 1884, in Iowa, married Martha M. Christensen, by whom he has had three children, and they are ranchers at Kingsburg; Jacob, the fourth-born, also died in infancy; David, who was born on June 6, 1886, in Wisconsin, died when six weeks old; Lewis, who was born on September 23, 1888, and who is pastor of the Baptist Church at Manhattan, Kans., graduated from the William Jewell College in Missouri and from the Rochester (N. Y.) Baptist Theological Seminary, and married Johanna Sorensen, who was formerly assistant postmaster at Selma; Emanuel, who was born on May 5, 1891, is a student at Redlands University, is single, and is licensed as a Baptist minister, and has just returned from France; and Arthur D., who graduated in 1917 from Redlands University and won a Harvard scholarship, and is now a student at Harvard.

This shepherd of the sheep, many will be sorry enough to learn, is now suffering from a stroke of paralysis, an affliction not so surprising perhaps, when one remembers that he has reached his seventy-seventh year and has so long been such a hard worker; but this physical burden has not in the least dimmed his faith, nor saddened his spirit.

**ROBERT J. COOPER.**—A well known and highly respected pioneer resident of the Selma section of Fresno County is Robert Jinks Cooper, popularly known as "Bob" Cooper. He came to this locality in November, 1875, when the land was little more than a desert waste, and with his own hands and team he assisted in digging the Centerville and Kingsburg ditch, more as an experiment, but which later proved the making of this section of the county. It is to such men that the county owes a debt of gratitude for making it "blossom as the rose."

Bob Cooper was born in Calaveras County, March 8, 1858, a son of Robert Bruce Cooper, born in Mississippi in 1822, who when he was eighteen went to Texas and farmed in Harrison County several seasons, after which he came to California in 1850 and followed mining for a few years. He took up a homestead near Milton, Calaveras County, and lived there until 1889, when he moved to Fresno County and lived with his children until he moved to Santa Cruz. He married Miss Alta Zara Lewis, also born in Mississippi but reared in Arkansas. They had five children: Samuel B., a rancher near Del Rey; Joseph H., a rancher at Selma; Mary, married Frank Cleary who died at Lindsay; Robert J., of this review; and Henry E., residing in Academy district. Mrs. Cooper died in 1872, in Calaveras County. Mr. Cooper spent his last days at Lindsay, dying at the age of ninety-one, in 1915. They were a fine pioneer couple and endured the privations of the early settlers. Mr. Cooper came from Texas, with saddle and pack mules, as far as Mazatlan, thence by boat to San Francisco, while Mrs. Cooper spent six months on the plains, making the journey from Mississippi with ox teams over the Santa Fe trail.

Bob Cooper is a native son and as such takes a pride in the welfare of the people and in the development of the country in general. His education was obtained in the public schools of the state and his early training was along agricultural lines. He came to Fresno County in 1875, looking for a favorable location, and at that time bought forty acres of land where he now lives and upon which he has spent his time and attention in bringing to a high state of development. He has been a hard worker and is a good manager. As one of the pioneers he has shown how to succeed in cultivating the desert lands. Selma was not known and the nearest station and switch was at Kingsburg on the south and at Fowler on the north. There were three of the Cooper boys who settled in Fresno County and took up homesteads or bought

railroad land in 1876, Samuel, Bob and Joseph, and all of them have made good by their wise investments. The Kingsburg and Centerville ditch proved a success and made it possible to grow the peach and raisin grape in this section. This was the first successful irrigation system in this part of the county.

In 1883, on the day before Christmas, at Visalia, R. J. Cooper and Miss Kate L. Mann, were united in marriage. Mrs. Cooper was born in the San Ramon Valley, Contra Costa County, on February 19, 1864, a daughter of Elson Mann, born in Indiana and a pioneer of California of 1849, in which year he crossed the plains and made settlement in what is now San Benito County, and later lived in Tulare County until 1896, when he came to Fresno County. He spent five years here and then moved to Santa Rosa. He served in the Mexican War under Colonel Doniphan. Mr. and Mrs. Cooper endeared themselves to their many friends by their many acts of kindness and by their integrity. Mrs. Cooper died on April 15, 1919, mourned by a wide circle of friends by whom she was held in the highest esteem for her generosity, genial disposition and Christian character. Mr. Cooper is a member of Selma Parlor, No. 107, N. S. G. W., and has passed all the chairs of the lodge. He is a Republican.

**WILLIAM JOHNSON.**—Over forty years a citizen of Fresno County, is a record of which but few of the present residents of this great commonwealth can boast, but such is the fact revealed by the biographical sketch of the honored pioneer and vineyardist, William Johnson, who for the past twenty years has resided on his highly improved ranch situated on the lower Reedley road, in the Parlier district.

William Johnson, a native of Sweden, was born in Oeland, October 26, 1849, a son of Johan and Kaissa Breta (Anderson) Jacobson, both natives of Sweden, and now deceased. Johan Jacobson owned a landed estate and was a well-to-do farmer. Three children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Johan Jacobson: William, the subject of this sketch, and the eldest; John, a rancher, who died at Kingsburg, Cal., leaving a widow and two children; Elina, the wife of Peter Gustafson, a contractor and builder of Oeland, Sweden, and they reside on the old Jacobson place.

William Johnson was educated in the public schools of Sweden and reared on his father's farm until he was nineteen years of age, when he decided to become a sailor and to see more of the world. His first experience in following the sea was on a Norwegian liner sailing between Bremerhaven and Quebec. He followed the life of a sailor for six years and during this time visited many of the world's leading seaports, in France, England, Germany, Norway, Sweden, South America, China, Cuba, America, the Mediterranean seaports in Africa, and twice made the trip through the Suez Canal. During the last two years of his seafaring life he sailed on American ships and it was on one of these vessels that he arrived on the Pacific coast in 1874, and during that year he stayed awhile in San Francisco, the next year locating in Fresno County, where he found employment working on farms, which he followed for two years.

In 1878 he bought 640 acres of land seven miles east of Fresno, where he commenced farming operations for himself and began to raise grain, but the undertaking failed to prove a financial success.

Undaunted by his great financial loss, and determined to succeed in ranching, he started in business the second time, this time choosing viticulture, and for the purpose he purchased a small tract of land near Kingsburg, in Tulare County, which he set out to muscat vines and, after improving twenty acres, sold it, and then purchased another piece of raw land which he also improved and sold. In 1906 he purchased his present place of forty acres of highly improved land, which is considered one of the most productive ranches in the Parlier district, sixteen acres being planted to muscat grapes,

four acres each to malaga, sultana, and Thompson seedless grapes, four acres are devoted to Muir peaches, two to prunes, all being in bearing. The place is improved with a commodious country residence and it is here that Mr. Johnson makes his home, but, owing to the present difficulty in obtaining farm laborers, he has for the time being rented his ranch.

In 1880, William Johnson was united in marriage with Matilda Joranson, a native of Sweden who came to Fresno County with her brothers and sisters. She passed away in 1888, leaving one child, John O. Johnson, the owner of a forty-acre ranch north of Lone Star, Fresno County.

The second marriage of William Johnson occurred in 1898, when he was united with Mrs. Hilma Nelson, widow of B. P. Nelson, of Kingsburg, Cal. She was a native of Sweden and in maidenhood was Hilma Danielson. Her death occurred in 1913, leaving two children by William Johnson: Gust, who is now nineteen years old and is at present employed at farm work; Henry, who is attending the grammar school in the Ross district.

By her former marriage, Mrs. Johnson was the mother of four children: Mable, Charles, Benjamin, and Hildor Nelson; but after their mother's marriage to William Johnson, all of the children took the name of Johnson. Mable is now the wife of Albert Peterson, a rancher in Tulare County near Kingsburg; Charles married Miss Callie Madsen, of Parlier, and is now foreman of the American Vineyard Company, at Hanford; Benjamin married Miss Christine Madsen, of Parlier, and is now renting subject's ranch; Hildor is the wife of Earl English, who served his country in France.

William Johnson is a man of sterling worth and has decided religious convictions, is a leading member of the Swedish Lutheran Church at Kingsburg, and was a member of the building committee for the beautiful new church which cost \$20,000 and which was dedicated April 28, 1918. Politically, Mr. Johnson registers as a Republican, and is ready to aid every movement for the upbuilding of the community.

**J. L. SKOONBURG.**—Swedish energy and American opportunity are a combination that will produce results, as illustrated in the case of Mr. Skoonburg. He was born in the Province of Skaane, Sweden, May 2, 1856. His father owned about an acre of land and worked at farm labor about the neighborhood. He died in Sweden, as did also the mother. There were four boys, but three of them are dead, and J. L. is the only one of the family now left.

While in his native land Mr. Skoonburg learned the bricklayer's trade, and this was at a time when the apprentice or laborer who did not drink was considered as not worthy of notice. Notwithstanding all this, he retained his manhood, and today he is a strong temperance advocate and a clean man.

In the early part of December, 1879, Mr. Skoonburg came to America, stopping but one week in New York. He went to Chicago, but being winter-time he went on to Indiana and worked on grading the Grand Trunk Railroad until the opening of spring, when he returned to Chicago and worked at his trade. He stayed in Chicago for seven years and then came to California, settling first in Kingsburg where he remained for one year, and then moved to Fresno. After a time he went to Visalia, and became a part owner in a brick yard, and was also an independent contractor in partnership with John Edsenhauser, of Visalia. During this time his family lived on a ranch at Sanger. His son having met with an accident, the father was compelled to give up his business at Visalia, which by this time had reached good proportions, and go to his farm at Sanger; later he sold out and went to Los Angeles to work at his trade, and remained there for two years. He then returned to Fresno County and bought a ranch of thirty acres on Church Avenue between Orange and East Avenues, and for the next twelve years devoted all of his time and energies to make it yield good crops. He sold out in 1919 and removed to Fresno where he purchased a home on Glenn Avenue and intends to live a retired life.

Mr. Skoonburg was married in Chicago to Ellen Bartelson born in Sweden. She died leaving one child, a son, Arthur Skoonburg, who practiced medicine in San Francisco for ten years. He volunteered for service in the World War, was commissioned a lieutenant and went into training at Fort Riley, Kans. After his discharge from duty he came to Fresno and is now resident physician at the Sample Sanitorium. Mr. Skoonburg's second marriage united him with Mrs. Mary Marmaduke, a widow with one son, Millard Marmaduke, in the employ of the Santa Fe Railroad, married and lives at Calwa. Mrs. Skoonburg was born in Missouri, a daughter of William Brewer, and had lived for years in Kansas City. Mr. and Mrs. Skoonburg are members of the First Methodist Episcopal Church in Fresno.

Mr. Skoonburg takes an active interest in the growth and progress of Fresno and Fresno County and is an active member of the Raisin Growers' Association. His success is due entirely to his own efforts.

**OREN FRED PACKARD.**—A native son of the Golden State. O. F. Packard is the owner and manager of the Merchants Night Patrol of Fresno, which he organized in 1903 and for fifteen years has successfully operated to the entire satisfaction of his large clientele among the best business concerns of the city. He was born in San Francisco, November 19, 1867, a son of Cyrus C. and Sophia Addie (Merriam) Packard, both natives of Maine. In 1859, the parents and four children sailed from Boston to San Francisco, where the father engaged in contracting and carpenter work. Mr. and Mrs. Packard were the parents of seven children, four of whom were born in Maine and three in California.

In 1882, the family moved to Fresno, where the father with his two oldest sons established the Valley Truck and Transfer Company, and were the first to do trucking on a large scale in Fresno. The home of C. C. Packard was at 1430 I Street and at the same place the office and barns of the transfer company were located. Mr. C. C. Packard, in the early days of Fresno, had a hog ranch and vineyard in the West Park district. He passed away in 1907, his widow surviving him until December 19, 1917.

Oren F. Packard received his early schooling in San Francisco, and after moving to Fresno he worked for his father and brothers in the transfer business, later on taking over the business and conducting it himself for twenty years. After selling the transfer business, in 1903, he established the Merchants Night Patrol, in the business section of Fresno, which enterprise he still continues to operate. At one time O. F. Packard had charge of a fifty-acre vineyard and hog ranch. He was a member of Company F, California National Guards, for fourteen years, and for seven years was sergeant of the organization; he is president of the Fresno Volunteer Firemen's Association and for many years was a member of the old volunteer fire department, and also took an active part in baseball when Fresno was a member of the State League.

Politically, Mr. Packard is a Republican; he takes an active interest in politics, and has a large circle of friends and acquaintances in the city wherein he has resided for so many years.

**WARREN G. NASH.**—In looking at the grand and stately oak tree we are apt to forget the small acorn from which it grew, and think only of its beauty and stately magnificence. It is quite as true of many of the great enterprises of this work-a-day world that have sprung from comparatively small beginnings. We look and wonder and our mind is focused on the attainment rather than the source from which it sprung.

In the famous Libby-McNeil products that cover a range of everything delectable for the table from meats and vegetables to the delicious fruits of the tropics, we have an ocular demonstration of what can be evolved from a small beginning. In 1867, A. A. Libby and A. McNeil first handled fresh meats in a small way in the city of Chicago, then began experimenting with

varying success in the preservation of beef and tongues, finally attaining the success they were searching for. Only the regular cuts of beef and tongues were first used, all the remainder, except the hide of the animal, not being considered available. Today not the smallest piece goes to waste, every particle having some value, either edible, medical or for manufacturing purposes, and their products are no longer confined to the preservation of meat, but vegetables of all varieties and delicious fruits are placed upon the world's market for the delectation of the appetite of rich and poor. Long since exceeding their original circumscribed boundaries in the Windy City, their establishments are to be found in all climes, from Illinois and other states of the Union to far-away Hawaii and Alaska. Appreciating the possibilities and advantages of the favored section in which the city of Selma, Fresno County, Cal., is situated, in 1911 ground was broken for the first section of their plant at Selma. Additions have been made from time to time under the direction of Superintendent Warren G. Nash, until the plant now covers 200x700 feet of the ground space comprised in their seventeen acres, and is the largest fruit and vegetable cannery on the Pacific Coast, excepting the Libby, McNeil & Libby Canning factory at Sacramento.

Warren G. Nash, the able superintendent of Libby, McNeil & Libby's plant at Selma, is a native son of California. Large both in stature and mental ability, handsome, able and good natured, he is without doubt Selma's largest fruit and vegetable buyer and employer of labor.

Mr. Nash is a San Jose boy, born in that city, November 11, 1866, the son of Van Buren Nash, a native of Maine who crossed the Isthmus as a young man nineteen years of age in 1851, and, like other adventurous spirits of those memorable days, wended his way to the gold mines. Later he went to San Jose, where he farmed, and still later, in 1870, located in Hollister, San Benito County, Cal. Here his son, Warren G., attended the public schools, afterwards taking a course in a commercial college at San Jose. He then tried his hand at farming, contracting, road and bridge building. He was married at San Jose to Miss Alice M. Woods, daughter of George W. Woods, an old pioneer, and after marriage settled in San Jose where he followed contracting for several years, then began in the orchard industry from whence he drifted into the general contracting business, building roads, bridges, foundations, etc.; afterwards going to San Francisco, where he engaged in the fruit canning business with the California pioneer fruit-canning firm of the Gibbs, Wilson Company. He afterwards became instrumental in promoting the Winters Canning Company at Winters, and later the cannery at Suisun, Cal. In 1913 he disposed of his interests there and went to work for Libby, McNeil & Libby at Selma, as superintendent, succeeding Mr. Frank Heatherington.

The factory is five times as large as when Mr. Nash first took charge of it. Among the products of the factory, canned in Libby, McNeil & Libby's matchless way, are apricots, sweet potatoes, grapes, plums, pears, spinach, pumpkins and squashes. They also pack table and cooking raisins, and put up six grades of the various kinds of fruits: special extra; extra; extra standard; standard; second; and water or pie goods. In 1917 they used ten thousand tons of fruits, etc., of which seven thousand tons were brought in by farmers in the vicinity of Selma, and three thousand tons were shipped in. The Selma cannery puts up a product valued at more than a million dollars per year, and employs ninety people the season round, increasing the number to seven hundred during the busy season, their army of workers being drawn as largely as possible from Selma. They have a cafeteria and also a restaurant on the premises where wholesome meals and lunches are served at about cost, to employees. Near the office and superintendent's room is the "first aid" room, specially set apart and used for emergency cases, where the best first aid equipment is always at hand. Ladies' and gentlemen's dressing-rooms give opportunity for the employees to change their street garb for canning-house attire. Sixty-one cottages for employees and their families

have already been built. Two wells 150 feet deep provide an abundance of pure water for all purposes, which is pumped by electric power into an elevated tank. They have the finest system of electric lighting on the Coast. All the electric wires for lighting are enclosed in electric conduits. Although buying their electricity from the San Joaquin Light and Power Corporation, the company keeps in reserve adequate steam engines. Superintendent Nash has bricked up the boiler-room in a very substantial way, making it doubly safe against fire. The company's premises are toward the south end of Selma and they have a side-track from the Southern Pacific Railway, where fourteen freight or refrigerator cars can be loaded or unloaded at one time. However, seven-tenths of their fruit is brought in by auto trucks or wagons and horses, the farmers now using auto trucks almost exclusively.

Superintendent Nash is ably assisted by Earl Womack, assistant superintendent; J. W. Aikin, office manager; and S. J. Townsend, warehouse foreman. They are all residents of Selma and heartily in sympathy with Selma's growth and development. Mr. Aikin, several years ago, helped secure the Carnegie Library for Selma.

Mr. Nash takes great interest in the success of the institution under his care, and is a highly respected and valued member of the city of Selma's board of trustees, having been elected to the office in 1916. He is a member of the Selma Chamber of Commerce, and of the San Jose Lodge of F. & A. M., the Elks, the Winters Lodge of Woodmen, and the San Jose Lodge of that order. He and his good wife are members of the Order of the Eastern Star at Suisun.

**JOHNSTON JOSEPHUS EDGAR.**—Men possessing the fundamental characteristics of which J. J. Edgar is heir, have ever been regarded as bulwarks of the communities in which they have lived. The life of J. J. Edgar, which this narrative sketches, began November 22, 1860, in Carroll County, Mo., but he was reared near Hardin, Ray County. He is the son of V. G. and Lucy (Donan) Edgar, who were blessed with six children, four of whom grew to maturity; three are now residing in California.

J. J. Edgar received a good education and fitted himself for the profession of teaching, which he followed for some years in Missouri. Except for the time spent in the pursuit of his profession, he has through his life time devoted his attention to agriculture, a vocation that brings a man so close to his Creator, that he sees in every bud and plant, every flower and petal, every leaf and dew drop, the working of a higher power. Mr. Edgar is a man of high ideals, who believes that to bring out the best that is in the soil, or in our hearts, we must work very close to and in harmony with nature's God.

In 1889, Mr. Edgar came from Missouri to California, coming directly to Fresno County and locating at Sanger. There being no empty houses in the new town he had to build a shack in which to live until he could do better. He worked in the lumber mill for a time and then took up farming and in 1902 he located on his present homestead, where he has since resided. Thirty-five acres are equally divided into vineyard and orchard and the balance is given over to ranch buildings and alfalfa. He has made all the improvements seen on the place and has made of his forty acres a very productive and attractive ranch home.

In March, 1884, in Missouri, Mr. Edgar was united in marriage with Elizabeth Mossbarger, daughter of Eli Mossbarger of Carroll County, Mo. Five children have been born of this happy union: Ethel L.; Mabel; Clarence M., a graduate of Sanger High School and with one year at Heald's Business College, in Fresno, to his credit, when he was called for special service during the World War and assigned to the Spruce Division at Vancouver, Wash., until the armistice was signed, when he was discharged; Cecil E., a graduate from the Sanger High School and the University of California at Berkeley, who entered the service of the United States, October 17, 1917, in the Machine



Gun Battalion, served in the 148th and 151st, saw sixteen months' service in France, and was discharged in May, 1919, and who will take up his university course in the law department where he dropped it when the call to the colors came; Joseph P., who graduated from the Sanger High School, took training at the University of Southern California for the Field Artillery, and was discharged soon after the signing of the armistice.

Mr. Edgar has always been interested in educational matters and for years has served as a trustee of the Sanger High School. He is a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, of Sanger, of which he is trustee and steward; he is a member of the Woodmen of the World. Mr. Edgar aids every movement for the advancement of the community. He was a promoter and is a member of the California Associated Raisin Company and the California Peach Growers, Inc.

**GARRETT E. ANDERSON.**—An interesting pioneer couple who, by hard labor and frugality have become well-to-do and now own and enjoy a fine home-place, are Mr. and Mrs. Garrett E. Anderson, for many years prominently identified with Fresno County. He was born near Herodsburg, Mercer County, Ky., on January 3, 1873, the son of Robert R. Anderson, a native of that state and a prosperous farmer. Robert R. tried to enlist in the Union Army but he was too young to be accepted, and his ruse of standing in high-heeled boots to overcome his short stature was also of no avail. While in Kentucky he married Margaret Jane Poulter, and in 1882 removed to Missouri, near Sedalia, Pettis County. As early as 1884 he came to California and Fresno, and was employed by different contractors, helping to build the Hughes Hotel. Seven years later, Mr. Anderson, with his wife and a daughter, returned east, leaving a son and a daughter here; and taking up his residence again in Kentucky, he resumed farming. In 1909 they returned to California and settled at Orleans Bar where, two years later, he died. Since then Mrs. Anderson, who has remarried and become Mrs. Goven, has returned to Kentucky to live. Eleven children were born of this union, but only three grew up. Laura A. is Mrs. Gay of Santa Barbara; Josie is Mrs. Sebastian, in Kentucky; and Garrett Edgar is the subject of our sketch. Brought up in Kentucky until he was eleven years old, Garrett then came to Fresno and attended the Hawthorne School, the only school here at that time. When he began to work, he took up viticulture; and when his father went east, he remained and continued the work in his vineyard.

During July, 1893, in the Kutner Colony, Mr. Anderson was married to Miss Elizabeth Rice, a native of Newark, N. J., and the only child of James Rice, a gas-maker there, who went to Texas and engaged in farming, but on account of three successive failures of crops he moved with his family to Fresno, in 1885, and entered the service of the Fresno Gas Company. He made gas for the concern and also showed them how to establish their business, and in 1890 he located in Kutner Colony on some raw land. Mrs. Anderson also went to the Hawthorne School, as well as to the school in Temperance Colony. Mr. Rice died February 16, 1915, and Mrs. Rice passed away in June, 1917. They were very generous and hospitable and assisted many of the early settlers to get a start.

For a season Mr. Anderson was in the employ of the Pine Ridge Lumber Company and then he went into the mountains with the Sanger Lumber Company. In the fall of 1898 he bought twenty acres adjoining the property of Mr. Rice, and began to engage in viticulture. He had a horse, and he built upon the ranch and otherwise much improved it; and he later bought ten acres, near the Kutner school-house, on which he resided for eight years. The original twenty acres, now in full-bearing muscats, Mr. Anderson still owns.

In the meantime this enterprising pioneer invested in a tract of sixty acres, in 1909, when the nearest vineyard was a mile away. He had







*Henry Kruse*

to poison off the horde of squirrels and jack rabbits before he could set his vines but he succeeded in making it a fine place. He built a residence, with the usual barns and outbuildings, and then bought, with Mr. Rice, a tract of forty acres near by, thirty-five of which he set out as a vineyard with muscat and shipping grapes, and several acres of alfalfa. He worked out, saved and invested his surplus in his ranch, and has become well posted in his line. This ranch, located five and a half miles southeast of Clovis, became one of the landscape, as well as agricultural, attractions in this section. However, in June, 1918, he sold this place and moved back to the old Rice home, which he and Mrs. Anderson still own, in connection with their original twenty acres. It is located on National Avenue, eleven miles east of Fresno, and is well improved, with a modern residence and a pumping plant. Mr. Anderson has supported the successive raisin and fruit associations, and he is now a member of the California Associated Raisin Company.

Thirteen children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Anderson, and all but two are now living. Josie is Mrs. Davis, of Kutner Colony; Robert B. is serving in a motor transportation company of the United States Army at Camp Merritt, N. J.; James S. was in Company K, Thirtieth Infantry, Third Division, serving overseas, and took part in the Battle of Chateau Thierry, France, and on July 28, 1918, was severely wounded by shrapnel and after recovery he returned to the United States and was honorably discharged, April 28, 1919; Marguerite J. is at home and so are Laura P., Ruth, Hester, Sarah, Albert, Garrett and Dorothy.

Mr. Anderson belongs to Fresno Lodge, No. 39, of the Eagles, and the Woodmen of the World at Fresno; and Mrs. Anderson and the family do their share in local social life. In national politics Mr. Anderson is a Democrat, but he favors the obliteration of party lines in local government; he has served as a trustee of the Red Bank school district.

**HENRY KRUSE.**—An enterprising Californian widely known as a viti-culturist, and who occupies an interesting place among local pioneers, having set out around his yard and gardens the first olive hedge seen hereabouts, is Henry Kruse, the son of Henry Kruse, a Westphalian agriculturist who, after a successful life, during which he enjoyed the esteem and good-will of many, died at the ripe old age of eighty-four. The mother, who was Fredericka Brinkmann before her marriage, lived to be one year older. She was the mother of six children. Hermann resides in Germany, as does also Mina, while Hermina (Mrs. Brock) died in that country; and Henry, August and Gustaf are all in California.

Born at Enger, in Westphalia, on July 27, 1859, Henry Kruse grew up on his father's farm and there first learned the rudiments of agriculture. Then he went to the agricultural college at Herford and at the age of nineteen graduated with full credentials, after which he supplemented his technical training with practical work as a day farmer. He was then made foreman, but when he had reached the age of twenty-one he entered military service in the Fifteenth Regiment of Westphalia, serving most of his time with the staff. Later, he was superintendent of a large ranch.

In the middle eighties, Mr. Kruse began to turn his thoughts toward the young republic in the New World, and in August, 1886, he crossed the ocean and came as far west as Fremont, Nebr. A winter there sufficed to convince him that he had not yet reached the goal he had dreamed of, and so he came to California in January, 1887, the first of the family to come as far west as the Pacific. He was fortunate in securing work on the Egger ranch, where he began at the bottom, finding it necessary to learn American conditions and problems, as well as Yankee ways; but in six months he was made second foreman. In that responsible post he continued for a couple of years, when he resigned in order to become superintendent of the Las Palmas vineyard, which he managed for four years. He was especially fortunate in his experiments in packing the raisins for market, and shipping them East.

In 1889, he bought his first land from Eggers—twenty-six acres of raw land now included in his home place; he improved the land, turned it into a vineyard for muscatels and an orchard for figs, laid out the grounds, and in time built his residence.

In 1892 Mr. Kruse made a trip to his old home, passing seven months at the residence of his beloved mother; and while in Germany, on August 21, he was married at Luebeck to Miss Anna Hilka, a native of that place and the daughter of William Hilka, a gardner of good repute. After his marriage and the usual farewells, Mr. Kruse returned to California, bringing with him his wife; and it was then that he built his residence, and set and reset his vineyard. Four children came to give life and happiness to the Kruse home: Frieda, now Mrs. H. Westrup, living near Enterprise; Margaret, a graduate of Heald's Business College, Fresno; Clara, who graduated in 1916 from the Fresno High School and in 1918 from the Fresno State Normal, and is now teaching in this county; and Ellen who is attending the Fresno High School. The family attend the German Lutheran Church in Fresno, of which Mr. Kruse was one of the founders and was for fourteen years a trustee and secretary of the board.

Twenty-six acres of land adjoining his place were bought by Mr. Kruse in 1896, and there he planted Muscat grapes. In 1906 he bought sixty acres of raw land from George C. Roeding in the Colimina Colony, and this acreage he set out to Malaga and wine grapes, with a few Muscats, while all around, and in avenues, he planted rows of figs. As an ornament to his olive hedge, he has trimmed some of the olive trees in the form of huge balls, and this is but one of many features which attract the attention of the passer-by to this notable place.

**JOHN T. WALTON.**—A prominent horticulturist and viticulturist of Sanger, and one whose success is the fruitage of thrift, industry, enterprise and integrity, is J. T. Walton, a native of Clarksville, Ark., where he was born on December 1, 1855. He is the son of Dr. Isaac A. and Mary Elizabeth (Perry) Walton, of an old and highly respected family of Tennessee, and who were the parents of eleven children: Joe; Timothy, who is now deceased; C. P.; Mrs. S. E. Cobb; J. T.; Isaac L.; Mrs. Belle Elder; R. L.; Hannah, who is now deceased; Philip J., and W. A.

Dr. Isaac Walton, with his family, migrated to California in 1880 and homesteaded a quarter section of land, on a part of which the present town of Sanger has been built, and a part of this ranch is now owned by J. T. Walton. Dr. Walton received his medical education at the Louisville Medical College in Louisville, Ky., and opened his first office at Clarksville, Ark., but on account of ill health, caused by too close application to his work, he began to seek a location where he could find relief. He was for a time in Texas, then located in Missouri, and from there he came to Fresno County, Cal., in 1880. With each of his moves he found temporary relief. He practiced medicine up to within a short time of his retirement. He was born in 1822 and died in 1899, aged seventy-seven years. His wife, who was born in 1829, died in 1893, at the age of sixty-four.

J. T. Walton is the owner of a fine ranch of eighty-two and one-half acres upon which he has peaches and raisin grapes. In 1917 he built a modern, ten-room stucco house of the bungalow style of architecture in which he and his family live in comfort and happiness.

In 1890, Mr. Walton was united in marriage with Augusta M. Hudspeth, born in Missouri, a daughter of Dr. J. D. Hudspeth, a Virginian, but later a resident of Fresno County, Cal. Mr. and Mrs. Walton are parents of six children: Charles LeRoy, a postgraduate of the University of California at Berkeley; Estey H., a graduate from the Corvallis Agricultural College, Corvallis, Ore., who enlisted and was assigned to the Forestry Department of the Twentieth Engineers, U. S. A., and has served at the headquarters of the First, Second and Third Divisions, attaining to the rank of sergeant, and is now with

the army of occupation at Coblenz; Nellie, a graduate of the Fresno Normal and a teacher; Isaac Aubrey; George, deceased; and Mildred.

J. T. Walton is a member of the Baptist Church, he and his wife being two of the eight charter members of the Baptist Church at Sanger, the first church organized in the town. Since its organization on January 6, 1896, at the home of Dr. J. D. Hudspeth, Mr. Walton has served in every office and has been one of its most active members. He maintained interest in the Sunday School in those early days, and today he is cheered by the sight of a vigorous church and Sunday School. In 1898, a small church building was constructed and in 1911 it was enlarged to meet the needs of the growing congregation and now it has a seating capacity of 500 and the property is valued at \$8,000, with a membership of over 160.

The Walton family has ever been loyal to church and state. The records of the nation show that its patriots have been connected with every war from Revolutionary Days to the recent World War. One of the signers of the Declaration of Independence was George Walton, and his son was one of the early Governors of the State of Georgia. The paternal great-grandmother of J. T. Walton was the first white woman in Nashville, Tenn.

Mr. Walton is highly respected in the community, where he has resided since 1884. He served four years as Justice of the Peace in Sanger.

**JORGEN LARSEN.**—When we speak of pioneers who have been instrumental in the building up of a community, whose life and character have been woven into the warp and woof of the county's fiber, we are not necessarily governed by the showing of financial success, but rather by the status of the man—his character and standing with his fellow men. This is the true evidence of actual worth in the upbuilding of a commonwealth. Jorgen Larsen, one of the pioneers of what is now the town of Reedley, is known throughout Fresno County for his honesty of purpose and upright life. He is a native of Denmark, where he was born July 10, 1860, a son of Lars and Dorothea Jorgensen, who were born, lived and died in Denmark.

Jorgen Larsen was reared and educated in his native land and worked on farms until he decided to come to the United States. He came direct to Fresno County, arriving in 1886, and began working for six bits to one dollar per day. His capital consisting of a determined will and an honest heart, which requisites proved sufficient for his success in his adopted country. His first enterprise was the taking up in 1888, of 160 acres of government land in Fresno County; his wages were put into the land, in improvements, which soon brought results, and he lived on this ranch for eight years. In 1896, he moved to Reedley, then a small hamlet. He next rented 120 acres of improved land, which he operated for two years, and at the end of that period, he had just five dollars to show for his two years' labor. He next rented eighty acres owned by the Sacramento Bank, across the road from the 120, and kept the place in such good condition that the owner offered to sell it to him on easy terms. This he could not do with his five dollars, as it was all the money he had to go on. On meditating the matter, however, he decided to buy it anyway, and therefore borrowed \$300 from a friend, with no security but his honest word. The deal was made and closed, and in four years' time Mr. Larsen cleared enough above his expenses to pay \$3,200 for the eighty acres of the ranch, which he set to raise grapes and later sold. Later he purchased 200 acres south of Reedley, for stock-raising purposes. He also bought twenty acres of improved land, north of Reedley.

In 1908, Mr. Larsen built a fine home in Reedley, and there lives in comfort and peace, enjoying a well earned rest from the toil of earlier years. In 1889 he was united in marriage with Miss Stina Jansen, who was born in Denmark in 1855, and who came to Fresno County in 1889, to marry her sweetheart of earlier years. One son, William, was born to them. This son was liberally educated and subsequently took a course in business college.

He is an expert accountant and is now cashier in the First National Bank of Reedley. He married Mrs. Elsie Ario-Larsen, in 1914, and one child has been born to them, a daughter, Marjorie.

Mr. Larsen has proved himself a true pioneer and a worthy man in whom the entire community has implicit confidence. His honest and straightforward course in life has proved his passport to any of the financial institutions in the county. He helped organize and is a stockholder in the First National Bank in Reedley. He still owns his ranches and his town property. Mrs. Larsen has been a worthy helpmate to her husband. They are members of the Danish Lutheran Church, and are Republicans in national affairs, but in local matters vote for the best men and measures.

**J. D. WILSON.**—A scientific viticulturist of wide and varied experience, who has ably managed some of the most valuable ranch properties in Central California, is J. D. Wilson, the secretary and treasurer of the Wilson Vineyard Company, of which his father, J. A. Wilson, is the president. The father was born in Rhode Island, and coming west engaged in the lumber business. He married Mary T. Wilson, and they are still living to enjoy the affection of their two children: Irene, Mrs. H. B. Foster, of Chicago; and J. D., the subject of this sketch. Developing rapidly in the wholesale lumber trade, J. A. Wilson had his headquarters awhile in Chicago, and for years or until he retired he was with the Witbeck Lumber Company. About 1905 he became interested in Fresno County and especially in the operations of the Behymer Company, which bought lands in this vicinity. They first developed a sixty-five-acre tract of orchard and vineyard in the Nees Colony, and then another twenty acres there. Later, they bought 320 in the Garfield Colony, which they set out to vines and orchard. About 1914 this company was dissolved, and then Mr. Wilson and his son took over 320 acres of their holdings, which they operated as the Wilson Vineyard, and which was incorporated in 1917 with J. A. Wilson as president and J. D. Wilson as secretary and treasurer, and manager.

The younger of the two children, J. D. Wilson, was born in Chicago in 1892, and brought up in the great city by the lake and at Madison, Wis. He spent the summers in northern Wisconsin, and went to school for the most part at Madison. After completing grammar school he entered a technological school, the Lewis Institute in Chicago, from which he went to the University of Wisconsin at Madison, and entered the Department of Agriculture, where he completed the special adult course. While at college, he belonged to the Phi Delta Theta.

When free to push out for himself into the world, young Mr. Wilson located in Fresno County in 1913, having first come here seven years before, and he took charge of his present place. Four years later, as has been stated, the Wilson Company was organized with its valuable properties, three miles north of Clovis, under the Enterprise Canal. There they have about eighty acres in vineyard, and raise for shipping both malaga and emperor grapes and also wine grapes. The vineyards are surrounded by a border of olive trees, and present a very attractive appearance. Twenty acres are devoted to a peach orchard in which there are Muir and Lovell and Alberta peaches. The balance of the land is given to hay and grain. Numerous improvements have been made, and there is a fine residence.

Mr. Wilson belongs to the California Associated Raisin Company and to the California Peach Growers, Inc. During his residence of Fresno County, Mr. Wilson was married to Miss Bettie Beveridge, a native of this County, and the daughter of George P. Beveridge, late manager of the California Wine Association, and they have one child, James Beveridge. Mrs. Wilson was graduated from the Dominican College at San Rafael, and like her husband she is a well-informed and attractive conversationalist. They are interested in all civic matters and in movements for local advancement. In national politics, Mr. and Mrs. Wilson are Republicans.







*E. F. Bartels.*

**EDWARD F. BARTELS.**—An enterprising developer of the natural resources of Fresno County is Edward F. Bartels, who was born near Bremen, Hanover, Germany, March 24, 1863. His father, also named Edward, was a well-known and successful contractor and builder until he retired; after years of usefulness and upright living he passed away at his home. His widow, who from last accounts is still living, was in maidenhood Christene Braas. She is the mother of seven children, six of whom are still living, Edward F. being the third in order of birth and the only one in the United States.

Mr. Bartels' youth was spent in obtaining an education in the excellent schools of his native land until the age of fourteen, when he was apprenticed and learned the carpenter's trade under his father, under whose able instructions he continued to work until 1886. In that year, finding he was exempt from military service and free to go to foreign lands, he decided to come to the Pacific Coast, a region in which he had become greatly interested. He crossed the Atlantic Ocean to Baltimore and came thence across the continent, arriving in Fresno in August, 1886. This was during the boom days, and he immediately found work as a carpenter with the firm of Smith and Pole and later with Riggins and Rehorn. He continued actively at the trade until 1890, when times became so dull, with no buildings going up, that it was difficult to get any work at carpentering. In 1889 he had purchased twenty acres just east of Locan, near National Avenue; so in 1890 he built a residence and other buildings and moved on the place, adding twenty acres more to it in 1891. He improved it energetically setting out the forty acres to Malaga and muscat grapes. When he purchased the place, raisins were selling for six or seven cents; but by the time his vineyard began producing, the Cleveland dull times came on and raisins were selling from one and one-quarter to one and one-half cents per pound. Thus, in order to pay interest and make payments, he had to work at his trade, building houses and carpentering for the ranchers. In this way he made his payments and got by. In 1900 he bought forty acres on Locan Avenue, his present home place, and began improving it. In 1902 he sold his first forty acres to Allan McNab and moved to his present place, where he has erected a large, comfortable residence and the necessary farm buildings, and has beautified the grounds with ornamental trees and hedges. He has added to his holdings and now has ninety-two acres in vineyards. The interurban railroad runs through his place, with a station called Bartel on his ranch, which provides a convenient shipping point at his door.

This fine property, however, does not measure the extent of Mr. Bartels' enterprise and ambition, for he has improved several other ranches. On Belmont Avenue he improved forty acres to vineyard and sold it in 1912. He also improved and sold eighty acres in Kutner Colony, and lately has acquired eighty acres on Belmont Avenue near Academy, which he intends setting to vines. All in all, he has been very busily engaged in improving Fresno County acreage.

During these years Mr. Bartels has made three trips back to the old home, first in 1895 and again in 1901. The last trip was taken in 1912, when he and all of his family made an extended tour of the different places of interest, returning home after a nine-months trip.

In Fresno, in 1888, occurred the marriage of Edward F. Bartels, when he was united with Annie Steinkamp, also a native of Hanover, who came to Fresno County in 1886. They have four children: Emma, Mrs. Dunklau, residing on a ranch in this community; and Minnie, Alma and Edward H., who reside with their parents.

Mr. Bartels is a liberal and public-spirited man, giving of his time and means, as far as he is able, to worthy movements that have for their aim the improvement of the county and of the social conditions of its citizens. He

was one of the original organizers of the German Lutheran Church in Fresno, and for many years a member of its board of trustees. He has been a member of, and active in advocating, the various raisin associations, from the first cooperative association under Theo. Kearney to the present California Associated Raisin Company, of which he is also a stockholder. He is a Republican and protectionist in politics.

**FREDERIC WILLIAM PINNIGER.**—A well-educated and highly intelligent viticulturist, and a good business man, who has a fine place of his own and who sees, in his vision of Fresno County, with its wonderful possibilities, a vast area with thousands of the most attractive of California homes, is Frederic William Pinniger, who first came to California in the early nineties. He was born at Stanton, St. Bernard, Wiltshire, England, on March 28, 1876, the son of Thomas Pinniger, who was a timber merchant there, and who married Louise Lane, by whom he had ten children. Both parents, honored and beloved, are now dead, and Frederic is the only one in the United States.

The third youngest in this interesting family, Frederic W. was educated at the private Mill Hill School in London, and after completing the excellent courses, entered the field of the timber trade, in which he was active for seven years. For five years he was at Newport, Monmouthshire, where he finished an apprenticeship running through the entire period. Then he went to London, where he was a couple of years in the office of a lumber merchant. In 1899, Mr. Pinniger came out to Winnipeg, Canada, and engaged in farming, but not finding conditions there to his liking, he traveled to see the country, and having well informed himself, he returned to England for six months. His next venture across the Atlantic brought him to North Dakota, which attracted him to settle, and where he engaged in farming, at Emerson, until 1903.

It was then that Mr. Pinniger came west to California and located at Fresno. He bought the forty acres on Belmont Avenue, later well known through his scientific and industrious husbandry, notwithstanding that they are eleven miles east of Fresno. Only ten acres were set out to vines when he took the property, but he planted the balance, devoting three acres to white figs. He has thirteen acres of muscats, and four of emperor and malaga grapes. Later, Mr. Pinniger sold one-half of his forty acres. He later bought another twenty acres one mile north of his place, and after improving the same with peaches, sold it at a profit. For years he has been an active supporter of the California Associated Raisin Company.

During a delightful sojourn at San Francisco, Mr. Pinniger was married to Miss Dorothy Akin Higgins, born in India but educated in England. She is a daughter of Captain Arthur Akin Higgins, a native of England, and late of the British Consular Service. Mr. and Mrs. Pinniger have one child, Mildred Louise. They are members of the Episcopal Church, and in national politics, they adhere to the Democratic party. Mr. Pinniger is active in the Independent Foresters Lodge of Fresno.

**WILLIAM T. ZIMMER.**—A successful oil man, who is also a poultry-fancier able to command results, is William T. Zimmer, the superintendent of the Pilot Oil Company, in which he is a stockholder. He was born at Meadville, Crawford County, Pa., on September 3, 1871, the son of Jacob A. Zimmer, a native of that state who was a lumberman. He died when William was eighteen months old, leaving a wife, who was Anna Oster before she was married. She was a native of Germany, crossed the ocean when she was only fifteen years of age, and settled in Pennsylvania. Now she resides at Cherryvale, Kans., the mother of three children, of whom our subject is the youngest.

He was educated at the public schools of Meadville, and when fifteen years old began the machinist's trade in the shops of the N. Y., P. & O.

Railroad, now the N. Y., L. E. & Western Railroad. Then he went to Erie, Pa., and was with the Erie City Iron Works, and then with the Stearns Mfg. Company in Erie. Having completed his trade, he came back to Meadville and worked as gang foreman in the railroad shops, remaining there until after the Carnegie strike.

About 1891 he went into the oilfields where he began work as a tool-dresser and in time became a driller, working in that capacity in the McDonald field, Pennsylvania. He continued until January, 1896, when he came to Neodosha, Kans., during the oil excitement there, as a driller of oil and gas-wells for the Standard Oil Company. At the end of two and a half years he went to Joplin, Mo., where he drilled prospect holes for lead and zinc. He was a contractor, and ran two strings of tools. Then he went back to Kansas to drill oil and gas wells for Mike McSweeney. After that he bought a string of tools and contracted for drilling in Kansas, in which he was very successful.

In 1899, Mr. Zimmer came to California for the Union Oil Company and went to work in Adam's Canyon, near Nordhoff, under the field superintendency of P. D. McConnell. Having again shown his skill as a driller, he went to Bakersfield at the time of the boom and for four years drilled in the Kern River field. Next he went to Modesto, Cal., and was with the Mt. Ozo Oil Company, for which concern he put down a test well. The year 1901 found him at Longmont, Colo., where for a year he was wildcatting for the Ohio Oil Company, at the end of which time he went back to Kansas. He was in Chanute as driller for Esperson, and then he went to Oklahoma as a driller in the Osage Country. He drilled the first oil well struck in Cherryvale, Kans., and then went to the Atoka country, Oklahoma, where he drilled a wild cat, and then came back to Kansas.

On March 30, 1908, Mr. Zimmer came back to California and took charge of the Pilot Oil Company's property at Coalinga. He drilled the first two oil wells there, and has been the company's superintendent ever since. The Pilot Company owns sixty acres in Sec. 12-20-14, and now has seven producing wells. Electric motors are used for pumping, and everything is strictly up-to-date. Mr. Zimmer has been interested in the company as a stockholder for nine years.

At Elk City, Kans., Mr. Zimmer was married, October 25, 1898, to Miss Hallie Oswald, a native of Independence in that state, by whom he has had one child, William Oswald. Mr. Zimmer was made a Mason in Carson Lodge, No. 132, A. F. & A. M., at Elk City, Kans., in 1903, and is a member of Wichita Consistory No. 2, and with his wife is a member of Prosperity Chapter, No. 134, at Elk City. He also belongs to the Fresno Lodge, No. 439, B. P. O. E.

As a poultry fancier, Mr. Zimmer is raising pure-bred Ancona chickens, and he has taken first prizes on exhibiting his birds at the State and the Fresno and Kings County fairs, and has the silver cups and blue ribbons to show for it. One year, he raised the best Ancona cock and cockerel produced and shown in all the state.

**CASWELL B. HOWARD.**—A successful viticulturist and the representative of an early, patriotic southern family, is Caswell B. Howard, the son of Alfred Howard, a native of Wilkes County, N. C., where he was born in 1812. The father was only twelve years old when he migrated to Tennessee; he became a farmer near Knoxville, and there he died. His wife, who was Euphemia Hall before her marriage, and came from Tennessee, also died there, the mother of nine children.

Caswell, the second youngest in the family, was born at Knoxville in 1852, and was reared on a farm, attending the public schools. He went to work while young, assisting his father for some years; and then started for himself. In 1879 he removed to Texas, and at Weatherford, Parker County, he engaged for three years in the stock business, riding the range and gaining first-hand experience.

In 1882 he came to California, and on the twenty-eighth of August he arrived in Fresno. He had a brother-in-law, J. M. Heiskell, living in the Mississippi district, but he could not get a rig to take him out there, and so he had to remain in town all night. At that time Fresno had but five brick houses and a few board sidewalks, and was so overcrowded that he could not get a bed, but finally old Mother Jones arranged the accommodation needed, and the next day he reached Heiskell's and was heartily welcomed. The adventure was never forgotten, and it serves to contrast the primitive town of that period with the Fresno of today. Mr. Howard soon leased land and began grain-raising. He started very modestly, but in time came to have 1,000 acres and a big outfit, with a combined harvester. For twenty years he managed this extensive ranch and became well known as a progressive farmer. He was also engaged in teaming between Clovis and Shaver, driving an eight-horse team. Sixteen years ago Mr. Howard leased a vineyard north of Garfield, which he ran for three years; when he bought thirty and a half acres and set the same out with muscat, Thompson and sultana grapes. He made numerous improvements, and created a valuable vineyard. He has supported all the raisin association movements, and he is an important factor in the California Associated Raisin Company.

In Tennessee, Mr. Howard married Miss Rachel Heiskell, a native of that state, and this marriage was blessed by eight children; the beloved wife and mother passed away on February 24, 1917. The children are: Blanche, now Mrs. Frank Pearce, who resides at Clovis; Johnnie Elizabeth, who married M. W. Pearce, of Fresno; Burton, who was a barber of Fresno, enlisted in the United States Navy and was waiting the call when he died, July 4, 1918; W. Duard, is a viticulturist in charge of the ranch; J. Homer, who is serving his country in France; Earl, who is doing his bit in the United States Navy; King, of Fresno; and Lloyd who is also manfully serving his country in the United States Navy.

Mr. Howard has been active in civic matters and every local movement for advancement, and has served for years as a trustee in the Garfield school district. He is a member of Clovis Lodge, No. 417, F. & A. M., where he was made a Mason.

**JOHN M. HEISKELL.**—Activity and self-reliance have been dominant factors in the life of John M. Heiskell. A native of eastern Tennessee, he was born in Island Creek, Monroe County, November 12, 1846, a son of John M., who was born in Powells Valley, Va., February 27, 1817. Originally four Heiskell brothers came from Germany to the United States, two of whom settled in Virginia. Our subject's father when eighteen years of age removed to Tennessee, where he married Betty Leeper, who was born in Tennessee and was the daughter of Hugh B. Leeper, a planter in Blount County, Tenn, who was of Irish descent. The parents died in Tennessee. John M., being fourth in order of birth of the ten children, received his education in a subscription school held in a log schoolhouse with slab benches. After the war he entered Friendsville College for a session. In the spring of 1867, he engaged in business in his home town where he operated a grist mill. This he disposed of before starting for California in 1869, with his wife and one child.

The trip overland was made by rail, Stanislaus being the objective point. Arriving in October, 1869, Mr. Heiskell tried his hand at farming, but only remained there two seasons and in the fall of 1871 decided to make Fresno County his home, locating at Fresno Copper Mine in the Mississippi district. Taking up land, he engaged in cultivating grain on Big Dry Creek, being located on the old Stockton-Millerton and Visalia Road. Starting on a small scale, then branching out, he purchased more land and experimented in dry farming. Obtaining his seed from Kings River, he was among the first to sow grain on the plains in this district.



*J. M. McKell*





In the year 1877, Mr. Heiskell had the misfortune to experience a dry year. Several thousand acres of land were under cultivation, but not even a hay crop matured. However, this did not deter him from acquiring more land, and at Scaggs Bridge he leased from four to six thousand acres, which he operated and also ran horses, cattle and hogs. He made his home about seven miles northeast of Clovis, but carried on extensive farming operations, until he ran from eight to ten big teams to put in his crops and used a combined harvester. Some years he had 4,000 acres in grain. In 1900 he sold out and in the fall of the year went to Inyo County and near Bishop bought land and engaged in stock-raising, which was the principal industry at that time. He remained there nine years, then disposed of his interests and returned to Fresno County in 1910. Purchasing a home in Clovis, he retired from active business, but has never ceased to be actively identified with the growth and development of the county. Since then he has owned several vineyards but finally sold his last in 1918. He still owns valuable lands at Bishop, Inyo County. When Mr. Heiskell first moved to this section, a part of Kings County and all of Madera County was a part of Fresno County, while Miller-ton was the county seat, and he has watched the changes with keen interest and aided materially in the betterment of the community. He remembers the planting of the first grape vineyard, the Eisen Vineyard of 140 acres. The building of irrigating ditches was only begun when Mr. Heiskell took a hand at public enterprises. He was also one of the first men to organize the Fresno Flume and Irrigation Company, to get water from Stevenson, Pitman and Big creeks to irrigate the plains. The company built the flume into Clovis, but just before completion they were joined by Miller & Lux, and then on account of a money panic, Mr. Heiskell sold his interest and resigned from the board of directors. He was the first president of the company and was vice-president at the time of his resignation.

While Mr. Heiskell had but little chance to obtain schooling himself, he realized the necessity of good public schools, and made good use of his opportunity, while serving for a number of years as school trustee, to develop the school system in that section, serving as trustee and clerk of the Mississippi school district.

The marriage of John M. Heiskell, Jr., at Morganton, Tenn., in 1867, united him with Miss Mary Jane Jack, a native of Hamilton County, Tenn. She passed away on November 25, 1900, leaving five children: William, living in Clovis; Marguerite and Betty, in Fresno; Bob, a rancher in Fresno County; and Kate, Mrs. Wolfe, of Berkeley.

Mr. Heiskell was married the second time, in Fresno, to Mrs. Fannie J. (Walbridge) Baxter, born in Homer, Mich., who came to California about 1900. They are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church South, Clovis. It is to men of Mr. Heiskell's caliber that Fresno County owes much of its present greatness, and its present prosperity is the result of their early work and hardships.

**OLE J. CHRISTENSEN.**—A straightforward Danish-American gentleman, who is a pioneer and leading citizen of Bowles, as he was a pioneer business man of Fresno where he was once engaged in the meat business, is Ole J. Christensen, an intelligent, progressive, and popular resident of Central California. He has been at Bowles for the past twelve years and has a ranch of fourteen acres; and he has lived in Fresno and Fresno County since 1882, when he knew nearly every person in the town, for then all the inhabitants were soon aware of a new arrival.

He was born in Denmark, near Schleswig, on January 4, 1855, and there grew up. His father was J. P. Christensen, a landowner having about fifty acres, and who lived and died in Schleswig. He had married Hedwig Jensen, who died on April 9, 1859, when Ole was four years old. She was the mother of five children, among whom he was the youngest. Two years after his mother's death, his father married again, but the second wife died without

issue in 1863. A third time the father was married, but he did not increase his family. Ole is the only one of the family now living, and the only one who came to America. He grew up on his father's farm, and after coming to the United States in 1874, he went to work for P. P. Whittier, a farmer whose home was at Metuchen, N. J., who was a nephew of the poet John Greenleaf Whittier, and who had a sister, a school teacher. She interested herself in him and instructed him in the English language; she assigned him daily a lesson, and heard him recite each evening. He worked for a winter for his board and schooling, and then engaged to work for three years for Charles C. Campbell of the same place. The latter was tax-collector, and Ole kept his books, learning at the same time a good deal about both business and American politics. Later he reengaged with his first employer, P. P. Whittier, a butcher as well as a farmer; and thereby he learned the butcher's trade. He learned how to kill, dress and cut up meat, working on the block at the retail store in the forenoon, and at the slaughter-house in the afternoon.

On the evening of election day in 1880, when he had been in New Jersey for six years and had just cast his first vote for president—his choice being James A. Garfield—Mr. Christensen took one of the most important steps of his life in taking the train for the West. On November 12th he arrived at Omaha, and the following spring he bought the Tenth Street Meat Market. At that time Omaha was not as large as Fresno is today, and it required faith to make such an investment. When he sold out, he came to California and reached Fresno on October 12, 1882. He brought with him his wife, whose maiden name was Christine Petersen, and who had come from North Schleswig to New Jersey when she was a girl. He became acquainted with her in her home-place, and married her in Omaha; and when they came to Fresno they also brought their first child, Agneeta, then a baby of nine months. She was the proprietress of the Selma Sanitorium and a very successful trained nurse, and one of the pluckiest girls in Fresno County. On May 31, 1919, she was married at subject's home, at Bowles, to H. Penning of Caruthers, where he is in the auto-truck business.

Mr. Christensen bought the Palo Alto Meat Market in Fresno, and for three years ran a successful meat trade there. Then he sold the market, but continued to butcher and to supply certain sections of the country by means of two wagons. These two conveyances he kept in steady service for twenty-one years. After a while, he bought 160 acres in the foothills which he later sold to the government for a site for the Baptist Indian School and Church. This was in 1917, and Mr. Christensen then contributed liberally to the school.

Mr. Christensen left Schleswig in order to evade German militarism, and he has done much, in taking liberty bonds and in other war work, to support the administration. He helped to establish the school at Bowles, and served on the first board of trustees, and continued in that office until he was paralyzed.

When Mr. Christensen's first wife died, she left two children: Agneeta and John P. N. The latter married Lucille Gruning of Oregon, a butcher who resides at Selma, and by him she has had two children. On his second marriage, he was joined to Miss Metta M. Christiansen, and they have had four children: Christine is the wife of C. C. Russell, an employee of the Holt Manufacturing Company of Stockton, where he resides; Chester, a machinist, married Luis Smith of Selma; they reside at Hamilton, Cal., where they have one child, Charmian; Irene is the wife of Frank Cassell, also an employee of the Holt Manufacturing Company and a resident of Stockton; and Andrew, still single, who owns a ranch of sixteen acres next to his father's place, where he busies himself as an horticulturist. Since the father's paralytic stroke in 1915, Andrew also runs the home-place vineyard of fourteen acres. Some years ago Mr. Christensen built a fine two-story frame

residence and a large barn on his place, which adjoins Bowles. Brought up and confirmed in the Lutheran Church, Mr. Christensen still adheres to that communion in the church at Easton.

In politics Mr. Christensen is a Republican, and he endeavors to be in every way a model citizen. He is now improving in health, and can walk around with difficulty. He has a high broad forehead and light blue eyes, and is of a decidedly intellectual temperament—just such a person as would have made an able private secretary. He is methodical and mathematical, and can add up a column of figures with great rapidity.

Mr. and Mrs. Christensen accommodate transients at their home at Bowles, set a good table and dispense a genial hospitality. Mrs. Christensen was brought up in the same district from which came Mrs. Hans Graff, wife of the lamented and lately-deceased Fresno citizen, and took passage with her, and shared her stateroom on crossing the Atlantic, and later they were neighbors in Fresno.

**FRANK J. CRAYCROFT.**—The development of a large and labor-using industry, is shown in the story of Frank J. Craycroft, the president of the Craycroft Brick Company. He is the son of C. J. and Frances Craycroft, and came with them to Fresno in 1886, when it was little more than a village. His father engaged in making brick, and later Frank joined him as a partner under the firm name of C. J. Craycroft & Son. When the Santa Fe Railroad bought their property, a new company was organized under the name of Craycroft-Herrold Brick Company, and this was succeeded, in 1917, by the Craycroft Brick Company.

Frank's father was one of the substantial men of Fresno, and had an active part in its early and later development. For eight years he was a trustee of the city, and he served four years as president of the board. He died on November 17, 1916. He had married a second time, and his widow, Mrs. Laura J. Craycroft is still living.

Born in Illinois on March 31, 1876, Frank J. Craycroft, was educated at the public schools in the vicinity of his birthplace, and at Fresno; and when a young man, as has been said, he entered business with his father. At the latter's death, he succeeded to the presidency of the company. They continued to make both the common and the fancy red brick; and being a Fresno institution long established, the company has supplied the brick for a large number of the best buildings in Fresno and other sections of the San Joaquin Valley.

A stalwart Republican high in the councils of the party, Mr. Craycroft has always used his political influence for the public weal.

In 1899 he was married to Miss Mae Tobin, and they have two children: Fannie Mae, and Kenneth Tobin. Mr. Craycroft is a member of the First Christian Church. He is also a member of the Rotary Club, Chamber of Commerce and Independent Order of Odd Fellows and Woodmen of the World.

**THOMAS P. SMITH.**—Among the prominent business men of Coalinga, and one who has been a participant in, and promoter of many movements for the development of Coalinga's educational and commercial activities, is Thomas P. Smith, who deserves especial mention. He was born in Jacksonville, Floyd County, Va., February 27, 1871, a son of Jacob and Jane (Nixon) Smith, both natives of Virginia whose ancestors were of English stock. Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Smith are still living in Virginia, their family consisting of ten children, all of whom are living and four are now residents of California.

Thomas P. Smith, the subject of this sketch, was brought up on the farm and received his early education in the public schools of his native state. As the result of an injury he was obliged to abandon farming and seek some less arduous work. When nineteen years of age he accepted a position as a

clerk in a men's furnishing store at Matewan, W. Va. Desiring to see more of the world and to gain a broader knowledge of business affairs, Mr. Smith migrated westward, gradually working his way from one state to another until he finally arrived in Hanford, Cal., in 1896, where he remained until 1903. Being a keen observer, Mr. Smith saw a good opening for a men's furnishing store in Coalinga and in February, 1903, opened the first store, exclusively for men, in that city. It was located at 189 Fifth Street, between Front and E, in the second brick building constructed in Coalinga. He kept this location for many years and by square-dealing and efficient service built up a large business. In 1915, Mr. Smith purchased his present brick store-building, 30x100 feet, at 270 Fifth Street, all of which is used for his growing business. At first the firm was known as Smith Brothers, his brother, A. W. Smith, being his partner. In 1914, Mr. Smith bought his brother's interest and has operated the business since then under the caption of Thomas P. Smith. He is also interested in the corporation known as Smith Brothers, Inc., located at Taft, Cal., a men's furnishing and clothing store, where his brother, A. B., is the manager and also his partner. The company built its own store building at Taft.

Mr. Smith is progressive and active in civic affairs, having served for two years and a half as a trustee of the city of Coalinga, all of which time he was chairman of the board. Mr. Smith is also interested in educational matters and was a trustee of the Coalinga Union High School, from April, 1911, to 1917. During this period the Union High School District Library was established and the Carnegie Library was built. The board of high school trustees constituted the library board, of which Mr. Smith was the efficient secretary, holding the office when the Carnegie Fund was obtained and during the building of the beautiful structure of which the citizens of Coalinga are justly proud.

In 1904, Thomas P. Smith was united in marriage with Miss Bessie M. Wescott, a native of Kansas, but reared and educated in Hanford, Cal., where the ceremony was solemnized. They have three children: Ernest, and the twins, Mildred and Mabel.

**JAMES F. BARNES.**—A prominent rancher and one of the oldest settlers of the West Side in Fresno County, is James F. Barnes, a native Californian, who was born near Woodland, Yolo County, on September 12, 1858. His father was Talton Turner Barnes, whose first wife died after three children were born. He married a second time, to Miss Josephine Gilliam, a native of Tennessee, in which state the marriage took place. Her father was a farmer in Missouri. The grandfather, Abraham Barnes, was a planter in Missouri, and with T. T. Barnes he migrated to California in 1856, crossing the plains with ox teams, and settling in Yolo County. The grandfather died there, and the father moved to Red Bluff and engaged in farming and stock-raising, and for four years devoted his attention also to sheep-raising. Later, in 1869, he located in Pleasant Valley, Fresno County, on a ranch two and a half miles from Coalinga. He later homesteaded 160 acres in Warthan Canyon, and there he died, aged seventy-eight years. He had studied medicine, and administered to the sick and was very successful in his practice, and never made a charge for his services. He was thus permitted to do a great deal of good. The mother died at Red Bluff. To this marriage were born six children, of whom James was third oldest. Three are now living.

James Barnes was brought up in Yolo and Tehama Counties until 1869, when he came to what is now Coalinga. He was denied the privilege of school until in 1873, when he attended district school in Pleasant Valley. He learned the sheep business under his father, then worked for others in caring for and shearing sheep. In 1878 he and his brother, Zach, engaged in the sheep business together until 1887, when the partnership was dissolved. He





*Joseph Sagniere*

then preempted 160 acres and bought forty acres of railroad land in Warthan Canyon, then homesteaded his present place of 160 acres in Warthan Canyon, which he has improved and upon which he has lived ever since. He sold his preemption, and now has 240 acres cleared and improved. Warthan Creek gives him water for irrigating about fifty acres, and he is raising alfalfa and grain, and feeding cattle and hogs.

Mr. Barnes was married at Visalia to Mary Ellen Gribble, a native of Tulare County. They have six children: Joseph Marion, in Coalinga; Edna Blanche, now Mrs. Furman, residing at home; Adeline Pearl, now Mrs. Livingston, of Los Angeles; Mabel, wife of William Tucker, who died at the age of twenty-two; Evelyn, now Mrs. Bennett, of Los Angeles; and Clarence Raymond, of Coalinga.

Mr. Barnes is highly esteemed in his community. For many years he was school trustee of the Round Tree district, and for a time was clerk of the board. He was deputy county assessor for a term under William Hutchinson. In politics Mr. Barnes is a Democrat.

**JOSEPH SAGNIERE.**—One of the best-posted vineyardists in Fresno County, and one who may implicitly rely on his own knowledge of viticulture, for he has obtained it from personal, practical experience, is Joseph Sagniere, a French-American who has made a study for years of grape-growing, and at great expense of time, labor and money has experimented until he has been able to graft and propagate any vine onto wild stock. While a lad he learned the rudiments of viticulture from his father, Fidele Sagniere, who had an extensive vineyard, was well-known and very successful, and died in 1916, nearly ninety years of age; and from his mother, Marie Sagniere, who passed away when the lad was only ten years old, he inherited those amiable qualities which have made him esteemed as a neighbor and a friend. Under the sunny skies of smiling France the subject of our sketch tried his hand for the first time in pruning and grafting, with what success his reputation today for proficiency in those fields attests.

Born in 1856 in Gap, in the Hautes Alpes, Joseph Sagniere was reared on a farm and attended the valley public schools. He rendered his service to his native country, entering the French army when he was twenty-one and bearing the daily work and hardships of a soldier for a year; and at the end of that period, he received an honorable discharge from the Sixth Artillery.

In 1887, Mr. Sagniere resolved to leave his native land and to come to America; and once the resolution was made, it was but a matter of weeks before he was treading American soil. He stopped a short time in the East, but as soon as possible came to Los Angeles, where he was employed for six months. He next went to Carson City, Nev., taking up lumbering, and for three years worked at logging around Lake Tahoe. In 1891 he first came to Fresno, and soon after settling here went into the wholesale liquor business. With a partner, Jean Trout, he formed the firm of Boudreau & Co., and opened a wareroom on H Street. Later he sold his interest in the establishment and went to work for Mr. Bronge on I Street, with whom he remained until the latter sold out. After that he started the Fresno Family Liquor Store.

In the meantime Mr. Sagniere had bought his present ranch of twenty acres, which he set out for a vineyard and otherwise much improved; and when, at the end of eight years, he sold his business, he moved to his ranch, where he had erected a neat house and all the necessary outbuildings. This vineyard property he still owns. Since that time Mr. Sagniere has bought thirty-two and a quarter acres in the Garfield district, the entire acreage being in vineyards, so that all in all he has fifty-two and a quarter acres given up to muscats and malagas, with ten acres of peaches. Of this area, thirty-two and a quarter acres are under the Enterprise Ditch. He is also interested, as a director, in the Colonial Helm Ditch. Out of his harvest, he ships raisins and peaches to market. He has always been a supporter of the several raisin



associations, and is now an active member of the California Associated Raisin Company.

While still in France, Mr. Sagniere was married to Miss Rosalie Trenquier, a native of his own home district; and by her he has had one son, Joseph Sagniere, Jr., who assists his father in operating the ranch. Mr. Sagniere is a Republican in his civic activities. Fraternally, he is a member of the Fresno Lodge, B. P. O. Elks.

**JOHN C. FERGUSON.**—An oil-producer who has a great fund of valuable information and is an authority on deep-water wells, is John C. Ferguson. He was born at Lochee, near Dundee, Scotland, on January 19, 1879, the son of John Ferguson. He came to California in 1886 and was educated in the public schools; and from a boy he went to work drilling wells under the direction of his father. He thus early became familiar with the problems of drilling water-wells and was soon able to run a rig for his father. By 1898 he had brought a well-rig into Coalinga, and had engaged in drilling for oil for Captain McClurg on Warthan Canon above Alcalde.

After completing this well, he continued drilling water-wells in the San Joaquin Valley and on the Coast, and then he contracted for drilling water-wells for the Santa Fe Railroad Company at the Franklin Tunnel and the Roundhouse Well at Stockton. Next he assisted his father at contract drilling of oil wells in the Kern River field.

In 1903 Mr. Ferguson came to Coalinga with his brothers, Andrew and James, and engaged in contract drilling on the Ward Oil Company's property. The brothers then leased the Zier Oil Company's property, and later John C. engaged in contract drilling on his own account. Then he became superintendent of the Fresno & San Francisco Oil Company in 1910, but after a while he resigned and engaged in drilling water-wells, in Fresno and Kings Counties, making his headquarters at Hanford. He went in for drilling deep water wells, and ran both a rotary and a cable rig.

He started the deep-water drilling at Henrietta, thus opening up the west side of Fresno and Kings Counties; and since then he has become an authority on drilling deep wells for water. He put down the first five wells for the Henrietta irrigation enterprise. He also successfully drilled the two deep wells for the city of Coalinga, running the wells down some 1,435 feet deep, and securing for the city two flowing wells. He drilled the wells for the Fitzwilliams at Helm, and also the ones at Burrel.

In the summer of 1918 Mr. Ferguson accepted the position of superintendent of the Zier Oil Company, succeeding his brother Andrew, who had resigned to become superintendent of an oil company at Maricopa.

At Napa, Mr. Ferguson was married to Miss Amy Little, a native of Monticello, Napa County and the daughter of John Little a pioneer of Monticello, and a farmer and justice of the peace.

**W. A. WELCH.**—Owing to his long residence in California and his close identification with its agricultural pursuits, W. A. Welch is considered an authority on the various phases of ranching, especially as it is conducted in the Golden State. He is a native of Kansas, where he first saw the light of day on October 6, 1862, his parents being James and Mary A. Welch, who were also of Kansas. After the death of her husband, Mrs. Mary A. Welch was united in marriage with Mr. Murd Phillips, and in 1873 the family migrated to California, locating at Visalia, Tulare County, where Mr. Phillips engaged in farming and stock-raising. Mrs. Mary (Welch) Phillips was the mother of ten children, each marriage being blessed with five, and of this number only four are living, two from each marriage. Both parents are now deceased, the mother having passed away in 1914.

W. A. Welch is a practical and successful rancher and has had an extensive and varied experience. He resided in Tulare County, from 1873 to 1916, where he owned 160 acres. He spent fourteen years in stock raising

and dairying and ten years in general farming. At present he owns ten acres of land within the prosperous town of Reedley, upon which he contemplates building a beautiful residence and making other improvements.

In 1886, W. A. Welch was united in marriage with Miss Maggie Parker, the daughter of Daniel and Mary Parker, and of this union were born eight children: Elsie; Bertha; Raymond; Irene; Elizabeth; Roy; Vada, and Robley. Mrs. Welch was born in Fresno County, of pioneer parents. Her parents crossed the plains with an ox team, in the early fifties, and while en route the grandmother of Mrs. Welch passed away, as also a little babe. It was not until years after they arrived in California that Daniel Parker met and married Mary Work, the marriage being solemnized in 1861, in Tulare County.

Besides being an enterprising and successful rancher, Mr. Welch is interested in all movements for benefiting and upbuilding the community.

**DR. FLORA W. SMITH.**—Among the exceptionally endowed women of California, who have come to the fore with the rapid evolution of the modern state, is Dr. Flora W. Smith, whose attainments in statesmanship as well as in science have rendered her of the greatest service to society. She was born at Canal Fulton, Stark County, Ohio, near the Tuscarawas River, on May 27, 1872, the only child of the late Edward D. and Charlotte (Caldwell) Williams, her father having been a native of New York who was reared to manhood in Maryland. He came from the renowned family of Roger Williams, and was a lineal descendant of the great Colonial spirit who founded Rhode Island, so that early Williams progenitors saw yeoman service in the War of the Revolution. He became a well-to-do Ohio manufacturer and dealer in furniture, a citizen of civic spirit, and a leading Republican politician. He became a warm personal friend and adviser of such men as the late President McKinley, Mark Hanna and other political leaders.

Mrs. Williams, the mother of our subject, was a native of Stark County, Ohio, where she was born in 1851, and came of French, Spanish and Scotch-Irish and English blood. Among her girl friends and chums at school was Ida Saxton, who later married William McKinley; and as President and Mrs. McKinley lost both of their children, Flora Williams, now Dr. Smith, became to the bereaved couple much the same as their own child. This contact with the great American statesman gave her early the inspiration to do something for the public weal, and especially something in the child welfare of today.

Dr. Smith as a child attended the public schools of Stark County, after which she took a preparatory course at the Wooster University, the work selected leading to a professional career in medicine and surgery. She had taught school in her home county for a couple of terms when she became acquainted with Dr. C. A. L. Reed of Cincinnati, who was the first president of the Pan-American Medical Association and a physician of note. He encouraged her to take up medicine as a profession, and she entered the Woman's Medical College at Cincinnati and was graduated from it fourteen months before she was twenty-one. That institution was of such a high standard that it had a rule which forbade the issuing of a diploma or the granting of a degree to any person who had not yet attained the age of twenty-one, so that she had to wait over a year for the coveted honor and authority.

Miss Williams also took a course at the Eclectic Medical College at Cincinnati, and it was there that she met Dr. Thomas D. Smith, then a fellow student, to whom she soon became engaged, and on June 9, 1892, they were married.

Since coming West, the two Doctors Smith have practiced together, with eminent success. They first opened an office, in 1893, at Yreka, Siskiyou County, Cal., but after a year, they returned to Ohio and for seven years practiced at Cleveland. Then they moved to a place near South Bend, Ind., where they followed their chosen calling for eleven years, and at the end of

that period they renewed their association with California and located in Kingsburg, Fresno County. How much her fame, as the only woman for years in Marshall County, Ind., to hold a diploma from a regular medical college may have helped to introduce her, Dr. Smith and her equally-equipped husband prospered from the first. They have built one of the finest arranged office buildings for physicians and dentists in the Valley. It is a two-story building with a commodious reception room on the first floor, while the second floor of the building is a modern flat, and there Dr. Thomas D. and Dr. Flora W. Smith enjoy all the comforts of a home, and dispense a true Californian hospitality. They are among the most highly respected citizens in both the city and county. Their many friends include both Senator Johnson and Governor Stephens; and to the latter Dr. Smith was hostess on his visit to Kingsburg. On that occasion she arranged a program, enlisting the cooperation of the Boy Scouts and the school children of Kingsburg, and tendered the Governor one of the finest receptions he had ever received.

During Governor Johnson's term of office, he named Dr. Flora Smith a member of the commission appointed by him to investigate the matter of Mothers' Pensions, Workingmen's Industrial Accident Insurance, Old Age and Unemployment, and report on the same to the Legislature; and so well was the work done, that this commission's conclusions were acted upon and have been actually incorporated into the state's laws.

So very well did Dr. Smith do her work that Governor Stephens in 1917 appointed her one of a committee of seven (she being the only practicing physician) on the commission to investigate and advise the Legislature concerning the adoption of a system of social insurance; and as a result this commission recommended a plan for compulsory health insurance which was voted upon at the general election in 1918. That Governor Stephens knew the capabilities of Dr. Smith for just this work is seen from the fact that she is widely recognized among club women of the state, being chairman of the Child's Welfare department of the Women's Federated Clubs of California.

Dr. Flora Smith, of Kingsburg, has the distinction of occupying a high position in the Grand Court, Order of the Amaranth of California, and at its annual conclave held in the Masonic Temple, on April 11, 1919, at Los Angeles, Cal., she was installed in the high office of Grand Associate Royal Matron, with one more step to the highest office in the Amaranth in the State of California. "Dr. Flora," as she is known among her friends, is prominent in lodge and social affairs, and her personal work in her home city of Kingsburg in aid of the unfortunates, and in support of every worthy cause, has caused her home folks to repose the greatest confidence in her. In support of the government during the war period, in its Liberty loan drives, Red Cross work, and in other branches, she has given freely, and she has spared not a moment when Uncle Sam called for aid.

Ambitious in the right channels, for her home city, state and nation, she has caused to be woven about her an army of loving friends. During her recent visit in the southland, after the installation in the Amaranth, her friends showered her with many valuable gifts, tokens of their love and affection. As a member and high officer of the Amaranth, Dr. Flora Smith seeks not for her personal aggrandizement, but her prime motive in the lodge, as in daily walks of life, is to bring others up to the high standard of success, to which she has always aspired.

Dr. Smith has published much in favor of various reforms affecting children and the future of our country, while she has become a familiar figure upon the platform. At a club address she enunciated principles which may be taken as indicating her high ideals and some of the practical goals she would reach. Accepting the two facts—that war made conservation the slogan of the day and that we are decidedly a democratic people—she deduced the undeniable fact that this slogan should reach and abide with our man-





*Mr. G. Gallaher*

agement of child life, for from that material comes the future of our people. Only the intensive training of the boys and girls of today can keep our nation a clean, healthy democracy. The public schools are the true melting-pot. There the underfed measures its strength with the well-fed and the overfed; there the diseased sits beside the healthy; there the foreign standards meet the American ideals. At the present ratio of average decrease in the families of Americans as compared to foreigners, within another generation these children of foreigners will be making the laws and otherwise regulating the life of our democratic country. In other words, our children will be governed by their children. In California, therefore, it behooves the women with the ballot in their hands to see that all public education is along lines of Americanism, and if the 75,000 club women of the state do not awaken to the crying need, they will miss one of the greatest of opportunities.

**M. G. GALLAHER.**—Among those of exceptional qualifications, both natural and acquired, whom the recent crisis in the affairs of the nation has brought into prominence, is M. G. Gallaher, the eminent lawyer and junior partner in the firm of Everts & Ewing. He was Fresno's candidate for member of Congress from this district in 1918. He was born at Clarington, Monroe County, Ohio, February 15, 1873, was educated at normal schools and Scio College, and first came to California in 1899. At Fresno, he was married to Miss Nellie L. Martin, after which he returned East.

Twelve years ago Mr. Gallaher again responded to the call of the West and moved to Fresno; and here he has since resided, engaged in the practice of the law, and more and more identified himself, as private citizen and public official, with the development of Central California along the lines of her proper destiny. In thus performing his duty and seeking the opportunity to serve, Mr. Gallaher has spared neither time nor expense in attaining the goals which his high principles and extreme conscientiousness, his clear insight and wise foresight have early set before him; so that it is doubtful if Fresno County today has a citizen more acceptable to the majority appreciating unselfish civic devotion.

Mr. Gallaher, who has always taken a keen interest in political matters and public questions, has for years been a consistent Democrat, and has naturally enough served on the central and executive committees of his party, both in Ohio and California, while in 1910 he was a member of the platform committee of the Democratic convention held at Stockton. In that service alone he has been able to contribute much toward the bringing about of a higher tone in politics.

Mr. Gallaher believes in President Wilson and his policies and to such an extent that on October 1, 1916, he resigned his office as assistant United States Attorney in order to work untrammelled in that campaign; and, thereafter, despite pressing professional interests, he devoted his time daily to speaking in favor of Mr. Wilson's reelection. He himself had previously served as a soldier at the front in Cuba during the Spanish-American War, and so could speak from more than one standpoint of personal experience and advantage; and later for two years he was Assistant District Attorney for Fresno County, and for two years First Assistant United States Attorney for the Southern District of California.

Mr. Gallaher also believes that this country now has only one business, and that business is to crush Autocracy, and to crush it forever, and so to make America and the world democracy safe. These are his convictions; this his aim; nor does anyone who knows him at this time doubt that he considers it the imperative duty of every loyal citizen to lend his unqualified support to the president in his laudable efforts to establish a League of Nations and a durable peace, no less than that it was his duty, at the outbreak of hostilities, to stand by him and his administration in the vigorous prosecution of the war to its victorious end. Loyalty to the president and

patriotic devotion to our country's cause—these are the two most important paragraphs in Mr. Gallaher's convictions as to the duty of every citizen of this country.

Reflecting profoundly on the many possible results of the war, Mr. Gallaher believes that no man can now foresee all the problems that will arise since victory has come and peace is in sight. Therefore the responsibilities of the law-maker will be greater than ever before. Already a gifted, scholarly citizen of real quality and ability, and one who is widely honored, the future would seem to have in store for this distinguished representative of the bar still more of honor and achievement.

**JAMES R. ERSKINE.**—As manager of the Valley Ice Company, J. R. Erskine has attained his position through character and ability. The Valley Ice Company has greatly assisted in the development of the fruit-shipping industry at this point. Before 1910 it was hard to get ice in Fresno and the Valley cities. Ice from Truckee was used, and its cost was over twice as much as artificial ice. In this year the Valley Ice Company was started in Fresno, when they contracted to furnish thirty-seven and a half tons daily to each of the Southern Pacific and the Santa Fe Railway companies for icing refrigerator cars. The first plant built in 1910 had a capacity of 130 tons daily, and the first ice was drawn by W. E. Keller, in July. Mr. Keller was the first president of the company, and is still its president. He is also connected with the Globe Grain and Milling Company, and lives at 543 Shatto Place, Los Angeles, Cal. He is also the president of the San Joaquin Valley Farm Lands Company.

It became evident in 1911 that the demand for ice would be extensive, and the company planned to increase the output, and the plant was enlarged in 1913 to 240 tons daily. In 1915 another addition was made, this time for seventy tons, or a total of 310 tons daily, and in 1917 still another addition of 200 tons capacity, making in all 510 tons daily at the present time. The principal business is to supply ice for fruit-car refrigeration, but they also wholesale to the various deliveries in Fresno. The business is still growing in volume, and is indirectly under government control. The plant has a storage capacity of 8,200 tons and is filled during the fruit-shipping season. It is located south of Fresno, on the State highway, between the main tracks of the Santa Fe and the Southern Pacific. A fourth addition to the plant is now being contemplated. They are daily icing cars on both sides of a track-age of 1,000 feet, thus accommodating the shipping of both companies. The Santa Fe occupies the east side and can ice twenty to twenty-two cars at a time, while the Southern Pacific does the same on the west side. From 70 to 100 men are employed, and from 150 to 300 cars per day are iced. It requires from 700 to 1,100 tons daily during the fruit season, and it is necessary to draw upon the reserve that is made during the earlier part of the season.

James R. Erskine was born at Bloomington, Ill., March 9, 1871, a son of Andrew and Jeannette (McEwen) Erskine, both natives of Scotland. They came from historic families, the father being a direct descendant from the Earl of Mar, prominent in Scottish annals. The family came from Scotland in 1871, settling at Bloomington, Ill. The mother's health was poor and the family returned to Scotland, but her health not improving, they again came to Bloomington, where she died. The family then left Bloomington and went to Rich Hill, Mo., when James was twelve years old. His early education was slighted, as he worked in the coal mines with his father until he was eighteen. He then determined to get an education and entered Battle Creek College, where he was a student for three years, when his father died, and he returned to work in the coal mines at Rich Hill. He is the only living child by his father's first marriage, and the only one in Fresno. There are two half brothers and three half sisters.



James Erskine early became interested in machinery. When working in the coal mines he arose from the position of trapper to that of superintendent when but eighteen years of age. While at the college at Battle Creek, he met Dr. J. H. Kellogg, of the Battle Creek Sanitarium, and was engaged by him to do mechanical work in the large plant devoted to the manufacture of health foods. He soon became superintendent of this plant. Later he went with the Manna Cereal Company, of Detroit, and again became superintendent. From there he went to Los Angeles, Cal., in 1904, and was with the Southern Pacific for six months, when he entered the employ of the Globe Mills, at Los Angeles. It was here that he met W. E. Keller, who sent Mr. Erskine to build the mills of the Globe Flouring and Ice Cold Storage Company, at El Paso, Texas, in 1908. This work was so satisfactorily done that he was sent to Fresno in 1910, where he has since resided, although he has constructed several plants in other places in the Valley. He became superintendent of the Fresno plant in 1911 and that year he built the Valley Ice Company's plant in Bakersfield, which has a capacity of 300 tons daily, and a storage plant of 5,000 tons. He also built the company's plant at Modesto, which has a capacity of 400 tons daily, and storage of 9,200 tons.

Mr. Erskine was superintendent of the ice plants of the Valley Ice Company up to August 1, 1918, when he was promoted to manager of all the companies in San Joaquin Valley. He is married, his wife being Miss Anzanettie K. Showalter, formerly of Rich Hill, Mo., where they were married. They have one child, Frances N., a senior in the Fresno High School. Mr. Erskine is a Mason, raised at Rich Hill, demitted to Detroit, and from there to Las Palmas Lodge, F. & A. M., of which he is now an honored member. The Erskines are well known in social circles of Fresno, and their acquaintance includes many prominent people throughout the state. The family resides at 1362 P Street, Fresno.

The Valley Ice Company is a comparatively new industry, and is a million dollar concern, the most important in the San Joaquin Valley, as it has made the shipping of green fruits to the East a practical possibility and a tremendous success. Ice is now furnished crushed and delivered at \$2.60 per ton, whereas nature's product from Truckee used to cost more than twice that sum. The large part which Mr. Erskine, a man who does things, has had in this work is a great satisfaction to him and his friends and is a real benefit to mankind.

**REV. K. A. HERMAN THIEDE.**—In the Rev. K. A. Herman Thiede, pastor of the Immanuel German Lutheran Church at Ventura Avenue and L Streets, Fresno, Cal., we find a man of superior mental ability, broad views and high spiritual attainments. He is a native of Germany, born near Frankfurt on the Oder, February 20, 1879, and came to the United States with his parents when four years of age, settling in Detroit, Mich. He received a liberal education in the public and private schools and later attended Concordia College, at Fort Wayne, Ind., for six years, graduating in 1899 from the classical course. The same fall he entered Concordia Seminary, at St. Louis, Mo., graduating from that famous theological institution in June, 1903. On September 6, of the same year, he arrived in San Francisco, and in St. John's Church of that city, on September 13, was ordained to the ministry. For eight months he was actively engaged in missionary work in that city as the city missionary, and in March, 1904, was called to Santa Rosa to take charge of St. Luke's Lutheran Church at that place. During the eight years that he served this church in the capacity of pastor, he made many and important improvements, increased the membership of the church, brought it out of debt, and built a new building for the young people's meetings and Sunday School. Accepting a call to Fresno, he was installed as pastor of Immanuel Lutheran Church on September 8, 1912. Here he has continued his activities, increasing the membership, installing an eleven-hundred-dollar pipe organ, and building a new altar. The church is free from debt. As

spiritual director, he is intensely interested in and attends the various societies of the church. He is also pastor of the branch congregation at Vinland, where he holds services twice a month.

Reverend Thiede's marriage united his destiny with Ulrike Hansen, also a native of Germany, although her mother, Mrs. Anna (Roerden) Hansen, was born in Marin County, Cal., and belongs to an old pioneer California family, her grandfather, Eschel Roerden, having crossed the ocean seven times. Reverend and Mrs. Thiede have an interesting family of five children: Lillian, Anita, Elfriede, Bertram and Priscilla. Mrs. Thiede is a true helpmeet, ably assisting her husband in church work and taking an active part in connection with the Ladies' Aid Society.

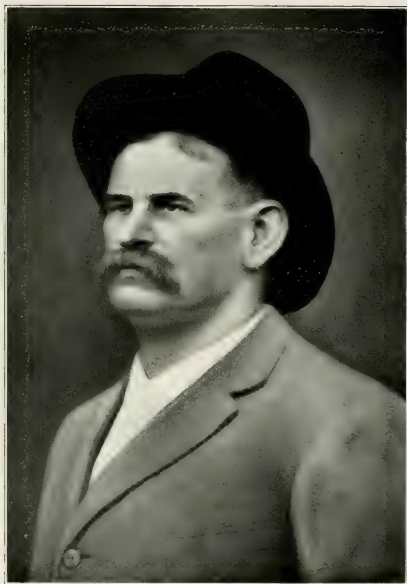
The congregation of the German Lutheran Immanuel Church of Fresno was organized March 9, 1890. A few months previous to this time, Rev. J. M. Buehler and Rev. J. H. Theiss, of San Francisco, held services at intervals. The first resident pastor was Rev. H. Meyer, who served one year. Then it was attended by Rev. O. Kitzman, from Tracy, until 1892, when Rev. S. Hoernicke took charge and served until Reverend Thiede was installed, on September 8, 1912. The church has a membership of over 350 souls. Reverend Thiede is a member of the California and Nevada District of the Lutheran Synod of Missouri, Ohio and other states; also of the Northern Conference of the California District, of which he has served as secretary for a number of years.

**FRANCIS ASBURY WELLS.**—A prominent oil-man of Coalinga. F. A. Wells was born in Moulton, Appanoose County, Iowa, on April 3, 1873. His father, John D. Wells, was of English descent, a native of Ohio, but became one of the early settlers of Iowa, where he followed farming. During the war he drove a stage for the government. In 1877 he removed to Havana, Chautauqua County, Kans., and engaged in raising cattle, and trailed cattle on the old Texas trail. The mother was Sarah (Craig) Wells, of Scotch descent but a native of Iowa, and in that state they were married. She later made her home with her son Francis A., at Bakersfield, and died there. John D. Wells died in Havana. The family consisted of four boys, three of whom grew up, Francis A. being the youngest.

Mr. Wells was eight years old when his father died, and he grew up at Chanute, Kans., on the Indian Territory line, riding the range in the Cherokee Nation, and becoming expert in roping and branding. The brothers farmed together, and later Francis A. began farming for himself, and supported his mother. When he was seventeen he came to Bakersfield, Cal., and entered the employ of the Kern County Land Company, under Major Rice, on the Stockdale Ranch, and for five years was foreman in the breeding department. In 1898 he enlisted in the Spanish-American War, in Company G, Sixth California Regiment, and served until his regiment was mustered out at San Francisco. He returned to the Stockdale Ranch and remained with the Kern County Land Company for one year as foreman of their stables at Bakersfield.

As oil had been struck in the Kern River oilfields, Mr. Wells resigned his position with the Land Company and entered the employ of B. F. Brooks as foreman of his teams where he remained until Mr. Brooks sold to the Associated Oil Company. Mr. Wells stayed with the company for five years and worked his way up to superintendent of the lease, resigning to accept a position as production foreman with Chanslor & Canfield, in the Midway field. One year later he went to work for C. A. Canfield at Tehachapi in charge of the Jamison Lime Kiln. After six months he resigned to engage in contracting teaming and haying in the San Joaquin Valley with headquarters in Bakersfield. He brought hay from Delano to Tehachapi. He continued in this business for one year when he sold to go back into the oil business again. In 1907 Mr. Wells came to Coalinga and was employed by Porter & Scribner of the Inca Oil Company as pumper. One year later he





*M. L. Llew*



*Amanda M. Dean*



became production foreman and then, about 1910, superintendent of this company. Since 1907 he has never lost a day's time. When he first became connected with the company, there were five wells on the 160 acres of Sec. 24-20-14, but now there are thirty-seven and thirty-four are producing. These wells have a depth of from 800 to 1,300 feet.

In Bakersfield Mr. Wells married Miss Maude Barling, who was born in Azusa, Cal., and they have three daughters: Kathleen, Nixon, and Lois. Mr. Wells is a Republican in politics. He is a member of Bakersfield Lodge, No. 202, I. O. O. F., and of the Rebekahs and the Woodmen of the World. He took a great interest in the Liberty Loan drives, and was a member of the Coalinga Liberty Loan Committee. As trustee of Claremont district he was active in building the first school building, and he was very prominent and active in the building of New High School building erected in Coalinga at the cost of \$100,000. Mr. Wells is also a member of board of trustees of Coalinga Carnegie Library.

**MRS. AMANDA M. DEAN.**—Among the women who are greatly interested in the development of Fresno County we find Mrs. Amanda M. Dean, of the Sanger district, where she occupies a prominent position among the ranchers and leading business women. A native of Tennessee, she was born in Sumner County in 1871, a daughter of N. T. and Nancy A. (Webster) Price, who were pioneers of Sumner County. As Amanda Price she was given a liberal education in her native state and when she was seventeen, in 1888, she was married to C. H. Edwards, an extensive grain-farmer and stock-raiser in Tennessee. They came to California immediately after their marriage and located in the Sanger district, Fresno County, where Mr. Edwards made some wise and fortunate investments in land and sold at a good profit. While he lived in California he became a vineyardist and thus was interested in the raisin industry. At one time he owned 200 acres in this county. After two years here he sold out and returned to his native state and there he died of typhoid pneumonia soon after. His widow settled up her affairs in Tennessee and returned to California and soon afterwards she was united in marriage with Marcus L. Dean, a pioneer of the Sanger district.

Mr. Dean was born in North Carolina, March 6, 1854, and was reared and educated there. He came to California in 1888, settled in the district now called the Sanger district and entered extensively into grain and stock-raising. He became owner of 400 acres of fine land and was endowed by nature with those qualifications that make for success in business, and through his good education he was equipped to compete with any man in legitimate business. For many years he was a trustee of the Bethel school district, and served for several years as clerk of the board. His passing away in June, 1913, was regarded as a distinct loss to the community whose best interests were always his first consideration. His widow now has 160 acres of the land held by him, upon which she is raising grapes and fruit with remarkable success.

Mrs. Dean is an estimable woman, an entertaining conversationalist, and is admired, also, for her business ability. She is a stockholder in the California Associated Raisin Company and the Peach Growers, Inc., is a Democrat in national politics, belongs to the Women of Woodcraft, and is public-spirited to a high degree and counts her friends by the score.

**CHARLES PREUSS.**—One of the most worthy deceased pioneers of Highland Colony, Fresno County, a man who was noted for his public spirit and excellent business judgment, was the late Charles Preuss, a native of West Prussia, Germany, where he was born March 10, 1858. After immigrating to the United States he lived for a while in Texas, before coming to California in 1892, where Mr. Preuss bought twenty acres in section nineteen and about 1905 he bought twenty acres adjoining that was owned by the late



Henry Kramer, this forty he afterwards sold to a good advantage. In 1907 he purchased eighty acres from the Siering Company, Inc., which he improved and where he built a fine residence. He was a pioneer of the Highland Colony and was always greatly interested in its development and being a large hearted generous man helped many persons, who are now prosperous vineyardists, to buy land and get a start and settle in this district, which eventually developed into a very productive raisin and table grape section.

In the year 1903 Mr. Preuss was united in marriage with Katy Marcus a native of Russia, born near Saratov, a daughter of Adam and Katharine (Karle) Marcus, both natives of Russia, of German ancestry. Her father was a well-to-do farmer in the German Russian Colony which originally settled in the valley of the Volga about two hundred years ago. After her father's death, in Russia, her mother with six children, immigrated to the United States and settled in Fresno County. She passed away in 1908, aged sixty years. One sister, Mrs. Lizzie Dahringer, and a brother, Henry Marcus, reside in Fresno. Mr. and Mrs. Charles Preuss were the parents of six children: Herman, who died at the age of four years; Charles; Adolph; Emma; Ferdinand; and Olga.

On January 1, 1913, Mr. Preuss passed away at his home ranch on Jensen Avenue, nine miles east of Fresno. He was always very popular in his community and by his genial personality gained and held the esteem of his many friends and neighbors. Fraternally he was a member of the Odd Fellows and at one time served as trustee of Highland School District. Mr. Preuss was a very progressive business man and helped in the organization of the first raisin association, also the Malaga Packing House, and Sanger Winery. He was greatly interested in every movement that had as its aim the advancement of the best interests of the Highland Colony and Fresno County.

**ALLAN McNAB.**—Of all the enterprising, solid men of good old eastern stock who came West to throw in their fortune with that of California, it is doubtful if many ever felt and responded to the lure of the golden commonwealth as did Andrew McNab, the father of Allan McNab, the well-posted and successful horticulturist and viticulturist of Fresno County. Andrew was of good old Scotch parentage, although he was born in Manchester, England, and he lived in Glasgow until his seventh year; but being then made an orphan, he came to the United States with an older brother. He thus spent part of his boyhood in New England; and growing up at Fall River Mills, he learned the block printer's trade. In 1849, he started for California, excited by the reports of the discovery of gold; but he got no farther than the Isthmus and, doubtless discouraged by reports, returned to New England, locating in New Hampshire. In Manchester, he started in the grocery business, at which he was always successful.

In 1861, Mr. McNab again started for California by way of Panama, and this time reached San Francisco. He did not remain long in the city, but pushed on to Placer County, where he tried his luck at mining; but giving that up, he returned to New Hampshire and again opened a grocery store. Catching the California fever again, however, he came West once more in 1871; and this time he brought his family. But the next year found him back in New Hampshire.

One would think, perhaps, that by this time Mr. McNab might have settled down, either on the Atlantic or the Pacific; but the year following the Philadelphia Centennial, he still again came out to California, accompanied by his family; and having remained a couple of years, in 1879 he returned to New Hampshire. In 1882 he made his last trip to the Golden State; and here, aged but fifty-six, he died in 1883. During his experiences in California, he was interested in a ranch back of Twin Peaks; and there, in partnership with Orrin and Charles Taber, both early California settlers, he owned the

Guadalupe Valley dairy. Charles Taber is dead, but Orrin still resides in San Jose.

Mrs. Andrew McNab was Emily P. Taber before her marriage in New Hampshire, and she came of an old New England family. She proved a valuable helpmate, and one willing to share thick and thin with her husband. She died in Fresno County in 1914, aged eighty-two years, while living on Allan McNab's ranch. She was the mother of two children—Allan, the subject of our interesting sketch, and Elgin, the well-known viticulturist in the Temperance Colony.

Born in Manchester, N. H., Allan McNab was reared there, meanwhile making several trips to California with his parents. He began his schooling at Manchester, continued it at San Jose, where he attended the University of the Pacific in 1877 and 1878, and in 1878-79 took a course in Heald's Business College, San Francisco, from which he was graduated with honors in June, 1879. Like his father, his experience as a young man was in connection with both eastern and western social and business conditions, and he was thus able to lay a very broad and deep foundation.

Returning to New Hampshire, he assisted his father in the grocery store, and in 1881 the latter turned the business over to him and his brother Elgin, and they conducted it together until 1884, when they sold out and came to San Francisco. There, at the corner of Valencia and Twenty-third Streets, Allan established a fruit and vegetable business; but selling this in 1887, he bought a Chronicle route in the Mission district. Soon he had charge of other routes; but in 1900 he disposed of the newspaper business and returned to New Hampshire on a two months' vacation, going by way of the Southern Pacific Railroad, and returning to California along the line of the Canadian Pacific. For eleven months he was then proprietor of the White Star Laundry at Santa Rosa; but returning to San Francisco, he bought a Bulletin route in the Mission district and managed it from 1901 to 1903.

Selling out, Mr. McNab came to Fresno in July, 1903, and bought his present place of forty acres, in the Eggers Colony. Since then, he has steadily improved it, devoting his attention both to horticulture and to viticulture, until now he has twenty-two acres planted to muscats, six acres to malagas, six acres to figs, and two and a half acres to olives. It is under the Gould ditch, and shipments are made on the Interurban from Las Palmas station. For some years Mr. McNab was secretary of the Farmer's Union, and he is still an active member of the California Associated Raisin Company.

At Manchester, N. H., in 1880, Mr. McNab was married to Miss Ella M. Wilkins, a native of that city; and three children have blessed their union: Hattie Bell, now Mrs. Rushen; George A.; and Gladys M., or Mrs. Passons, all of whom live in this vicinity. A Republican in matters of national political import, but very devoted to the interests of his locality, irrespective of party, Mr. McNab endeavors in every way to advance the standard of living in Central California.

**THOMAS BULLIS.**—Among the pioneer residents of Sanger and vicinity, the prominent vineyardist and retired contractor, Thomas Bullis, is noteworthy for his energy, keen foresight and wisdom, which have resulted in the accumulation of a competency.

A native of Racine, Wis., born September 18, 1852, he was orphaned when but a babe. Thrown upon his own resources for a livelihood at the age of thirteen, he went to Iowa where he worked for his board and small wages. At fifteen he decided to take up the trade of carpentry, and followed this occupation in Cass County, Iowa. When the town of Atlantic, Iowa, was started he was one of the first on the ground, assisting in building up the new town by doing teaming, and later carpenter work. He afterwards went to Dakota, where he homesteaded a piece of land in Brown County, proved up on it and remained there three years. He then went to Abensville, Kans.,

where he followed the carpenter's trade, and in 1888 came to California, locating in the fall, at Sanger, the business portion of which at that time consisted of one store and twelve saloons.

He purchased five acres in Walton Colony, improved it, setting out vines and orchard, and lived on the place twelve years. He then settled in Sanger and followed the occupation of contracting and building. He erected the Winner and the Giles business blocks in Sanger, also a number of fine homes in the town, as well as on various ranches all over the valley. In the meantime he bought 113 acres on the river bottom, cleared it of brush and later sold it. His present ranch is located two miles west of Sanger. He first purchased forty acres and later added another forty acres to it, planting the property to vines and fruit. He deeded forty acres of the place to his son. The eighty acres, which is finely improved, is planted to peaches, Thompson seedless and muscat grape vines and yields on an average two tons of dried fruit to an acre. In 1911 Mr. Bullis retired from the contracting business and now devotes his entire time to his ranch.

His marriage united him with Martha Saunders, a native of Indiana. The one son born of this union, William E., married Allie Kline, by whom he became the father of one child, a daughter, Verda.

**FRED W. HANSEN.**—As president of the San Joaquin Valley Milk Producers' Association and as a native son of California, Fred W. Hansen is well and favorably known to the people of Fresno County and the San Joaquin Valley. He was born July 4, 1876, in the old Hansen homestead on Fig Avenue, in Central Colony, Fresno County. His parents were Jens and Christiana (Fredericksen) Hansen, both born, reared and educated in Denmark. They were sweethearts in their native country, and it was but natural that when Mr. Hansen considered coming to America the girl of his choice should make her decision and be a member of the same party to cross the Atlantic in 1873. The elder Hansen was an experienced dairyman in his native country. When he arrived in California in the above-named year he found employment as a laborer in the vicinity of Oakland for about eighteen months, after which he came to Fresno County, driving a horse team, and settled as one of the pioneers in Central Colony. This was in 1875, and it was in Fresno County that he and the girl of his choice were married that same year. They labored together and enjoyed the esteem of their neighbors and friends, and at last answered the final summons, both passing away in Fresno County.

Fred W. Hansen was educated in the public schools of Fresno County and early showed a disposition to learn the details of planting and caring for vines; he also inherited the dairyman's instinct and a love of stock. As a vineyardist he was said to have the finest raisin vineyard in the county, and as a dairyman he has made a record to be envied. He was the promoter of the Danish Creamery and operated it for two years with marked success; and he also ran a milk wagon in Fresno to supply the people with milk. He is a born organizer and a convincing talker. He believes thoroughly in centralization of the dairy interests of the state and has been an ardent worker in the organizations that have led up to the present San Joaquin Valley Milk Producers' Association. He and his father worked under trying conditions in the fruit industry, when with the advent of irrigation the water-table rose and the alkali from the hard-pan beneath killed their trees and vines; and they met all kinds of competition in dairying. These severe lessons in the hard school of experience only strengthened his claims that co-operation and organization were the only successful means by which to handle local conditions and bring order and prosperity out of chaos and low prices. He made his first venture in the Danish Creamery, which was the first co-operative creamery association to successfully operate in the county. Today (1919) the dairy interests are pretty generally organized throughout the state, as is shown by the existence of dairymen's associations in San Francisco, Oakland, Los Angeles, Sacramento Valley, Northern California and



*Fred W. Hansen*



the San Joaquin Valley. Mr. Hansen has been a diligent worker to bring about these organizations by heartily cooperating with all movements to that end.

The San Joaquin Valley Milk Producers' Association is one of nine units in the state at the present time. It was instituted in August, 1917, and is meeting with well-merited success. A corps of solicitors are employed and about forty percent. of the milk producers of the valley have signed up, and its influence is rapidly spreading. This concern takes in every industry in which cows' milk is the basic element. The marketing association for the whole state is known as the Associated Dairymen of California, its directorate being made up of two directors from each unit who meet in San Francisco once a month to exchange ideas and work for the best interests of all. The officers of the local unit are: Fred W. Hansen, president and manager; Al McNeil, first vice-president; M. H. Tyrrell, second vice-president; B. B. Minor, secretary; H. E. Vogel, treasurer. The directors of the association are: William Glass, Fred W. Hansen, H. E. Vogel, Al. McNeil, J. A. Coelho, Frank Howell, J. W. Guiberson, M. H. Tyrrell, B. B. Minor, W. F. Wyatt and Ralph Cushman. Offices are maintained in the Cory Building, Fresno. The association plans to erect and equip a general utility plant at Tulare, costing about \$150,000, for taking care of dairy by-products in the San Joaquin Valley, which shows the immensity of the dairy interests here.

In 1896 Fred W. Hansen was united in marriage with Dorothea Gortz, who was born in Denmark and came to Fresno County in company with the elder Hansens on their return from a visit to their native land. Of this union eight children have been born: William W., in the United States Navy; Christian J. J., who served in France in the Engineers' Corps and is now at home; Kirby W., serving in the quartermaster's department of mechanics in France, and one of the young men selected by the government for an educational course in a college in Europe, where he is taking a course in agriculture; Mata G., a sophomore in the Fresno High School; Frederick J., also a student in the Fresno High; Milton L. and Ernest, in the grammar school; and Arthur Leroy, at home. Mr. and Mrs. Hansen are members of the Elm Avenue Danish Lutheran Church. He is, and has been for several years, a member of the trustees of the Orange Center school district; and is a member of the Odd Fellows and of the Danish Brotherhood. The Hansen home continues, as in the pioneer days, to extend a liberal hospitality to friend or stranger. Mrs. Hansen is a most able helpmate to her husband and they enjoy a wide acquaintanceship in Fresno County, where they are highly esteemed.

**C. B. HUDDLESTON.**—A pioneer who as a boy and young man had many hardships to overcome, and who so overcame them that he grew up strong of body and mind, self-made and self-reliant, a man of integrity and liberality, is C. B. Huddleston, now the leading man in the raisin and peach section of the Eschol school district. He resides three one-half miles southwest of Kingsburg, and there divides his attention between worthy business operations and works of charity and reform.

Washington's Birthday, 1856, was the festive natal day of Mr. Huddleston, who was born in Harrison County, Mo., near Bethany, the county seat, the son of John and Harriet (Babbitt) Huddleston. The former was born in Knox County, Tenn., and came to Missouri with an uncle, David Buck, thereafter following farming; while Mrs. Huddleston was a native of Illinois. Both, therefore, were very early settlers of Harrison County. In 1851, Mr. Huddleston came out to California, leaving his family in Missouri; but after mining for thirteen months, he went back with a train of horses, and a year later, having been taken with pneumonia, he died there.

C. B. Huddleston was only three and a half years old when his mother was left a widow with five children, he being the fourth youngest, and the only boy. When he was six his mother married again and seven years later

she died. All the schooling that he obtained was secured while he was working nights and mornings for his board in the winter time after the war. There were no schools during war-time in his neighborhood, but the district was subject to jayhawking and bushwhacking. Most of his knowledge, therefore, has been obtained since he was grown, by wide reading; but he is at present a very well-informed man. After the death of his mother, Mr. Huddleston had no home, and then he worked out by the month on farms, until he was twenty, when he began to rent Missouri land.

At the age of twenty-five, and while he was still in the Iron State, Mr. Huddleston was married to Miss Mary M. Reed, the accomplished daughter of S. B. and Parmelia (Shackleford) Reed, and a sister of David Reed, the enterprising flour and feed man in Kingsburg. The only one of the family now living, Mr. Huddleston was exceedingly fortunate in his marriage, and has thus been able to perpetuate the family name with honor and happiness. With Mr. Huddleston, a half-brother came to California, but he went back to Missouri after ten months, and is still living there.

It was on March 3, 1898, that the expectant party alighted from the cars at Traver, where they lived a month, when they moved to Kingsburg. In 1903, Mr. Huddleston bought forty acres, his first investment in California land, near the place where he now lives in the Eschol school district. By hard work, he soon transformed the acreage, and it has more than once been remarked that whatever C. B. Huddleston had to do with, prospered. He owns forty-four acres of well-improved land three and a half miles southwest of Kingsburg, and has twenty-five acres in peaches, eight acres in Thompson seedless, and the balance in alfalfa.

Mr. and Mrs. Huddleston have become the parents of six children, all of whom have done well: John S. is a rancher in the Eschol district, and married Myra Beaver, by whom he has had six children—Francis, Bernice, Vernal, Raymond, Clyde, and Forest. Gertrude is the wife of Hubert Ratliff, a farmer in the Laguna de Tache grant; and she has five children—Margaret, Rawlston, Max, Charles, and the baby. Mvrtle married A. T. Brewer, the wide-awake butcher at Kingsburg, and she is the mother of five children—Bonna, Morgan, Lynn, Dale, and Dante. Iva is the wife of Hugh Clark, Mr. Brewer's partner in the meat market, and they have one child, Fay. Claire Franklin is at home, and Hugh, seventeen years old, is a student at the Kingsburg high school. The family belongs to the Methodist Episcopal Church at Kingsburg.

Mr. Huddleston has always been public-spirited, and anxious to do his full civic duty; he has served sixteen years as a member of the board of education of the Eschol school district, and has served in trial and other jury work.

**FRANK D. ROSENDAHL.**—Not without reason was it that Frank D. Rosendahl, popularly known as Judge Rosendahl, enjoyed the highest favor and goodwill of the largest number of his fellowcitizens, for he was not only the pioneer of all the Swedes who came to Kingsburg, but he encouraged hundreds of others to settle here, and so gave a tremendous impetus to the town along the best and most permanent lines. He himself first saw the light of day in Sweden, having been born there on June 5, 1843, a son of Henry Rosendahl, who came to the United States in the early seventies and for a while lived in New York. The father had been an iron-maker in a rolling mill in his native country, and that line of work he followed on coming to America. In the middle seventies he moved west to California and until his death, which occurred in 1890, he shared the home of his son who came with him via the Isthmus of Panama to San Francisco in 1875. The companion of his joys and sorrows, whose maiden name was Elizabeth Erickson, whom he had married in Sweden, died there, the mother of two sons and three daughters, of whom our subject was the eldest.



Frank Rosendahl attended the excellent common schools of Sweden, then went to college, and topped off with the study of landscape gardening at the Rosendahl College in Stockholm, where he also mastered surveying. In 1868 he was engaged to lay out the city part of Umeo, Sweden; and in the same year he crossed the ocean to New York, where he was employed in Central Park and remained for seven years as division gardener.

In 1875 he came to San Francisco as gardener in Golden Gate Park, which was then being laid out, and a year later embarked in the nursery business at Oakland. His success was so marked that it was only a logical step for him to move to Fresno, in 1878, and engage in the raising of fruit in Washington Colony. Later Mr. Rosendahl traded this ranch for 140 acres in the Kingsburg Colony, and there he followed the nursery business until 1900, when his son, Henry Rosendahl, assumed the direction of the work. In the meantime, Mr. Rosendahl transacted more or less business in real estate, from 1885 handling all kinds of property and giving his best efforts in particular to the colonization of Kingsburg. In this he was very successful, bringing here his fellowcountrymen and others, so that he is gratefully remembered by all who knew him for unselfish qualities of character that had their bearing on the happiness of thousands of lives.

While in Sweden, Mr. Rosendahl was married to Hannah Elizabeth Wickman, a native of that beautiful country, and they became the parents of several children: Frank T. is a rancher in the vicinity of Bakersfield; Henry was a nurseryman of Turlock and is now a rancher at Kingsburg; Fannie and Edith are teachers at Fresno, and Fannie served as County School Superintendent of Fresno County for eight or nine years; and Florence, who taught at San Jose. In fraternal life, Mr. Rosendahl was a member of the Independent Order of Foresters, having been active in the lodge at Kingsburg. Miss Fannie Rosendahl has become prominent in the educational world as Assistant Superintendent of Schools for Fresno County, and her sisters, Edith and Florence, live with her in Fresno.

For many years a staunch and energetic Republican, Mr. Rosendahl not only served in the councils of the party, but for years was Justice of the Peace. His record as a magistrate was in the highest degree creditable, and has become to his descendants a precious heritage. Mr. Rosendahl died on August 26, 1915, and his remains were interred in the cemetery at Fresno.

**WALTER WILSON DUKE.**—A popular business man whose success is due to his high ideals and standards of conduct, is Walter Wilson Duke, a native of Missouri, born near Carrollton, August 28, 1870. His father, W. H. Duke, was a Kentuckian, and his mother, who was Elizabeth Lester before her marriage, came from Tennessee. This fusion of some of the finest of Southern blood was bound to tell, and Walter W. started life with physical and mental force such as would spell attainment and prosperity. His father moved to Missouri and farmed there, and when he left the Iron State, he received the farewells and best wishes of many who deeply regretted his going; it was in 1876 that Mr. Duke's course lay across the broad continent to the northwest and Oregon. At Lakeview, in Lake County, he at last pitched his tent, and as a farmer and stockman, won success for himself and pointed the way for others to follow, and there he died, honored by all who knew him. One might very well find in just such lives as that of W. H. Duke and his faithful wife the entire story of the conquering of a vast continent by the Eastern pioneer. The oldest of their four children, Walter W. was brought up at Lakeview, and there attended the public school. He learned farming, and with a boy's enthusiasm, he rode the range. His experiences were not always pleasant, nor were his tasks light, but he proved what was in him, and prepared himself for the real tussle with the world.

When he was twenty-one, Mr. Duke engaged in farming for himself in Lake County, Ore., and in 1898 he moved to Modoc County, Cal. At Davis

Creek he managed the Davis Creek hotel; and he soon engaged in the raising of sheep, cattle, horses and hogs. He leased a ranch of about 1,000 acres, and for ten years was one of the most successful ranchmen. In 1908, he sold out and went to San Francisco; and a year later, he came to Kerman, where he bought a farm, and for three years raised alfalfa. Later he established his general merchandise store, at first in a small building a block below his present site. His stock was not large, but his business acumen, his straightforwardness, and his desire to be of service to his patrons, enabled him to do a good business from the start.

In January, 1915, Mr. Duke bought his present site and erected a reinforced concrete structure, forty-five by eighty feet, affording two large stores, and his business has grown until the Duke establishment is noted for the completeness and quality of stock handled. Mr. Duke is active in the Merchants Association of Kerman and was one of the organizers and a charter member of the Chamber of Commerce. He is a live wire in all that will advance the community or benefit the State. Loyal to the principles of the Democratic party, he is non-partisan in local issues.

Mrs. Duke before her marriage on April 19, 1915, was a popular Minneapolis maiden, Katherine R. de Harven, and she came of good old French stock. Their one child is named Walter de Harven Duke. Mrs. Duke attends the Episcopal Church.

**MISS JULIA ELLEN FLEMING.**—The appearance of woman in the modern business world is not such a commonplace event that one does not wonder a little when they succeed, amid the sharpest of competition; and when that success is so apparent and undeniable, as in the case of Miss Julia Ellen Fleming, admiration is added to the surprise, and the whole world, so to speak, is ready good-naturedly to doff its hat. What is delightful about the whole affair is that Miss Fleming bears her laurels just like any other mortal, looking upon her success as natural enough.

A native of Fresno, of which thriving California city she is always proud, Miss Fleming is the daughter of Russell Harrison Fleming, one of the well-known pioneers of Central California and a member of a sturdy family reaching back through our early Colonial history to historic old Ireland. Her grandfather, John Fleming, came from the North of Ireland and served in the War of 1812; and later he died in Pennsylvania at the hearty age of sixty-five. Her grandmother, on the other hand, a native of Massachusetts and Annie Karle by her maiden name, lived to be almost one hundred years old. In Mariposa County, at the beginning of the troubled year of 1863, Russell Fleming married Elizabeth Dorgan, who had come to the United States when she was a child, and had lost all trace of her Cork near of kin. Mr. Fleming engaged in farming, mining, staging and the livery business, and thus had a busy and varied career; but he provided well for his family, and this may have been one of the most important early influences or conditions making for Miss Julia's success.

Educated at both the public grammar and high schools, where she was equipped for office work of an expert character, Miss Fleming in 1900 engaged with W. T. Mattingly, and later entered the service of Smith & Ostrander, attorneys. Having by that time made for herself a reputation for ability and fidelity that commenced to create a demand for her services, she accepted a position of responsibility with the Shepard Teague Company, and with that concern remained nine years. She was also for four years with the Shepherd-Cochrane Company of Fresno and on September 1, 1915, she established a business for herself. How well the public has responded with confidence in her judgment and conscientiousness may be seen from the fact that Miss Fleming is now energetically representing several of the leading companies of the entire country. Among these are the New Hampshire Fire Insurance



*Julia Ellen Fleming*



Company, The Boston Insurance Company, dealing in automobile insurance; the Home Fire and Marine Insurance Company; The United States Fidelity and Guaranty Company; The Massachusetts Bonding and Insurance Company, the last two named being casualty and bonding companies. In her reaching out after a just share of the local trade, Miss Fleming is rated one of the most energetic and attaining agents in the State. She also handles employers' liability insurance, and all other kinds of insurance, except life insurance, and is also a Notary Public. But Miss Fleming is more than a mere business woman, or one who participates in ordinary social affairs. She has a broader view of her obligation to society, takes a live interest in public issues, and so, while pushing trade and advancing the commercial prosperity of Fresno, she never neglects an opportunity to render civic service where she can. At this time of tremendous stress in particular, when women more than ever are finding their right place and coming to their own, Miss Fleming is doing her duty, modestly but faithfully, to enable Fresno to take the place she should in the columns of the nation.

**CHARLES STRID.**—For over thirty years a resident of the Kingsburg Colony, and one of its successful ranchers, Charles Strid is a worthy example of a self-made man who, after years of hard toil and continuous struggle, became the owner of a twenty-acre ranch in this prosperous section of Fresno County.

Charles Strid was born on August 21, 1866, at Nykroppa, Sweden, a son of Erik and Annie (Peterson) Strid. The father was an iron-miner and died in Sweden when about sixty years of age; the mother came to America in 1898, accompanied by her youngest son, Victor, and settled in the Kingsburg Colony where she passed away at the age of seventy-one. Mr. and Mrs. Erik Strid were the parents of ten children, nine grew up, and two were killed accidentally in the iron mines of Sweden—Anders, at the age of thirteen, and Gustav, who was twenty-seven and married, and who left a widow and one son, Anders Strid, who is now a rancher in the Kingsburg Colony. Emma came with her mother to America in 1898 and is now living in Oakland.

Charles Strid, the subject of this sketch, when a mere boy of twelve, went to work in the iron mines alongside of his father, and when fifteen he was able to do as much work as a grown man, continuing this hard work until he was twenty years of age. In 1886 he left his native land for the United States of America, settling at first at Ishpeming, Mich., where he worked in the iron mines for one year. Hearing about the wonderful opportunities in California and learning that Andrew Erickson, the present mayor of Kingsburg and pioneer settler, was located at Kingsburg, Charles Strid resolved to migrate to the Golden State, and accompanied by his oldest brother, Erik, he came to Kingsburg, arriving August 12, 1887. He was so favorably impressed with the country and its future prospects that upon the third day in Fresno County he purchased his present ranch of twenty acres, on credit, paying sixty-five dollars per acre and nine per cent. interest. With the aid of his brother Erik, he planted, during the first spring, two acres to muscat grapes, and afterwards worked out for one dollar per day to make living expenses. Four years later he planted eight acres more to muscat vines. After a long and hard struggle and many privations, Mr. Strid succeeded in paying for his ranch and becoming the owner of a home and twenty acres of valuable land. Five acres were planted to peaches and apricots but after about eighteen years the trees were not as profitable as in former years, so they were grubbed out and during the season of 1917-18 this five-acre tract was replanted to vines. In addition to his vineyard, Mr. Strid has improved his place with a house, barn and pumping-plant.

In 1906, Charles Strid was united in marriage with Miss Sophia Carlson, a native of Sweden, born at Westrejtland, a daughter of Carl and Anna

(Larson) Peterson; her father died when Sophia was six, and her mother passed away when she was nine years of age. Mrs. Strid had two brothers, John and Anders Carlson, both of whom died in Sweden; a sister, Selma, died in infancy. While living in Sweden, Sophia Carlson, now Mrs. Charles Strid, corresponded with her cousin, Miss Selma Anderson, then a resident of Rockford, Ill., who is now Mrs. Schoenlund, of Princeton, Ill., and she became so interested in America that she decided to emigrate to the United States, and in 1881 she arrived at Rockford, Ill. After remaining three years in Rockford, she removed to Minneapolis, Minn., where she resided three years and a half. In 1887 Sophia Carlson migrated to California and for one year resided at Colton, afterwards going to San Francisco and Oakland where she lived until 1906, when she married Mr. Strid and moved to the Kingsburg Colony, Fresno County.

Religiously Mrs. Strid is a member of the Baptist Church. Mr. Strid was confirmed in the Lutheran Church at the age of fourteen. He is a man of high principles, a worthy citizen of the county and is highly respected; he is a staunch supporter of the California Raisin Growers Association, as well as an enthusiastic booster for California and Fresno County.

**PETER OLSON.**—Few men probably in all Fresno County receive a larger share of merited goodwill and esteem from their fellowcitizens than Peter Olson, who reached San Francisco twenty-nine years ago, came to Kingsburg four years later, and now owns, among other property, a fine bungalow residence with a brick foundation, dating from 1913, and has as a help-mate in life one of the most genial of women, and has been blessed with several worthy children. He was born near Engelholm, Skaane, Sweden, on September 19, 1857, the son of Ole Person, a farmer and bricklayer, who was married in that country to Asseneva Foss, also a Swede, by whom he had four children who grew up in that land: Carolina, who was married, in Sweden, to Per Nilson, a farmer still active there; Jane, the third-born, who married Miss Mary A. Johnson, and is a rancher near Kingsburg; while Hildah, who came to America, died when she was eighteen years old.

Peter Olson, the second in the family, passed his boyhood and youth in Sweden, and when fourteen went to Halmstad and learned the baker's trade, after having had a limited schooling, which included confirmation in the state church of Sweden. Concluding his apprenticeship, he returned to Sweden, but almost immediately went to sea as a sailor, putting out from Forsom, in Norway. He sailed for Norwegian and Danish ship companies, and for six years followed the life of a sailor. He visited Iceland, Archangel (Russia) various ports of England, Scotland, Ireland, Portugal, Spain, France, the Mediterranean, Finland, Russia, Holland, Germany, Denmark, Sweden, and Norway.

Some of his voyages were romantic, and during one he had such a trying adventure that he was converted and resolved to lead a Christian life. He made four trips to America; and on the fourth, while with a Norwegian sailing vessel from London to Quebec, he was wrecked and nearly lost his life. A monster Greenland whale struck the ship off the Newfoundland Banks, and the vessel immediately went down. All twelve of the crew took to the life-boats and were tossed about until rescued by a Rotterdam passenger boat and taken to New York City. There, unfortunately, he could get no work, so he made one more trip to Bordeaux, France, but he returned to New York the next spring, and the same April came on to Chicago. This was in 1880, and failing to secure work on the land, he shipped as a sailor on the Great Lakes.

That fall, Mr. Olson went to Minnesota and worked in the woods at Haviland, getting out lumber, and the next spring he began to learn the carpenter's trade, joining a crew of house-builders. For twelve years he continued to work as a carpenter, six in Minnesota, three in San Francisco, and three

after he had arrived at Kingsburg, and it was only after that that he commenced farming. So successful has he been in the latter field that for twenty-one years he has given most of his attention to ranching and the growing of fruit and curing of raisins; and in addition he has built several houses in and about Kingsburg, sometimes building them on a speculation and selling when he found the proper buyer.

Filial devotion was strong in Mr. Olson, and when he had secured some promising work in Minnesota he sent for his father, mother and brother Jane, and for his sister Hildah, and they came to Minnesota to live. After a while, the father returned to Sweden and died there; whereupon the mother accompanied Peter to California where she continued to reside with him until she died six years ago, aged eighty-two.

Mr. Olson has been twice married. On November 25, 1882, at St. Paul, Minn., he was joined in wedlock to Emma Louisa Svenman, a native of Sweden, by whom he had four children: Virginia, the wife of Ernest Greel, a rice-grower and resident of Richvale, Butte County; Esther, the wife of Fred Moraine, who resides on a ranch near Kingsburg; Wesley, unmarried, was in the army and served in England, was honorably discharged and came home January 2, 1919; and Lawrence, who was in training at Camp Kearney, and was married June 19, 1918, to Miss Clementine Francis, of Kingsburg. Mrs. Olson having died on April 21, 1909. Mr. Olson remarried on October 25, 1909, choosing as his wife Miss Nettie V. Person, a native of Skaane, who, with Mr. Olson and the family, belongs to the Swedish Methodist Church at Kingsburg, which Mr. Olson helped to build. He was, in fact, for years a member of the board of trustees.

Mr. Olson owns three places near Kingsburg, of four acres, twenty acres, and thirty acres, respectively. The tract of thirty acres belonged to the eldest son, Wesley, who was in the army, but on account of the young man's departure in the service of his country, the land was deeded to his father, in trust. The youngest son, Lawrence, also owns a tract of forty acres.

**CHARLES WILLARD TRABING.**—The leading attorney at Kingsburg, and one of its most enterprising and honored citizens, is C. W. Trabling, the chairman of the Chamber of Commerce. He was born at Medicine Bow, Carbon County, Wyo. His father was Charles A. Trabling, a leading financier and stockman of that state, who passed away at the early age of thirty-six, his death being attributed to blood poisoning. Charles A. Trabling was born in Germany and immigrated to America when a young man. He became one of the leading men of Wyoming and with a brother owned at one time the great "T. B." (Trabling Brothers) ranch located north of Medicine Bow. Charles A. Trabling was united in marriage, at Laramie, with Miss Minnie Dykeman, of Broome County, N. Y. This union was blessed with five children: Ruth Agnes, who is now the wife of J. H. W. Jones, an orchardist residing at Watsonville; Lewis Edward, in the hardware business at Marysville; Charles Willard, the subject of this review; Raymond Clarence, an orchardist and carpenter and builder at Watsonville; and Daisy, who passed away when five years of age. After her husband's demise Mrs. Trabling moved to Ogden, Utah, and later to California and lives now in Pajaro Valley, Cal.

Charles W. Trabling, was but four years of age when his father died. His early education was received in the public schools at Ogden, which was afterwards supplemented with a college education received at the University of Wyoming and Santa Clara College, near San Jose, Cal.; and he studied oil painting for six years at Hopkins Art Institute at San Francisco, also studied under William Keith, the famous landscape artist of San Francisco, and finally under Professor Grimpie of Oakland. Possessing a penchant for legal lore, he thoroughly prepared himself for the practice of that profession, and in 1910 he was admitted to practice by the Supreme Court of California,



and later was also admitted to the United States Federal Court. Four years ago he located at Kingsburg, Fresno County, where he is successfully conducting a general law practice. Mr. Trabing is an able attorney of strict integrity, who carefully studies and prepares each case with a scrupulous regard for justice to all. To these ideals he clings with unswerving fidelity and to this may be attributed his rapidly increasing clientele and the building of a lucrative practice, his office records showing an increase of fifty percent. each year since his location at Kingsburg. C. W. Trabing is a man of distinguished personality and poise, and a recognized orator. In addition to his comprehensive knowledge of jurisprudence, he possesses keen business acumen which he gained through his extensive commercial activities at Laramie, Wyo., where he conducted, previous to his coming to California, a large and successful business in grain, hay and feed, and owned one-fourth interest in a cattle ranch of 1,200 acres. These business experiences have given him a clearer conception of the perplexities arising from the conduct of commercial enterprises and greatly aid him in the untangling of legal problems which business men find so difficult of solving. C. W. Trabing is vitally interested in the commercial and industrial welfare of Kingsburg, and of Fresno County and is a loyal worker for the advancement of the highest good of the community both intellectually and financially. He is secretary of the Chamber of Commerce and business manager of the Boosters Brass Band of Kingsburg.

The marriage of Mr. C. W. Trabing was solemnized at Watsonville, Cal., on July 9, 1913, when he was united with Miss Edith Mann, a daughter of Ezekiel and Anna (Rowe) Mann, well known residents of Watsonville. Mr. and Mrs. Trabing were very popular in the most cultured social circles of Kingsburg. A great sorrow came to Mr. Trabing in the untimely death of his wife who succumbed to the influenza on November 2, 1918. She was well beloved in Kingsburg, where she was a class leader and a member of the choir of the Methodist Episcopal Church. She was also secretary of the Women's Improvement Club of Kingsburg, and was an active worker and officer in the Kingsburg branch of the Red Cross.

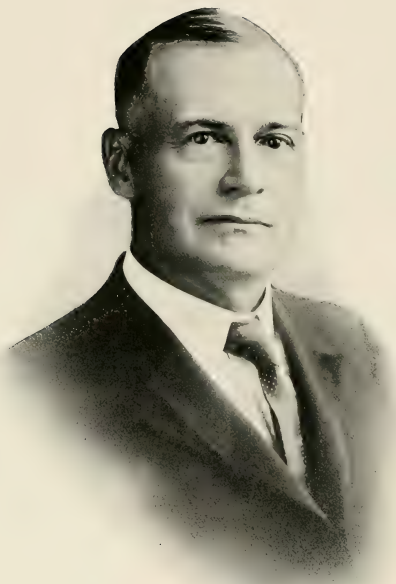
Mr. Trabing served as chairman of the Legal Advisory Board of the Kingsburg District, during the war period, and as such received all questionnaires and passed upon all exemptions, and was chairman of the Four Minute Men at Kingsburg. He was also the local food administrator and did valuable work on all bond and other war drives.

**CHRIS H. SMITH.**—An interesting old-timer, who enjoys a prominent place among the builders of Central California, is Chris H. Smith, who first came to the Pacific Coast early in the eighties. He was born in Slesvig, near Haderlev, Denmark, on July 22, 1856, and his father was Hans Smith, a blacksmith and farmer in that section. His mother was Margareta Christensen before her marriage, and she died there leaving three children, one of whom—the subject of our sketch—chose to cast his lot in the United States.

As the second oldest, Chris was brought up to farm work, assisting his father; and under him he also learned the blacksmith trade. He attended the public schools, and when he became of age, he embarked in stock-dealing. A stock-dealer in Denmark might make a very fair living, but he would need to labor early and late; and most likely he would never grow rich. Thinking this fact over, Chris decided to migrate to the New World.

In 1881, he came to United States and California, and soon after his arrival, followed the blacksmith trade in San Leandro. At the end of nine months, however, he went in for farming near Hayward. In 1883 he came to Fresno County. At Oleander he hired out as a farm hand, but the next year he went back to Hayward, where he rented land and raised grain. He then established a hay and grain trade on East Eleventh Street, Oakland, and





*S. H. Hain*

he also had a livery business. He traded his property for a ranch in Big Penoche Valley, San Benito County, and raised grain and stock; and, with varying obstacles, made of the undertaking a success.

In 1894 Mr. Smith sold his farm and located in Easton, where he bought a vineyard of eighty acres and engaged in viticulture. At the end of five years, he disposed of this holding and in 1900 located here, purchasing forty acres on Kearney Boulevard, at the corner of Madison and Cleveland Avenues. It was raw land; so he leased the vineyard adjoining, improved his own place, and ran the leased land. He set out wine grapes and later grafted thereon Thompson seedless; and now he has his entire vineyard in malaga, feherzagos and Thompson's. He built his attractive residence, and added improvement after improvement, making a model ranch-vineyard. Meantime, he did what he could to help along cooperative marketing and now, as an active member of the California Associated Raisin Company, he has the satisfaction of seeing the fruit of his labors.

At Hayward, Mr. Smith was married to Margarethe Jorgensen, a native of Slesvig, Denmark, who came to California in 1888. He was made a Mason in the Hayward Lodge, F. & A. M., and is now a member of Fresno Lodge, No. 247. He belongs to the Danish Brotherhood, Fresno Chapter No. 67, and was once its president; and he is also a member of the Dania, Chapter No. 5, at Fresno, and has been honored with its presidency, and, with his wife, is a member of Thora Lodge, Ladies Branch of Dania, of which she is vice-president, and Mrs. Smith was also an active member of Danish Auxiliary and Fresno Chapter of Red Cross. In 1908 Mr. and Mrs. Smith made a trip back to their old home, but much as they enjoyed the renewal of endearing associations, they were glad to return to sunnier California.

In national politics Mr. Smith is a Democrat, but in local measures he seeks the closest and happiest cooperation among neighbors. Both Mr. and Mrs. Smith have high ideals as to the privileges and the duties of good citizens, and both are untiring in their efforts to advance Central California to the high position and sound prosperity she so richly deserves.

**S. H. HAIN.**—Prominent among the successful oil-producers of America, and of more than passing interest to the student of industrial development in the United States, on account of his scientific attainments and mechanical ingenuity, which have placed him in the front rank among oil men of the Golden State, is S. H. Hain, the superintendent of the Penn Coalinga Petroleum Company and also Section 7 Oil Company. He has originated many contrivances and conveniences on the lease, notably for the piping of gas and the condensing of steam, and he has also instituted various systems by which expenses have been saved, and in this Mr. Hain has enjoyed the cooperation, confidence, and good will of his employers, his colleagues and subordinates.

Mr. Hain was born in Glen Rock, York County, Pa., on March 30, 1871, the son of Adam Hain, who was a contractor and builder, and also a lumber manufacturer running a sawmill driven by water power. Adam Hain married Sarah Kreidler, who became the mother of four boys and one girl, and who, with her husband, is now dead. Our subject was the second eldest in this family, and commenced his schooling in the grammar institutions of the district, studying at the high school at Glen Rock and then attending the Millersville Normal, from which he was graduated in 1892. Then he became a teacher in York and Lancaster Counties, and in time was principal of the high school of Glen Rock.

In 1902, Mr. Hain came to California and located in Coalinga, and soon after he went into the field of oil development and accepted the superintendency of the York Coalinga Oil Company, later adding to his responsibilities the oversight of Section 7 Oil Company and the Penn Coalinga Oil Company, all of which he superintended from the time of their first well. He was also a stockholder from the beginning of the York Coalinga Oil Company

on Sec. 6-20-15, and on it sunk the first well, striking oil, and they have operated the well ever since, adding others that are producers, and whose flow has been remarkable if not phenomenal. The Penn Coalinga Petroleum Company's well was drilled next on Sec. 1-20-15, and Wells No. 1 and No. 2 were flowing, and are still producing. Then they developed Section 7 Oil Company on Sec. 7-20-15 and there struck oil; and not long after that they struck there one of the first gushers in the West Side field, with a strong flow of 3,000 barrels a day. What is so interesting, when one considers Mr. Hain's association with these enterprises, and the unquestionable value of his special gifts for such work and his studious attention to each problem as it arose, is the fact that the development of each company was remarkable for good results in general and the highest production in particular that could be reasonably expected.

A man of affairs and a far-seeing, natural leader, Mr. Hain has frequently been looked to for substantial cooperation in financial and commercial affairs. He was one of the original stockholders in the First National Bank of Coalinga, and a director from the start, and also one of the original organizers of the Coalinga Gas and Power Company, where he is still a director. He is interested in the Coalinga National Petroleum Company, operating in the Coalinga field, and this augurs well for the ambitious programs of the concern.

In Fresno, on December 10, 1913, Mr. Hain was married to Miss Mary Baker, a native of Arkansas, who through her pleasing personality adds to their wide circle of friends. He is a member of Lincoln Lodge of Odd Fellows at Lincoln, Lancaster County, Pa., and also of the Knights of Malta at York in that state. California and Fresno County offer opportunities befitting the character and genius of men like Mr. Hain, in the work of further developing our great commonwealth.

**CHARLES E. BERG.**—Among the worthy Central California pioneers must be rated Mr. and Mrs. Charles E. Berg, who own a finely-developed ranch of forty acres devoted to peaches and raisins, lying partly in Fresno and partly in Tulare County; for, having started with many handicaps, they are making sacrifices to give their children the proper education and rearing. Like her husband, Mrs. Berg has the nobility of human nature actuating her daily round of life; and both are appreciative of those blessings peculiar to the United States of America, and those advantages perhaps nowhere to be found outside of California. The comfortable residence of the Bergs is in Tulare County, but they do their trading at Kingsburg, and are identified with Fresno.

Mr. Berg is one of the original four settlers who came to Kingsburg from Ishpeming, Mich., in the fall of 1886, landing in Kingsburg on November 21, with a party consisting of two married men and their wives and families, and two still single. They were: Andrew Erickson (the present mayor of Kingsburg), his wife and a child; Mr. and Mrs. P. G. Hero and their three children; and Charles Carlson and Mr. Berg, both of whom were then unmarried. They all hailed from Ishpeming, and came west on the report and recommendation of Mr. Erickson, who had been chosen by a number of the Swedish-American citizens in Michigan to find suitable government land on the Pacific where they could most advantageously settle. At first Mr. Berg did not like his environment, and although he bought twenty acres, he stayed only a year, when he went south to Los Angeles and San Diego, where he worked for six months. After that he went north again, this time to San Francisco, and in the Bay City he helped build the cable street-car line, as well as the Howard Street Railway. Strange to say, electric cars have now entirely superseded the cable once erected at such cost and labor, except in the very steepest places of the city.

In August, 1890, Mr. Berg was married to Miss Emily Myhre, a native daughter of Norway, who once lived at Ishpeming, where they first met,

and in 1891 the happy couple came back to Kingsburg and began to improve the ten acres that he still owned after having sold, while discouraged, the half of his holding. Later, he bought back five acres, and this gave him fifteen acres in one fine tract. He made all the necessary improvements, including the building of a house, barns and other outbuildings, and planted the land to vines and trees; but finding the place too small, he disposed of it somewhat reluctantly and bought in its stead his present home place of forty acres, which he has also greatly improved. He is a member of the Raisin Growers Association, the Peach Growers Association, and the Apricot and Prune Growers Association of California.

Thus happily domiciled, Mr. Berg looks back with fond memories to the Province of Narke, in Sweden, where he was born in 1861. His father was August Berg, a farm laborer in poor circumstances, while his mother had been Magdalena Person. They were both natives of Sweden, and they died in the land of their birth. They had five children, the oldest of whom is Clara, now the widow of John Q. Nelson, who resides near Kingsburg; then came the subject of our sketch; the third was Peter, a rancher who lives near Charles; the fourth was Gust, who is married and lives east of Kingsburg; and Anna, who died in Sweden.

Mr. and Mrs. Berg have three children: Alice, a graduate of the Kingsburg High School, is a milliner at Oakland; Edward, who graduated from the Agricultural College of the University of California and became assistant Farm Adviser in Tulare County, and who was recently married in Fresno to Miss Martha Ophelia Hayes of Fresno; and Clara, who is employed at the telephone office, having also graduated from the Kingsburg High School. Mr. Berg is a stockholder in the telephone company, which he helped organize in 1904, and was formerly a director. When the proposition to introduce the telephone was first made, Mr. Berg worked for it; and since then he has been identified with nearly every progressive movement here.

**ANTONE JOSEPH.**—There are but few of the pioneers of forty-nine left in California, but there is a much larger number of those who came a decade or two later, and among these is Antone Joseph, a wealthy pioneer sheepman of Fresno County. Antone Joseph is a man of sterling worth, and a true type of the Fresno County pioneer of the seventies—hard-working, painstaking, intelligent, frugal and self-denying. It is not an easy matter for us to appreciate the difficulties that the early settlers had to encounter in the undeveloped, arid, cactus-covered, wind-swept and sparsely settled territory. They had the courage to brave hardship, privation and trial, and justly deserve the esteem and respect accorded them.

A Portuguese by nationality, Antone Joseph was born September 11, 1857, on the Island of Pico, one of the Azores, where his father had a small farm. His father, Antone, and his mother Maria (de Brown) Joseph, lived and died on the island. Antone was the only son. He has an only sister, Marie de Brown Goulath, who resides on the Island of Pico. Death claimed the father when his son Antone was a child three years old. Antone worked on his mother's farm until he was seventeen years of age, and raised a few cattle and sheep. He was seventeen when he came to California in 1874, and for two years worked on ranches in Alameda County. He came to Fresno in 1875 and continued his ranch work. He worked for P. C. Phillips, at Kingsburg, for two years, then started in the sheep business, working up until his flock numbered 20,000 head. Then the panic during the Cleveland administration caused the price of wool to fall to almost nothing, and Antone Joseph lost two sections of land and all of his sheep, a loss of about \$300,000. Undaunted by this calamity he bravely started again, working out by the month until the year 1900, then began with a small bunch of sheep, and for the succeeding eight years gave his best efforts to the sheep business. Fifteen years ago he bought his ranch of 560 acres one mile south of Monmouth,

and in 1908 he turned his attention to mixed farming, raising cattle and swine for the past eleven years. He has also planted vines and trees, and has fifteen acres of Thompson seedless, ten acres of muscats and seven acres of peach trees.

In 1884 Mr. Joseph was married to Marie L. Vierra, and they became the parents of fifteen children, among whom we mention the following: Amelia is single and lives at home. Mainnie is the wife of S. D. Harmon and is the mother of three living children; they reside at Fresno. Josephine married Joe Marcial; she lived with her parents on the ranch and died after her marriage, leaving no children. Leonore is the wife of Ernest Caldwell, a rancher near Caruthers. Ed married Beulah Purse, and is a rancher near Selma. Claude married Joe Brocco, a rancher near Monmouth, and they have three children—Bertha, Clarence, and Manuel. Vearnie and Leslie, are living at home, and Minnie and Lelah died in infancy. Mr. Antone and his large family live comfortably on his ranch, upon which he built a fine bungalow country home at a cost of \$5,000 eight years ago.

He is a brother-in-law of Joe Rogers, one of the thirty-nine held up by the desperado Vasquez, at Kingston. Mr. Antone was well acquainted with such men as the Rowell brothers, Cuthbert, Burrell, Jefferson James, P. C. Phillips, William Schultz and William Helme. He is a member of the Catholic Church at Selma and in politics is a consistent Republican. He has bought Liberty Bonds for himself and every member of his family, and is well liked and respected by his friends and neighbors.

**HUGO KREYENHAGEN.**—Nestling among the foot-hills of the Coast Range mountains and extending back from the northern end of the Kettleman plains, lies the Canoas Rancho, one of the three large ranches owned by the Kreyenhagens, and the residence of Hugo Kreyenhagen. The house is large, comfortable and modern, and is gracefully presided over by his accomplished wife; both Mr. and Mrs. Kreyenhagen being liberal and kind hearted vie with each other in dispensing old-time Californian hospitality.

Hugo Kreyenhagen was born in the Oak Openings, at what was then called West Point, now Oakland, Cal., November 2, 1858. His father, Gustave a native of Germany, was a college graduate and a man of scholarly attainments who was master of six languages. He was married in his native country to Julia Ilering, and about 1853 came to St. Louis, Mo., where he was an instructor in a college until he came to San Francisco, Cal., via Panama. He was engaged in the mercantile business and it was during his residence at West Point that Hugo was born. Afterwards he engaged in sheep raising on the Peach Tree Ranch in Monterey County, and also on a ranch near Gilroy. In about 1867 he located on the West Side of the San Joaquin Valley, at a place which became known as Kreyenhagens' Corners, where he ran a store and raised sheep until Los Banos was started in the same locality and he became one of the first settlers of the new town, built a store and a hotel, and was in business there at the same time with his sons; he also continued sheep-raising as well as freighting. He sold his holdings there and in 1876 located at Posa Chene, now Turk Station, Fresno County, where he built a store, hotel, livery stable and sheep corrals, and with his sons engaged in the merchandise business and stock-raising, also in buying land. He owned Fresno Hot Springs, where he built a hotel and made improvements—a place still owned by the estate—and here he and his wife spent their last days, a worthy couple much esteemed for their culture and high moral and religious principles.

Of their five children who grew to maturity, Hugo is the second oldest. From a boy he learned the stock business, riding the range and assisting in grain-raising. His education was obtained in Christian Brothers College, Oakland, and when his school days were ended he threw all of his energies into the stock business in which he and his brothers have been so successful. He came to Posa Chene when he was a young man of eighteen, so he has seen







*Hugo Kreyenbogen*



*Marie M. Krueenhagen*



all of the wonderful development of the West Side, in which he has taken a part and of which he can be justly proud. The four brothers Kreyenhagen continued together, raising both sheep and cattle, running about 10,000 head of sheep and 600 head of cattle. Later they disposed of their sheep and devoted their whole range to raising cattle, and are today undoubtedly the largest individual cattle growers in Fresno County. They purchased land from time to time until they own three large adjoining ranches known as "Canoas," "Zapato Cheno," and "Los Polvaderos," lying southeast of Coalinga and embracing about 10,000 acres. The ranches are well watered by wells and streams and springs, the latter extending back into the foot-hills of the Coast Range, making them well adapted for cattle-raising. Besides these ranches they lease about 35,000 acres of railroad and other lands, thus having an important and valuable range for their large herds of graded Durhams and Herfords—for they use full-blooded bulls of those strains at the head of their herds. However, they also bring in whole trainloads of cattle from Mexico, Arizona and Utah, turning them on their range until they are in condition to ship to the markets. The brothers also raise about 2,000 acres of grain each year, using a caterpillar engine and combined harvester. They established and owned the Crescent Meat Market in Coalinga, later selling it to M. Levy.

A few years ago Kreyenhagen Brothers (four of them) incorporated their holdings as Kreyenhagens, Inc., being a close corporation including only members of the family. They are also largely interested in the Hays Cattle Company, operating a large stock ranch in Arizona.

On the Avanal Ranch near Dudley, now Kings County, on August 19, 1883, occurred the marriage of Hugo Kreyenhagen with Miss Marie Merrill, a native daughter of California, born at Benicia, Solano County. Her father, Caleb S. Merrill, Jr., born at Sheldon Falls, Mass., and reared in Illinois, when seventeen years of age crossed the plains with his father and family in an ox team train in 1852. Grandfather, Caleb S. Merrill, Sr., was an architect and builder and followed that business in the early days. He resided in California until he was seventy-eight, then he returned to Missouri and there he died. Caleb S. Merrill, Jr., married Jennie Larseneur, who was born in Canada of an old French-Canadian family. Her father, Peter Larseneur, brought his family to California in 1852. He was also a contractor, and with Caleb S. Merrill as a partner, built many of the early buildings in Benicia, among them the old Benicia Barracks. Afterwards he was a contractor in San Francisco, and among the many early buildings he erected was the old Stock Exchange.

Mrs. Kreyenhagen's father was a stock-raiser on the General Neiglee ranch at Bantos for many years, then a farmer near Stockton until 1878, when he purchased the Avanal Ranch in Tulare, but now Kings County. Here he raised cattle and sheep, having large herds and flocks on this large area of land and being actively engaged until his death. His widow afterwards disposed of the ranch and for some years made her home in Oakland. She spent her last days in Coalinga, where she died in 1916. Of the eight children born to this worthy pioneer couple, five are living, of whom Mrs. Kreyenhagen is the oldest. She received a good education in the schools of Stockton and at Lemoore.

Mr. and Mrs. Hugo Kreyenhagen have two children: Olga, a graduate of the Hanford High School and the Oakland Polytechnic, then spent two years in the University of California, is now the wife of A. L. Newport of Hanford; Ernest Hugo, a graduate of the Coalinga Union High, spent two years as a student at the University of California in Berkeley, enlisted for service in the United States Army, serving in the California Grizzlies, Battery E, 144th Regiment Artillery, Fortieth Division. Since his honorable discharge he is assisting his father on the ranch, being a stockholder and director in the Kreyenhagens, Inc., as well as a stockholder in the Hays Cattle Company. Mrs. Kreyenhagen is a member of Lucerne Chapter No. 127, O. E. S.,

at Hanford, and is a member of the Presbyterian Church. Interested in the cause of education Mr. Kreyenhagen has served as school trustee, keeping up the high standard of the schools of the state. He is a member of the California Cattle Growers' Association. Mr. and Mrs. Kreyenhagen took part in the different drives for war funds, to which they were liberal contributors, and both are life members of the Coalinga Chapter of the American National Red Cross. Enterprising and progressive, they are never backward in giving of their means and influence to further worthy movements for the upbuilding of the great commonwealth—where they were born and where every portion is dear to them. Fortunate is the individual who has the pleasure of being entertained at the Canoas Ranch. Mr. Kreyenhagen is a protectionist and Republican in politics.

**JOSEPH R. LE BLANC.**—The varied and extended ocean trips which mark the career of Joseph R. Le Blanc, a successful horticulturist of McKinley Avenue, Fresno, have given him a broad and interesting knowledge of the various ports of the world, and his friends enjoy hearing about his interesting experiences. He is a native son of California, born at Lodi, San Joaquin County, April 13, 1869, a son of Pery and Sarah (Hough) Le Blanc. The father, a native of Louisiana, saw service in the Civil War in the Confederate Army, being a member of a Louisiana regiment. The mother was a native of Mississippi, and accompanied her husband and one son to California in 1866, coming by way of the Isthmus of Panama, and locating at Lodi, San Joaquin County, where he bought a ranch. In 1876, Mr. Le Blanc located in Fresno County on the Kings River above Centerville, where he engaged in stock-raising until 1878. Afterwards he removed to Fresno and was engaged in the sheep business, running the sheep on the plains. Later he became deputy constable and marshal in Fresno County, retaining these important offices until he retired. He passed away in Fresno at the age of sixty-four years. His widow, who is now in her seventy-eighth year, resides with her son, J. R. Le Blanc, the subject of this review. Mr. and Mrs. Pery Le Blanc were the parents of five children, four of whom grew to maturity: Robert, who lives in Bakersfield, is in the employ of the Southern Pacific Railroad Company; Joseph R., the subject of this sketch; Thomas, a lieutenant in the United States Army, stationed at Ft. Mason; and Albert, a musician, and who has a music store in Fresno.

J. R. Le Blanc has been a resident of the city of Fresno since 1878, and after attending the public school there was apprenticed to Barrett & Hicks, the well known plumbers, to learn the trade, and was the first boy to learn the business with this firm. After finishing his apprenticeship he remained with them as a journeyman plumber for three years. His next business enterprise was as the proprietor of the Fresno Bakery, in which undertaking he suffered loss by fire and afterwards located in Paso Robles, where in company with two others he opened a hardware store, of which he was the manager, the firm being known as Bennett, Shackelford & Le Blanc. After sixteen months he sold his interest to his partners and returned to Fresno.

In 1891, Mr. Le Blanc realizing the value of a business education, entered the Ramsey Business College, at Stockton, from which institution he was graduated. Desiring to see the world and to broaden his knowledge of navigation, J. R. Le Blanc entered the United States Navy, in January, 1892, and was assigned to the Mohican as navigator's writer, in which position he spent one year, when he was transferred to the captain's office. In August, 1894, he was transferred to the Petrel where he was Chief Yeoman, and while in China reenlisted in the service. Mr. Le Blanc was next transferred to the Battleship Oregon, at the time she was first commissioned into service, in 1896; she afterwards became famous for her important service during the Spanish-American War. In January, 1898, J. R. Le Blanc was paid off at Bremerton, Wash., and upon leaving the navy he returned to Fresno.

Mr. Le Blanc then opened a plumbing business on Fresno Street, where he continued for one year. After selling out he entered the merchant marine, sailing from San Francisco to Queenstown, via Cape Horn, on the Eurasia, and after reaching his destination he was paid off at Limerick, when he proceeded to Liverpool. From this great English maritime center, Mr. Le Blanc sailed on a Holland steamer to Buenos Ayres, and from the metropolis of Argentina proceeded to Rosario, a town in the Province of Santa Fe, Argentina, on the Parana River, 230 miles from Buenos Ayres. After remaining there for two months he sailed on the windjammer Egeria, for Cape Town, South Africa, and was in that country during the Boer War. Later he returned on the same ship to the West Indies and from there sailed for New York City. After arriving in his native land once more, he sailed for California via the Isthmus of Panama and after crossing the Isthmus took the steamer Newport for San Francisco, where he arrived September 9, 1902. Upon reaching the Golden State, Mr. Le Blanc returned to Fresno where he was employed again by Barrett & Hicks, continuing with them in the plumbing business until June, 1916, when he resigned to look after his peach ranch. In 1907, he had purchased forty acres on McKinley Avenue, which he had improved by planting twenty acres to cling and twenty to Muir peaches. In the operation of his ranch he uses up-to-date methods and equipment.

In September, 1906, J. R. Le Blanc was united in marriage with Mrs. Mary (Wilson) Young, a native of Elkhart, Ind., who came to California with her parents about 1888. Mr. and Mrs. Le Blanc are the parents of one child: Georgie. Fraternally, Mr. Le Blanc is a member of the Foresters of America and is a stockholder in and a member of the California Peach Growers, Inc.

**MARIUS L. KOLLER.**—No influence has been more potent in the development of Fresno County than that exerted by the pioneers of viticulture and horticulture, and to these enterprising and far-seeing men, who overcame many obstacles before attaining their goal, great credit is due for the present prosperous condition of the county. Among these is Marius L. Koller, the subject of this review, a native of Denmark, born October 19, 1858, on the Island of Bornholm, in the Baltic Sea. His father owned a farm on the island and he was known as Peter Kjoller, but, for the sake of convenience in business, Marius changed the spelling of his name to Koller. His mother was, in maidenhood, Annetta Kofoed, and both of his parents are now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Peter Kjoller were the parents of four children, two of whom grew to maturity: Anton, who makes his home on the old home place on the Island of Bornholm; and Marius, the subject of this sketch, who is the youngest.

Marius L. was reared on the farm and attended both grammar and high school in Denmark. He served the required time in the Danish army, being a member of the First Regiment of Artillery. Desiring to seek his fortune in America, he left his native land for the United States, April 8, 1880, and upon arrival continued his journey westward until he reached the Golden State, in May, 1880, locating at Merced, where he was employed on a ranch by William Applegarth. He continued there until 1882, when he accompanied Mr. Applegarth to Fresno County and worked for him on the construction of the canal that runs in front of his present ranch, but at that time he never dreamed he would own a ranch in that vicinity. In 1884, Mr. Koller again came to Fresno County, to help in harvesting, but when the work was completed he returned to Merced where he engaged in grain-farming during the season of 1884-85, continuing there until 1886, when he moved to Fresno County and rented land in the Madison district and engaged in raising grain.

It was in 1890 that Mr. Koller purchased his present ranch of forty acres on California and Polk Streets, five miles west of Fresno. The ranch at that time was in wheat but after ploughing it under he set thirty acres to muscat



vines, five to alfalfa, and five acres were devoted to a peach orchard. Owing to sub-irrigation the soil proved too wet for the vines, so in after years Mr. Koller dug up the vineyard and planted the acreage to alfalfa. Mr. Koller recalls how he sold raisins as low as one and a quarter cents per pound. He is a member of the California Associated Raisin Company and has been a member of all of the various raisin associations since the first one organized by M. Theo. Kearney. By industry and economy Mr. Koller has prospered in his undertakings, and in 1914 he bought twenty acres adjoining his ranch, making a total of sixty acres. In addition to raising alfalfa and peaches, Mr. Koller conducts a dairy and since the organization of the Danish Creamery Association he has been a stockholder.

On December 10, 1891, Marius L. Koller was united in marriage, at Fresno, with Miss Margaret Enemark, born in Slesvig. This happy union has been blessed with four children: Thorvald, who is helping his father on the ranch; Agnethe, now Mrs. Sorensen, of Vallejo; Harold, who was raised in Fresno County, educated in the schools, and was leading man at Baypoint Navy Yard when he died from the Spanish influenza, January 13, 1919; and Anton, who is assisting his father. Mr. and Mrs. Koller are members of the Lutheran Church, and he is a Republican in national politics and a member of the California Peach Growers, Inc.

**R. C. BAKER.**—Conspicuous among the wide-awake men of affairs of bustling and progressive Coalinga must be rated R. C. Baker, who was born at Chester, Va., on July 18, 1872, and has since then led a many-sided, active and successful life, while no one today places a higher value on education, and few are more interested in the preservation of Californian historical data. His father, Reuben, was a native of the Keystone State and came to California in the Centennial year. At first he located in Shasta County, until he joined his son Reuben C., who had located in Los Angeles, and has since been assisting his son looking after his farming and horticultural enterprise at Sanger and other Central California points.

R. C. Baker, the subject of this review, started out for himself at the age of twenty-one and located in Los Angeles at the very time when the oil boom excited that city. He, too, was enthused by the sight of the oil wells being sunk within the city limits, and from that time he has been identified with the oil business, but in a large way. In 1899, Mr. Baker came to the Coalinga district as a contractor, first starting to drill a well on Sec. 21-14, three miles west of town. This was before a depot was built and there were no oil wells in sight of the town, the only oil wells being at Oil City, nine miles to the north of Coalinga. In 1900 he went to the Kern River oil field at Bakersfield, drilling some fifteen or twenty wells for the Mount Diablo Oil, Mining and Development Company, in which he was financially interested and a director. At the same time he was interested in the Midway district, being one of the locators and promoters of the Bay City Oil Company, the first company to get oil in the Midway district. He was also one of the organizers of the Empire Oil Company which developed and produced the first light oil in the Midway field in 1901. In November, 1901, Mr. Baker went to Wyoming and drilled a well 1,500 feet deep on a contract for the Western Wyoming Oil Company, but they failed to strike oil. In 1902 Mr. Baker returned to the Coalinga district, and since then he has been in charge of many wells in that field. He had his home in the fields until 1909, but he has since made his residence in Coalinga.

With his brother, J. E. Baker, he owns a ranch of 160 acres near Sanger. It was raw land when they took hold of it, but they have developed sixty acres to White Adriatic figs and twenty in alfalfa. He is also interested in the Coalinga-Merced Syndicate, which owns three ranches in Merced County, consisting of some 2,900 acres, now being subdivided into smaller tracts. There are 1,076 acres in grain, partly barley, and 1,090 acres elsewhere in





*Minnie Baker.*



*R. H. Baker*



grain. Individually he owns a ranch of 1,054 acres sixteen miles from Merced on the Merced River, which he is gradually improving to alfalfa and fruits, and where by putting in pumping-plants he has ample water for irrigation.

That Mr. Baker is not merely a successful theorist but a very practical workman is shown by the fact that he has invented fifteen different appliances in machinery used in the development of oil. The leading patent is known as the Baker Casing Shoe, and a factory was recently established in Coalinga for their manufacture, and also for the making of other oil-tool supplies, incorporated as the Baker Casing Shoe Company for \$150,000 capital, he being president, manager and principal owner of the company. This casing shoe has become a very valuable article in well-boring. It is a steel shoe put onto the bottom of the casing during the boring of a well, and greatly facilitates the work. This invention is now used all over the world where oil is developed, being used in far-away Russia, Rumania, India and South America. The invention was patented in 1907, and since then over two hundred thousand of the appliances have been made and are in use. They are made to sell from twenty dollars to \$120 each, according to size. The company also makes a line of other useful patents and special tools used in oil operations, and to facilitate the supply he has arranged for different manufacturers in various parts of the United States to manufacture his patents on a royalty.

In 1908 Mr. Baker helped organize the First National Bank of Coalinga, and he is today a director in the institution. He is also an organizer and president of the Coalinga Gas and Power Company. From the organization of the Coalinga Union High School he was president of its board of trustees until in 1918, when he refused to be a candidate for reelection on account of his time being taken up on the Exemption Board. During this time the splendid high school buildings were built. He was a member of District No. 1 of the Fresno County Exemption Board and served actively on it from start to finish, being appointed July 3, 1917, and continuing till the armistice was signed and to his credit and patriotism, and like his colleagues, did not even present a bill for expenses. For some years he was a member of the Coalinga Board of Trustees and Library Board. He is also an active member of the Coalinga Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. Baker married Miss Minnie Zumwalt, a native daughter born in Colusa County and a member of one of the best-known families of California pioneers; and they have two children, J. R. Carlton and Thelma. Mrs. Baker is a member of the Presbyterian Church and the Coalinga Chapter of Red Cross. Few persons have had the opportunity to do for Coalinga what Mr. Baker has done, and no one has been more faithful to duty and privilege.

**JEREMIAH HURLEY.**—An interesting old-timer who has not only made a reputation for straightforward, square dealing, but is one of the pioneer dairymen and butter-makers of Central California, is Jeremiah Hurley, who had five sons on duty and one waiting the call, in the Great War, and deserves the esteem of every American for having sacrificed one of them in the cause of liberty. He first came to California in 1875, and on September 13, 1877, arrived in Fresno, the scene of so much of his subsequent success. He was born in Bantry, County Cork, Ireland, in 1848, and was reared on a farm, while he attended a private school. In 1873 he came to the United States, landing in New York on May 5, and from there he went to Boston, where he worked for two months. His next removal was to Hartford, Conn., in the days when Mark Twain was a prominent and popular resident of that Yankee city, and there he worked at farming.

When Mr. Hurley luckily moved west to California, he set up a dairy at Petaluma, but unable to resist the attraction of Fresno County, he moved his establishment south. He located in the Central California Colony and bought twenty acres, which he improved by planting alfalfa and setting out an orchard and vines. After a while he bought twenty acres adjoining, and

later he twice added twenty acres more. At one time he had eighty acres devoted to farming and also to dairying, for he established a first-class dairy. He was the first butter man who made rolls of butter and sold them in Fresno, and he also invented a churn of his own. He took a barrel of about forty-gallon capacity, which he hung in the long way, now so general, and which attracted much attention.

Later Mr. Hurley sold out in order to engage in stock-raising, and then he removed to Auberry Valley, where he traded for a ranch, upon which he settled. He bought land and took a preemption of 160 acres. The ranch is located on the North Fork of Little Dry Creek, and there he raises cattle, hogs and goats. He has a thousand acres of land in a body on the creek, and they are watered by ample springs. He is also raising wheat, barley and oats, and he has produced the largest crops of potatoes ever raised there. He has also built a residence, and suitable barns; and he still runs his cattle on the ranch, under the brand JH (combined) branded on the left hip.

In 1900, Mr. Hurley bought his present home ranch of forty acres in the Perrin Colony No. 2, six and a half miles northwest of Fresno, and there he has his residence and headquarters. He was a school trustee in the Auberry Valley for many years and he was the oldest school trustee in the county when he resigned in 1917, and was a deputy under Sheriff McSwain.

In June, 1884, Mr. Hurley was married in Fresno County to Miss Kate Sweeney, a native of County Cork, Ireland, who came to San Francisco in 1876 and to Fresno County in 1880. They have had ten children: Julia, at home; Cornelius Val answered the call and passed examination but was never drawn; he assists the subject of our sketch to run the ranch; Jeremiah Llewellyn was in the United States service over-seas and was wounded but recovered and continued in service until honorably discharged, April, 1919; John Wellington served in the United States Army and has since been honorably discharged; Margaret is at home; Henry H. is serving in the United States Naval Reserve Force; George Dewey was in the Aviation Corps as a flier over-seas, and has been since honorably discharged; and there are Mary J., and James Emmett. The fifth in the order of birth, Timothy Sarsfield, died at Williams Bridge, New York City, in April, 1918, while serving in the United States Army.

An interesting experience not afforded every rancher fell to the lot of Mr. Hurley some time ago. He was running a bunch of cattle near McMullen's, when a photographer took a picture of them among the alkali weeds. He heard nothing more of the matter until, to his surprise and satisfaction, he received an Agricultural Report from the Government at Washington, containing as one of the embellishments to the volume, the photographic study of his choice herd; and later he was still more pleased to see the same picture used as an illustration in the school books designed for Young Californians.

**HENRY SANTEN.**—In the new and changed era that is upon us, poultry-raising and egg-farming must be conducted upon a newer and broader basis than in vogue during past years, and Henry Santen of Conejo, on his two-acre poultry farm, has solved many perplexing questions in relation to this industry and has succeeded in reducing it to a science.

His system differs from Philo's or Weeks' or any other known system of egg-production, and is peculiarly adaptable to the conditions of soil, climate and environment obtaining at Conejo. Bolton Hall wrote, "Three acres and independence!"—but Hall's idea must yield to Henry Santen's actual demonstration of "Two acres and a competency!" He has built up a twenty-five-hundred-dollar poultry-plant which he conducts along the line of his original ideas and methods.

Mr. Santen was born at St. Louis, Mo., August 31, 1867, and is of German extraction. His parents, John and Anne (Therhorst) Santen, were born in Germany. They came to Missouri and were married at St. Louis, Mo. The



father was a teamster, a farmer, and the owner of a Missouri farm. Later he removed to Woodson County, Kans., where young Henry grew to maturity. Henry had a brother who died twenty-five years ago. He has four sisters who are all living in the Middle West. He received his education in the excellent public schools of Kansas, and in 1889 went to Oregon, where he spent seven years. For several years he was connected with Mt. Angel College, at Mt. Angel, Ore., in the capacity of bookkeeper. Later he came to San Francisco, where he learned the barber trade and worked at barbering until after the earthquake in April, 1906. He received such a shock at that time that he resolved to get out of the earthquake belt, and accordingly came to Fresno in 1906. For two years he was employed at the Wild Flower Stock Farm, two miles southeast of Conejo, then came to Conejo in 1908, where he engaged in the barber business.

At that time the cattle-shipping town of Conejo was infested with three saloons and gambling dens, together with all appurtenances usually found in connection with such places. The good people of the community got together and voted the town dry. Then an era of boot-legging and tin-horn gambling set in. Henry Santen became the leader of the dry forces and the decent element of the community. He received the appointment of humane officer, and in conducting his business had to make arrests of law-breaking boot-leggers. He stood courageously for law-enforcement and decency, and for this reason was singled out by the other element for punishment. He was threatened with lynching, shooting and personal violence, and it was sought to drive him out of the community. It took courage to remain in Conejo in the face of such prejudice, but Henry Santen remained at his post. The Women's Christian Temperance Union and the law-abiding citizens came to his aid, and by their united efforts Conejo is today an orderly dry town. In the columns of the Fresno Republican of October 6th and 7th, 1911, appeared articles headed: "Lone man is fighting liquor element at Conejo," and "Hot battle is raging in Conejo betwixt wets and drys.—Officer Santen charges District Attorney with indifference."

Mr. Santen continued to run his barber-shop at Conejo until 1913, when he engaged in the poultry business. He began operations in a small and experimental way, first starting with Buff Orpingtons, and later tried others of the heavier breeds. He has come to the conclusion that White Leghorns are the best breed for egg-production. He buys baby-chicks and sells the cockerels when large enough for broilers, keeping only layers. His net receipts for the eggs from 250 eight-months'-old Leghorn pullets, for the month of December, 1918, were \$250, and his well arranged hen-houses, yards, self-feeders and watering system, designed after his own plans, bear witness to the efficiency of his methods. He has studied, worked, observed, and grown with the business. He has an irrigation plant (well and six-horsepower engine) on the premises and raises the green food necessary for his flock. He is about to install an electrically heated brooding-plant, and will increase his flock of layers to 2,000 by January, 1920. He confidently looks forward to a competency on his little two-acre farm at Conejo. He understands the power and has the ability of concentration. He is a great reader and student and is well informed. He has read the Bible in English, German and Latin. He was brought up a Catholic, but is now an agnostic.

He is a careful student of political and economic questions, and aims always to vote for officials of correct principles and habits, and men of ability. He is a great admirer of Thomas Edison and other men of accomplishment. He has an up-to-date Edison phonograph of the best quality, and furnishes music for himself and his many friends and patrons of the Conejo Free Public Library, of which he is librarian. He furnishes the room for the Conejo branch of the Fresno County Library free of charge and keeps the Sunday Examiner on sale. He purchased freely of Liberty Bonds and was the leader in soliciting and gathering up Red Cross funds.

**PETER M. MORGAN.**—A veteran of the Civil War, and one whose personality no less than his enviable official record has entitled him to the respect and best wishes of all who have been privileged to know him, is Peter M. Morgan, who first came to California somewhat over a decade ago. He was born in Shelby County, Ohio, on May 7, 1844, the son of a farmer, Monfort Morgan, also a native of that state, the original family having been known as Monfort, and coming from French descent. Grandfather Morgan belonged to the Welsh family of Morgans that located in the Province of Jersey in the seventeenth century; and he was in the Revolutionary War. While in Ohio, Peter's father married Rebecca Mulford, a native of that State; and there the mother died. The father migrated to Kansas, went back to Ohio, returned to Kansas and died there. Eleven children bore the honored name; and there was also a half-brother, Aaron Morgan, who enlisted in the Civil War and served in the same regiment and company as did the subject of our sketch.

The eldest child of this union, Peter attended the public schools, grew up and enlisted in the Union Army, in August, 1862, becoming a volunteer in Company I, 118th Ohio Volunteers, that was mustered in at Lima, Ohio, as a part of the Army of the Ohio. For the first ten months he was placed on guard duty on the Kentucky Central Railway, and then he was with Burnside in his campaigning in eastern Tennessee. He took part in the Siege of Knoxville and the fighting at Mossy Creek, Sweetwater, Loudon and Kingston, and on May 7, 1864, joined Sherman on his memorable Atlanta campaign, seeing service at Buzzard's Roost, Red Clay Station, Roccaca, Peach Tree, Ottawa River, Kennesaw Mountain, and Snake Creek Gap. He assisted at the Siege of Atlanta, and was at Lovejoy station under Thomas, getting into the battles of Spring Hill, Franklin and Nashville. Later he was transferred, via Washington, and Alexandria, Va., to Smithville, N. C., and he saw the taking of Fort Anderson, Fort Wilmington and Fort Goldsborough. He marched to Salisbury, N. C., and did guard duty until June 28, 1865, when he was transferred to the head of Chesapeake Bay, and then brought on to Cleveland. In July, 1865, after having seen a great deal of the roughest service, yet never being wounded, he was mustered out and honorably discharged.

On returning home, Mr. Morgan farmed for a year, during which he worked at shoemaking while awaiting the prospective crop. The crop failed, and he continued at his last in Ohio. In 1868, at Spring Hill, in that State, he married Miss Mary Catherine Mathis, a native of the Buckeye State and the daughter of Allen Mathis, a farmer there, and then he moved to Kansas. The same year he located in what is now Harvey County, near Sedgwick, where he homesteaded 160 acres, which he improved and farmed and sold to his father. He then engaged in the hardware business in Sedgwick City, but when the grasshoppers and the panic of 1873 and 1874 came, he went out of business. He next became a carpenter and builder, and for three years he was the manager of a lumber yard. In 1889, he opened a lumber yard, hardware and furniture store at Edmond, Okla., but a month later he located at Newton, Kans., where, for a year, he was the manager of a lumber yard. After that he was in the employ of the Santa Fe Railroad, working first as carpenter and then as foreman in their bridge and building department. Not having proved up on the homestead, he was entitled to another try; and in 1891, when Kiowa and Comanche, Okla., were opened, he drew a number which gave him a new homestead fourteen miles north of Anadarko. Beginning with March, 1902, he located on it and improved it; and in 1905 he sold his claim.

The following year was memorable in his experience, for he came to California and found it, from the first, a promised land. He then bought the vineyard he has, a fine tract of forty acres in the Garfield District, only fourteen acres of which were at that time set out to vines; but with the aid of his son, H. C. Morgan, he planted the remaining section. While they were at Newton, Kans., in 1890, Mrs. Morgan died, the beloved mother of four chil-





*Sands Baker*

dren: Iza became Mrs. Frank W. Johnson, and died in California, the mother of a girl, Blanche; and Harry C. is a viticulturist and, as a man of affairs, is associated with his father in the management of the ranch; Claude D. is in Carthage, Mo., where he has married Miss Aletha Ferguson; Hattie D. died in Kansas.

Mr. Morgan has frequently proven a leader among his fellowmen. He was Justice of the Peace at Sedgwick City, when the country was new and wild, in the stormy days of Kansas, and frequently had cases to keep him busy for days ahead. He was a councilman at the same city, and also served as Mayor and as school trustee. In politics, he has become a Progressive Republican. Always interested in the welfare of the Civil War veterans, Mr. Morgan is a member of Atlanta Post, G. A. R., at Fresno, and has been Post Commander. He is a member of the San Joaquin Valley Veterans Association, and in 1916 was Commander and presided at the annual meeting in Clovis in that year. He is identified with the Unitarian Church at Fresno. He was made a Mason in Stokes Lodge, No. 205, Port Jefferson, Ohio, and then helped organize the lodge at Sedgwick City, Kans., where he was a Past Master. Finally, he was transferred to Newton Lodge, No. 142, and still retains his membership there. He also belongs to the Modern Woodmen, at Carthage, Mo.

**SANDS BAKER.**—The title of pioneer was justly merited by Sands Baker, for he came to Fresno County many years ago and was closely identified with its best interests. The lives of the early settlers of Fresno County were one unbroken record of hardships and privations, but those who survived to the present day find ample compensation for the deprivations of the past. High above the fog and mist, nestling among the foot-hills of the Sierras, some forty-seven years ago was established a home of comfort, refinement and culture, by Sands Baker and his good wife, pioneers of Squaw Valley and substantial upbuilders of this section of the state.

A native of New York State, Sands Baker was born at Montezuma, on the Erie Canal, December 19, 1837, a son of George and Martha N. (Bentley) Baker, both of English extraction, who had immigrated to New York from Massachusetts. Early deprived of a father's love and guidance, when he was fifteen years of age, Sands Baker was taken to Oconto, Wis., by an uncle who was in the lumber business. Young Baker gained a good knowledge of that industry, but he did not have any liking for it, his desire being to obtain a thorough education. He attended the public schools in New York state, then entered a seminary near Albany, where a thousand students were being prepared for professional careers. He next went to Madison, Wis., where he entered the high school and specialized in English until failing eyesight necessitated his relinquishing his studies. He went to Green Bay, Wis., and taught three years in the public schools. He was very successful and instituted several innovations that made the school work very efficient. He then traveled for his health and for recreation, through Minnesota, Iowa, and to St. Joseph, Mo., where he fell in with some men who pictured the wonders of California so vividly that the young schoolmaster was fired with the desire to try his fortune on the western coast.

Leaving St. Joseph in the spring of 1860, with a party bound for the Pacific Coast, the journey was made with horses and mustangs, via Salt Lake. Finding feed short they abandoned their original course and came through Salt Lake Valley. Indians threatened to attack them but the danger was averted and the party arrived in Los Angeles in September. Mr. Baker went on to Visalia. While assisting in baling some hay at Rockyford, he met a county superintendent of schools who wanted to hire a teacher. At that time there were but two public schools in all of Tulare County. Mr. Baker established a private school, which he taught two years. Since he was in California, Mr. Baker decided to investigate so far as he was able and he went north into the mining sections and was employed as principal of the

school at Downieville, in Sierra County. He closed the school at one p. m. and spent the rest of the time in the mines, but on studying the condition of the people so engaged he decided that mining was not his forte. He succeeded as a teacher, getting an advance of forty dollars per month in salary if he would continue the work. He eventually returned to Visalia and taught a private school for six months. He filled the position of government inspector of tobacco, gager of liquors and revenue assessor during which time he often was called to old Millerton, meanwhile acting as deputy assessor of Tulare County. Soon becoming known as an expert mathematician, he was often called in to figure interest on notes and accounts, and to straighten out tangled bookkeeping, being well paid for such services. He continued this until his health failed and he had to seek a change.

In October, 1872, the marriage of Sands Baker and Miss Sarah Josephine Drake was celebrated. Mrs. Baker was born in Ohio, but came to California with her parents in 1870, settling near Tulare Lake, and later in Squaw Valley. On the maternal side she is of old Virginian stock. Of this happy union there were born seven children: Martha A., married L. B. King; Royal R., married Nellie J. Hodges and they live near Farmersville; Chauncey M., married Olive E. Hargraves, a teacher; Lulu M., became the wife of J. A. Mitchell of Dunlap; Blanche C., a graduate from the Stockton Business College (1902), is married to Charles F. Hubbard, a competent stenographer and bookkeeper; Elsie F., is the wife of James R. Hinds; Pearl A., was a teacher, now wife of C. F. Relander, and resides near Visalia; and their adopted son, William Baker, is farming near Exeter.

In 1870, Mr. Baker had come to Fresno County and purchased a quarter section of land lying at the foot of the mountain that has become known as Baker's Mountain. To this tract Mr. Baker added from time to time until he had about 2,000 acres, 100 acres of which is under cultivation and the balance given over to the stock business. Considerable of the land is valuable for its timber. On the ranch is grown fruits of all kinds and every variety of vegetables as well as a considerable acreage in alfalfa, the whole place being well improved. Besides this ranch he had some land near Visalia where he was engaged in the stock business. Mr. Baker had chosen his home place on account of a very fine spring that supplied sufficient water for necessary irrigation. The flow of this spring was interfered with at the time of the earthquake in 1906. Considerable attention was given to raising fine horses, and a fine stallion, a thoroughbred Percheron, owned by Mr. Baker, was the means of raising the standard of horses in this part of the country. He found a ready sale for many of his beef cattle at Hume, where is located the large lumber mills and village.

In politics Mr. Baker was a staunch Republican, having cast his first presidential ballot for President Lincoln. He had an honorable record in Fresno County where he served as a member of the board of education; deputy county assessor and often served on the county grand jury. He was the prime mover in having the road opened through from Sand Creek, which has proven a boon to the settlers in the foot-hills. He was a Mason. In the evening of life's span, with wife and children, grand-children and great-grand-children, he enjoyed the comforts due him for his many years of toil. He looked back on a life well spent and forward without regret, for he had done what he considered his duty to his fellow man and to his country. Mr. Baker died on April 13, 1918, and is buried in the cemetery on his home ranch; his funeral was one of the largest ever held in the hill section.

**JOHN W. LOPER.**—An honored resident of Fresno County since January, 1883, John W. Loper was born in Clinton County, Ohio, December 3, 1838, the son of William and Lucy Ann (Garrouette) Loper, natives of New Jersey, of French descent.

In 1848, William Loper removed with his family to Hancock County, Ill.,

and again in 1854 to Dallas County, Iowa, where he and his wife spent the remainder of their days.

John W. was sixth oldest of their ten children. He was reared on the farm and received his education in the log school-house of that period, learning the rule of three and to write with a quill pen. He was married at Adel, Dallas County, Iowa, in 1859, to Miss Sarah Hoeve, born in Ohio.

Mr. Loper then purchased forty acres of land and after six months sold it at a profit. Next he bought eighty acres, later selling it at a profit. He then continued buying and selling farms and also swapping horses, and between the two, as he says, he made enough money to bring his family to California. They arrived in Fresno in January, 1883. Eight days after his arrival he purchased twenty acres one and one-half miles south of the court-house, set it out to orchard and vineyard and continued there for six years, when he sold it.

Meantime, in 1885, he had located a homestead of 160 acres on Little Dry Creek and later bought 650 acres more. After moving onto it he began improvements and raised cattle, and as he prospered he bought land adjoining until he has over 2,000 acres. He also bought 160 acres of meadow land on Kings River, but sold it eight years later. He owned an apple orchard on Pine Ridge but he found it was too far from his ranch, so he sold it. He also owns some lots and a residence in Fresno. For over twenty years he raised cattle, using the brand 3L (combined), and in April, 1919, he sold his cattle and he now rents his land.

On December 11, 1912, he was bereaved of his faithful wife and helpmate, who was always an active member of the Christian Church. They were the parents of the following children: A. M., who is interested in and is manager of Madary Planing Mill; Mary, who was Mrs. Garman; Lucy is Mrs. Zetz, and presides over her father's household; Wm., ranching on a part of the home ranch; H. W., who has remained home and ably assisted his father in his farming operations.

Mr. Loper has been school trustee of his school district for some years and was clerk of the board. He was one of the organizers and is a member of the Christian Church in Fresno, and politically he is a protectionist and Republican.

**PETER CHRISTENSEN.**—Exceeding by two years the proverbial three score and ten allotted to man, Peter Christensen, in the afternoon of a well-spent life, is still hale and hearty, an inveterate worker and a man of strong executive force. He was born May 21, 1847, at Jutland, Denmark. His father, Christen Jacobson, a farmer and the owner of a small farm, and his mother, Magdalen (Christinsen) Jacobson, were born in Denmark and lived and died in their native country. The father lived to be sixty-six years old, and the mother attained the age of eighty. Mr. Christensen's maternal grandmother lived to the ripe old age of ninety-six. Of the eight children in his father's family, four boys and four girls, Peter was the only one who came to America. He recalls the German-Danish war of 1864 when two of his brothers enlisted. His brother Jacob fell in the war and the other brother lived to return home.

Peter received his education in the schools of his native land, was brought up in the Lutheran faith and confirmed at fourteen. When fifteen years of age he began to work out on near-by farms. He married Johanna Christensen and continued his work as a farm hand, but for two years was engaged in working for a government contractor in clearing up unimproved land preparatory to planting it to timber by the Danish government. Eventually he became foreman on a large farm in Denmark with ten men working under him. He worked long hours, from four A. M. until ten P. M. In 1892, Mr. Christensen came to Oleander, Fresno County, Cal., with his wife and their two children. He purchased ten acres, the nucleus of his home place, and added to his acreage subsequently until he had 100 acres. He gave thirty acres of this to his eldest son, and thirty acres to his eldest daughter. On the



remaining forty-acre home place he has planted Thompson seedless vines, twenty acres of muscats, five acres of malagas, three acres of peaches and five acres of apricots. He has a beautiful place, and seven years ago built a fine house.

Mr. and Mrs. Christensen became the parents of eight children: Ivar, who was born in Denmark, married Dovida Jeppsen of Oleander, and they have one child, a boy named Donald. Ivar owns the thirty-acre ranch on Maple Avenue just north of his father's ranch. Christian was also born in Denmark, and died soon after the family came to Oleander, aged ten months. Annie was born in Oleander, and is the wife of Christian Petersen. She owns the thirty acres just south of her father's place on Maple Avenue. Carrie is at home. Magdalene and Margaret died in infancy. Henry, fourteen years of age, is at home and is a student in Easton high school. Edna, aged twelve, is a student in the grammar school.

Mr. Christensen and his good wife are respected and esteemed not only by their Danish-American friends but by every one in the Oleander school district, where for many years he has been a member of the school board, and has served as trustee on the board. He is a staunch supporter of the public school system, and is a natural leader among his fellows. He and his family are prominent in the councils of the Danish Lutheran Church at Easton, of which they are members. He is a member of the Raisin Growers Association and the Peach Growers Association. Mr. Christensen spent \$1,600 for Liberty Bonds, and bought liberally of Stamps, was active in Red Cross, Y. M. C. A. and united war work, and was out on the various drives. He has taken out his naturalization papers and affiliates with the Republican party politically. He has a Studebaker car and has taken numerous trips to the beach, has driven to San Francisco twice and to Santa Cruz twice, and has made numerous trips to mountains.

**WILLIAM C. CLAYBAUGH, B. S. A.**—A landscape architect to whom Fresno and vicinity are indebted for notable public improvements, a learned viticulturist and a gentleman of culture, is William C. Claybaugh, B. S. A., who is fortunate in having at his side an equally accomplished and charming wife. He was born in Monmouth, Warren County, Ill., September 25, 1879, the son of Mathew Smith Claybaugh, a native of Ohio, who moved to Monmouth and did valiant service in the Civil War as a member of the Fiftieth Illinois Regiment. In 1884, the father settled in Iowa and in Mills County engaged in farming. Now he lives retired at Valley, Nebr. He married Miss Mary Elizabeth Moore, a Pennsylvanian. She is the mother of ten children, all of whom are living to do her honor.

The fifth eldest in the family, William C., was educated in the public schools in Iowa. He then entered the Ames Agricultural College, from which he graduated in 1905 with the degree of Bachelor of Scientific Agriculture, having had his junior year in the practical garden laboratory at St. Louis. He then engaged in landscape gardening at DeKalb, Ill., and also did some research work in Shaw's Botanical Garden at St. Louis. After that he spent a year in architectural and landscape work at Chattanooga, Tenn., and then for a few months he was in Chicago and Minneapolis pursuing the same line of laboratory studies.

In 1908, Mr. Claybaugh came to California, and at Alpaugh he associated himself with the Iowa Land and Water Company. There he was superintendent of works and had charge of the construction of canals and wells in the irrigation system. After two and a half years he came to Fresno, and then began that identification with this section which has proven of such benefit to the community.

On November 19, 1911, Mr. Claybaugh was appointed by Dr. Rowell as Superintendent of Parks, and later he was reappointed by Alva Snow, thus holding his position until 1917, when there was a change of administration. He gave to his responsibility his untiring and most painstaking attention,





*G M Douglass*

and among the important work that he effected was the changing of Roeding Park. His plans were approved by eminent San Francisco landscape artists, and the results have met with general approval. He also laid out the parks on Ventura Avenue and maintained there the most beautiful and imposing natural effects, and it was he who designed Fairmont Park when it was given to the city.

At the close of his second term Mr. Claybaugh retired with honors as Superintendent of Parks, and in July, 1917, purchased his place of forty acres twelve miles northeast of Fresno. This he has devoted to a vineyard in which he has ten acres of malaga and twenty acres of muscat vines, with the balance in sultanas. He has constantly improved the place until now it is one of the choice ranch properties of the neighborhood. He is a member of the Melvin Grape Growers' Association and of the California Associated Raisin Company.

At San Jose, on June 27, 1914, Mr. Claybaugh was married to Miss Edna Ellen Rowell, born near Bloomington, Ill., the daughter of William Franklin Rowell, a brother of Dr. Rowell, who located in Fresno County, at Easton, in 1883. He became a well-known viticulturist and horticulturist, and died at San Jose. Mrs. Claybaugh graduated from the Washington Union High School, and in 1903 from Stanford University where she received the degree of Bachelor of Arts. She engaged in educational work and became Dean of Women in the Fresno State Normal. She was also made a member of the National Geographical Society. Now she is the mother of three daughters, Mary Ellen, Edna Elizabeth, and Cynthia Louise, and is active in the Congregational Church, which her husband and family also attend.

For years Mr. Claybaugh was a member of the American Association of Park Superintendents, the American Forestry Association and the American Genetic Society, while in national politics he has long been an influential Republican. He is a member of Fresno Lodge, No. 439 B. P. O. E.

**G. M. DOUGLASS.**—The traits of honor, integrity, and thrift are exemplified in the life of G. M. Douglass, the viticulturist and horticulturist, who has charge of the extensive ranches of Mrs. A. Verwoert, one located in Kutner Colony and one situated two and one-half miles southwest of Sanger and a third located near Hanford. He is a native of the Hoosier State, having been born near Crawfordsville, Montgomery County, June 22, 1863, but reared in Kansas, to which state his father moved and where G. M. Douglass remained until 1887, when he migrated to California and was located for some time at Visalia.

Grandfather Jerry Douglass was born in Scotland and was a cabinet-maker, coming to Indiana where he followed farming, also having a cabinet shop as well as a wagon and carriage shop on his place. G. M. Douglass' parents were John A. and Amelia S. (Mitchell) Douglass, to whom eight children were born: G. M., of this review, Rose, who is Mrs. Morris; D. M.; James L.; E. E.; Estelle, who is Mrs. Paine; John; and Alfreda, now Mrs. Carl Verwoert. Mr. Douglass' maternal grandfather, Gabriel Mitchell, was born in Kentucky. He became a farmer in Indiana, where he died at seventy-nine years of age. Mr. Douglass' father, John A., came to Hanford, Cal., in 1890, where his wife died. He now resides in Pasadena at the age of seventy-seven years.

G. M. Douglass was reared on the farm, receiving his education in the public schools. He engaged in farming for himself after he reached his majority. In 1887 he came to Visalia, Cal., where he followed ranching. About the same time he located a homestead two and one-half miles southeast of Coalinga, onto which he moved in 1889 and began grain-raising. He helped to haul the first rig into the Coalinga oil-field for Chanslor & Canfield. This was the rig that struck oil.

After this, Mr. Douglass spent some time in Hanford where he was engaged in the grocery business, then spent three and one-half years in Oak-

land, until 1912, when he took charge of a lemon grove at Visalia. In 1916, he came to Fresno County as superintendent of his sister's ranches, taking a keen interest in their productiveness. He is especially qualified to fill this responsible position for his sister, as he had had experience tending large ranches previous to his coming to Fresno County, wherein he gained valuable knowledge concerning the cultivation of the soil, as well as the management of men.

Mrs. A. Verwoert inherited property from her husband, but before her marriage she taught school and invested her savings in property which she added to the estate left her, and by wise speculation and careful management she acquired more land until now she is the owner of 650 acres which are located in separate ranches, and devoted to vines and orchard. As the manager of this large estate, Mr. Douglass has greatly increased both the quality and quantity of the crops, evident proof of his ability as a superintendent.

Mr. Douglass was married, in 1890, at Coalinga, to Miss Myrtle Lane, born in Missouri, but this union was unhappy and resulted in a divorce. To them two sons were born: Earl W. and Leslie L., both of whom are now serving their country in the World War. Leslie L. is a member of Company A, Coast Artillery, stationed in the Philippines; Earl W. is valiantly serving in the Ninety-first Division "somewhere in France." The second time Mr. Douglass was married he was united with Miss Ruth Warren, who passed away in Tulare County. On January 29, 1917, Mr. Douglass was united in marriage with Mrs. Susie (Suddeth) Belcher, a native of Lincoln County, Mo., and a daughter of James and Anna A. (Dockins) Suddeth, born in Kentucky. Her father served in a Missouri regiment in the Civil War. Mrs. Douglass was reared and educated in Illinois. She came to California in 1904.

At the present time Mr. Douglass makes his headquarters on the Kutner ranch of 270 acres, devoted to vineyards of malagas, emperors, wine grapes and muscats. The Sanger ranch of sixty acres is in peaches and grapes, while the Hanford ranch of 320 acres is mostly vineyard, the three ranches being all under his supervision.

G. M. Douglass is a man of noble character and is actuated in his business transactions by the highest motives. While not affiliated with any particular church organization, Mr. Douglass endeavors to do the kind of work done by church members and is especially interested in the extension of the brotherhood of man.

**JOHN W. AIKIN.**—A prominent citizen of exceptional ability and influential as a man of affairs, who is such a good "booster" for Selma and vicinity that he is naturally found actively identified with every important movement for the development and uplift of the community, is John William Aikin, the office manager of the Libby, McNeill & Libby Cannery at Selma. He was born in Clark County, Iowa, on October 12, 1868, the son of Relzy Mitchel Aikin, a native of Martinsville, Morgan County, Ind., a district in which the Aikins were pioneers. He had married Talitha L. Stansbury, of Iowa. The parents in an early day settled in Indiana, later removing to Illinois, and from that State Relzy M. Aikin enlisted in Company B of the Thirty-third Illinois Volunteer Infantry, in which he served from 1861 to 1864. After the War he went to Iowa, and there married Miss Stansbury. Her family progenitors, of English and Welsh origin, settled in Virginia in Colonial times, and some of the family later removed to Maryland; and there is a stone house still standing in Baltimore which has been continuously occupied by the family for two hundred years, and was originally built by one of them.

Having become a farmer and a stockman, R. M. Aikin removed to Nuckolls County, Nebr., in 1872, and there he was ranching when, in 1874, the grasshoppers desolated the land. He was a member of the Nebraska legislature from 1883 to 1889, and for a term was Assistant Secretary of the Nebraska

State Board of Irrigation. He made many trips to California, but never settled here, and he died in Nuckolls County in 1912, where he owned a half-section of land. His wife is still living at Nelson, Nebr. She was the mother of six children, among whom John W. was the oldest. Then came Luella, who died when she was two and a half years old; Oliver L., a Nebraska farmer who is living on the old Aikin homestead which was taken up by Relzy M. Aikin under the homestead act; Mary Ellen, the wife of William Wetzel, the butcher at Superior, Nebr.; Hattie Leola, now Mrs. Bert Hewitt, residing at Republican, Nebr.; and Charlotte Grace, the wife of Frank W. Fletcher, living near Edgar, Nebr.

John W. Aikin was only three and a half years old when he removed from Iowa to Nebraska, with his parents, and later he helped to break the virgin soil of Nebraska. He attended the high school at Edgar, Nebr., and took a commercial course at the Lillibridge & Roose business college at Lincoln. Then he became a pedagog and taught in Nebraska for three years, after which he came on to Selma, where an uncle, J. A. Roberts, now of Sanger, then lived. He received a notary public's commission, and took up the collection business.

In 1895, Mr. Aikin began studying law with W. B. Good, and this he continued under the direction of E. E. Shepard, but in the fall of 1899, when he had been reading law for three years, and just before he was to take the examination at Sacramento, he was induced to go into the newspaper business. He accordingly leased the office of the Fresno County Enterprise, a weekly owned by Willis & Willis, and during the first year Frank G. Gill became associated with him, their cooperation extending over two years. Then Mr. Aikin purchased the entire plant and became its sole owner. In 1906 he completed the brick building on High Street, which is still the home of the Enterprise. This plant of the Enterprise he sold in 1911; and about five years later, he disposed of the building.

From 1896 to 1900, Mr. Aikin served as City Clerk of Selma, and when the time was opportune, he was a prime mover in securing the Carnegie Library, serving on the committee and as a member of the Library Board. In 1912 he removed with his family to Long Beach, and there engaged in the real estate trade; but like so many others who have once lived in Selma and are never entirely satisfied to dwell anywhere else, he returned here in 1914.

Messrs. Libby, McNeill & Libby had started their local fruit and vegetable cannery in 1911, when they built a unit of their proposed works; and as editor of the Enterprise, Mr. Aikin had had much to do with their locating here. On October 4, 1915, therefore, Mr. Aikin went to work for them, starting in various subordinate capacities until he rose to be office manager. This extensive establishment and its output have become of the greatest importance to Selma and the San Joaquin Valley, and there have been several new departures of late. In 1919 for the first time, for example, they are canning beets, and this year also spinach is being grown for and canned by them. The company has encouraged the farmers to plant the edible, and they will seek to make it more popular as a wholesome and desirable food. It can be planted in the fall and disposed of by April, so that the land can then be used for corn or beans, and the neighborhood become a two-crop country.

At Selma, in 1897, Mr. Aikin was married to Miss Mary Gertrude Brown, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joshua W. Brown, the latter now a widow residing on North McCall Avenue in Selma; and two children have blessed their union: Viola Leonora is now the wife of Glenn W. Butler, a member of the postal service, stationed at Selma, and they have two children—Glenn W., Jr., and Jack Aikin; Relzy B. Aikin is in the Selma high school and will graduate with the Class of 1920. Mr. Aikin has remodelled his residence property at the corner of Grant and North Streets, and there he has one of the most comfortable of Selma homes. In 1910 he became a Christian Scientist, and he is the first reader of the First Christian Science Society at Selma. Services are held in

the Vanderburgh Hall of the Selma Irrigator Building, and although the Society is not large, it is steadily growing and looking forward to the building of an ornate and useful church edifice. As a charter member, Mr. Aikin helped to organize the Selma Lodge of the Woodmen of the World; now it has 500 members, and he has been through the chairs three times. He is also a member of the Independent Order of Foresters, and has passed through its several chairs.

While doing newspaper work, Mr. Aikin for a while served on the Republican county central committee, but this did not prevent him, when he became interested in temperance reform and convinced that Selma (at one time harboring many saloons) needed prohibitive legislation, from throwing himself into the thick of the bitter anti-saloon fight. Through his editorials, he made the Enterprise speak in no uncertain terms for a dry and decent town; he was bitterly persecuted for his uncompromizing attitude; and yet he saw Selma go dry in 1904, the first town in the San Joaquin Valley to "mount the water-wagon," and also witnessed the dawn of constitutional prohibition.

**CARL GUSTAF PETERSON.**—A wide-awake, progressive and successful rancher, whose kind-heartedness and liberality endear him to all who know him, is Carl Gustaf Peterson, who first came to California in the late eighties when the Golden State was enjoying its boom and beginning to be the talk of the world. He was born at Olspodaburk, Varmland, Sweden, on April 16, 1861, and his father was Peter Erickson, a farmer, who died there. He had married Mathilda C. Berg, and she also died there, the mother of eight children, six of whom are living.

The third oldest in the family, Carl G. was brought up on a farm and attended the ordinary public schools. When he was twenty years of age he crossed the ocean to the United States and settled at Ishpeming, Mich., where he was in the employ of iron mines for seven years. In 1888, he decided to go on to the Pacific Coast; and having come to California he settled awhile at Kingsburg, in Fresno County, where he worked at the carpenter trade and at brickmaking. He also commenced to ranch and to experiment with viticulture and horticulture. He bought four lots in Kingsburg, built a residence and continued there until 1897.

In that year he removed to Idaho Springs on Clear Creek, Colo., where he worked in gold and silver mines. He also leased mines with success, and continued there for eleven years, during which time he built himself another residence. The lure of California, however, which has so frequently drawn the pioneer and settler back to the hills and valleys of the Golden State, worked upon him like a fever, and made him restless until he decided to return.

In February, 1909, Mr. Peterson returned to Fresno County and settled at Vinland. As a matter of fact he had come to California the year previously, and while here had met the Reverend Nordstrom and become interested in the colony which that gentleman was promoting, so he bought twenty acres of his present place, moved onto it, and at once began to improve it. Since then he has bought ten acres, and now has set ten acres to Thompson's seedless grapes and a few apricot trees. He also works at the carpenter trade and at contracting and building.

While at Idaho Springs, Mr. Peterson was married on June 19, 1897, to Amanda Borg, a native of Iowa, who was reared there and in Kingsburg, where she was educated and where he met her. She was the daughter of Olaf Borg, a rancher of that place. Now they have two children: Adeline, who resides in Fresno, and Torgny, who lives with his father.

The family attends the Swedish Lutheran Church at Vinland, of which Mr. Peterson has been a trustee and deacon and the Sunday School superintendent. In national politics Mr. Peterson is a progressive Republican, and always a good American citizen.







*Charles H. Mitchler.*



*Laura M. Mutchler.*



**MR. and MRS. CHARLES H. MUTCHLER.**—It is interesting to chronicle the life history of the pioneers, who in their prime entered on their life work at the front, always improving and surging ahead, never idle but always busy in making the soil yield more abundantly, thus making the earth and the peoples thereof richer and at the same time winning success and a competency for themselves. Such are the lives of Mr. and Mrs. Charles H. Mutchler, agriculturists residing west of Fresno.

Mr. Mutchler was born near Bloomfield, Davis County, Iowa, July 3, 1862, the third oldest in a family of nine children born to Charles A. and Doris (Rouch) Mutchler, well-to-do farmers in Davis County, Iowa.

Charles H. was reared on a farm and as was the custom in Iowa at that time was early set to work on the home farm, each member of the family being taught to work, and necessarily schools were secondary and limited. However, he obtained a fair education which he has supplemented with self-study and reading. At the age of seventeen he made his way to the frontier of Dakota, where he had a cousin who was a cattleman. Charles remained with him for two years, riding the range in care of his cattle, and when he returned to Iowa he had saved \$700. Having always had a desire to travel and especially to see the Pacific Coast, he decided to come to California, so when twenty-one years of age he arrived in Modesto. He was a total stranger, but being handy and willing to work, he immediately found employment on the ranch of Sam Miller, with whom he remained two years.

Wishing to engage in business for himself, Mr. Mutchler purchased a farm outfit and came to Fresno County, in 1884, and leased land just south of Fresno, from Dr. Chester Rowell, and began to raise grain, with the usual vicissitudes of the grain-farmer. On October 4, 1884, he was married at Modesto to Miss Laura Hining and he has been signally favored in his choice of his helpmate. She was born in Davis County, Iowa, May 30, 1865, and was one year old when she crossed the plains with her parents. Her father, Charles H., was one of the Argonauts of forty-nine. He was a self-made man, having been left an orphan at the age of eight years in Germany, and coming to the United States when thirteen years old, he paddled his own canoe in Davis County, Iowa. Working on the farm, he studied at every spare moment and late into the night, and became a well educated and scholarly man. He was converted in the Christian Church, studied for the ministry, and was ordained in that denomination. He had preached his first sermon when sixteen years old, and ever afterward was a minister. In 1849 he joined the gold rush to California, crossing the plains with ox teams. While traveling through the Indian country a mule in the train by its actions warned the emigrants of the proximity of the Indians, which enabled the party to barricade against the foe. A stiff skirmish with the Red Men ensued which resulted in the Indians being driven away. After several years of prospecting and mining he returned to Iowa where he was married to Emily M. Shadle, and thereafter engaged in farming in Davis County, until 1866, when, with his wife and two children, Arthur and Laura, the latter now Mrs. Mutchler, then a babe in her mother's arms, he again crossed the plains with ox teams. Arriving safely, he located at Modesto, Stanislaus County. He purchased 160 acres northwest of Modesto and later added another 160 acres and engaged in farming and stock-raising. He always preached, and after locating in California he organized the first Christian congregation in Modesto, and built the Christian church there. This he did because he loved the work and in his self-sacrificing way he preached without a salary and farmed for a living. He was a grand old man and a truly honest and conscientious one, remaining active until his death in 1909. His wife had died in Modesto many years before, at the age of forty. They had four children: Arthur, of Stockton; Laura, now Mrs. Mutchler; Emma, Mrs. W. D. Toomes of Modesto; and Claude, who lives at Sharon, Madera County. Laura Hining

received a good education in the public and high schools, and after their marriage they entered heartily into their farming operations. For ten years they farmed the Rowell place. Then they leased land from Jeff James on Fish Slough, now Tranquillity, and ran a grain farm of 2,700 acres for twelve years. But there were always drawbacks coming up that seemed to spoil their chances of realizing the big profits they expected. One year the prospects looked fine for a \$50,000 crop on 2,500 acres but a flood came and swept it all away. They acquired a large outfit and ran five big teams and gathered the grain with a Holt combined harvester, having the second harvester of the kind in the county. Discouraged by the loss of one crop after another, Mrs. Mutchler, having received a legacy from her father's estate, came to Fresno, and purchased sixty acres in Wolter's Colony. On this they located, making valuable improvements, and eighteen months later sold it at a profit. In 1910 she bought the present place that originally consisted of sixty acres, the old Brickley place on McKinley Avenue, ten miles west of Fresno, and here they are engaged in farming and dairying, having met with success. Since then they have added sixty acres to their holdings and now own 120 acres of valuable land. They have a dairy herd of fifty-five milch cows, all Holsteins. Their large acreage in alfalfa also affords them the opportunity for raising and feeding cattle. Although under the Herndon canal, they have installed two pumping plants which afford them an abundance of water for irrigation, and now, despite early hardships and discouragements, Mr. and Mrs. Mutchler are in easy circumstances.

Mr. Mutchler has been and is a very active man, and an inveterate worker who likes the state of his adoption and particularly Fresno County. Mrs. Mutchler is a business woman of more than ordinary ability and fills her place in the household economy with distinction. They are the proud parents of six children: Clarence, in the United States Army; Claude, assisting on the ranch; May, who is Mrs. Hickok of Merced; Maude; Charles, and Laura. Mr. and Mrs. Mutchler find social enjoyment in the Fraternal Brotherhood, and are members of the Christian Church.

**WILLIAM REESE GARISON.**—Perhaps the best-preserved octogenarian mail-carrier in California, in the full possession of his mental and physical powers, and a highly-intelligent and noble-hearted gentleman, is William Reese Garrison, in charge of the Star Route between Burrel and Wheatville, and the father of a most interesting and progressive family. He gave to his two youngest sons all his horses, mules and cattle; and having started out farming on a big scale, they have become well-to-do. Both of them are very able farmers and foremen, and have done much successful work for the big land-owners, Vogelsang & Goodrich. Hugh is regularly connected with that well-known firm, acting as their foreman at Calxico, while the youngest son is the ranch foreman at Huron, in Fresno County.

Mr. Garrison was born in Barry County, Mo., on January 29, 1838, and when three years old, left with his parents for Arkansas, where he grew up. After the death of his father, and when he was twenty-one, he moved with his mother and his brother Thomas to Parker County, Texas, drawn thither by the circumstance that his oldest brother, James, was then located in that county as a farmer and a stock-raiser. He attended the subscription schools of Arkansas and was given such opportunities as the period afforded.

His father, P. S. Garrison, was born in South Carolina, was liberally educated and became a school-teacher, and he was able to do much for the schooling of his son. His mother's maiden name was Zylpah Smith, she also was a native of South Carolina, and in that state she was married. Mr. Garrison taught school in Missouri and Arkansas, and died, in the latter state, when he was fifty-six years old, leaving a widow and nine children, all of whom grew to maturity. William Reese was the third child in the order of birth, and is the only one now living.

In Texas, he started in stock-raising, and such was the foresight with which he operated, that he soon developed a ranch worth coming miles to see. At the age of twenty-five he was married to Miss Sarah Wood, who died in Texas after twenty-five years of married life. She was the mother of six children, and three were still living when she died: Bellzora is now the wife of Richard Cornwall, a dairyman at Visalia, and she has three children, all daughters: A. H., popularly known as "Hugh," is now a single rancher at Calxico; and Thomas Lee, who married Miss Ruth Servis, of Fresno, in which city they reside; he was recently married, and is employed for part of the time by Vogelsang & Goodrich, as foreman and machinist on their large ranch at Huron in Fresno County.

For thirty years Mr. Garison continued in Texas, prospering as a farmer in Parker County, and when he sold out, he came direct to California and to Fresno County. It was in the great boom period of 1888, and he rented awhile at Fowler, in 1896 coming down to the Burrel sector. There he leased the Captain Clover Ranch of 400 acres, and for eight years farmed it to wheat. Sometimes the returns were not encouraging, for he sold wheat as low as sixty-five cents per cental.

In 1904, Mr. Garison's two sons came here and began renting 3,000 acres of the Burrel Estate, and Mr. Garison let them have his horses, machinery and outfit. As has been said, the sons have been eminently successful, reflecting credit in the highest degree on their parents and themselves.

Mr. Garison served for years as justice of the peace in Texas, and thereby continued the enviable traditions of his family, which was of English origin. The Garisons came from England to Carolina, and were there at the time of the American Revolution. It is, therefore, a colonial Carolina family, and one of the proudest in the annals of that great state. William Reese's mother was an orphan, but she enjoyed advantages which later had their beneficial influence on her offspring.

A Democrat of the good old school, although in local issues a public-spirited citizen who works for the good of the community regardless of party lines, Mr. Garison became mail carrier on July 1, 1913, and has carried the mail steadily for more than five years. He travels daily over the Star Route from Burrel to Wheatville and back, making a trip every day except Sunday, of four miles and return, by means of his horse and buggy.

Mr. Garison's place of residence is planted to alfalfa, and is owned by his two sons, T. L. and A. H. Garison. They began by leasing 160 acres from the Smith Estate, or rather the whole section, and later bought it. They now lease out their holding for dairying and the growing of alfalfa, for which the ground is especially well adapted.

While in Texas, Mr. Garison was married a second time to Miss Tennessee Blackwell of Parker County, who is still living, and who, together with her husband, is highly esteemed by their many friends.

**JAMES H. McKAMEY.**—A very interesting, progressive citizen, who came to California in 1903, but was one of those who, in 1911, were laying the foundations of Tranquillity, is J. H. McKamey, who hauled his goods from Jameson, and bought his first lot with a check from Graves Bros., owners of the Jeff James lands. He was born near Bristol, Tenn., on January 25, 1857, the son of Robert McKamey, who came from Sullivan County, Tenn., while the grandfather and three brothers came from Scotland. The father was well and favorably known as a farmer near Bristol, and died there; he espoused the cause of the Confederacy, and was in the Civil War. The mother, who had been Mary Catherine Hodges, was born at Washington, Tenn., and she is still living. She had six children, four boys and two girls, all of whom grew up; and our subject is the oldest of those who survived.

James H. was brought up on the home farm until he was twenty-one, and then he attended the local school and availed himself of the limited



educational advantages. On arriving at maturity, he went to Texas for three years, but finding it unhealthful enough to give him chills and fever, he returned home and then began clerking in a store. At the end of two years he went to Bristol to continue clerking. After that he had a store of his own and engaged in the general merchandise business at Bristol. He was a member of the firm of Lore, Devault & McKamey, and continued as a partner and in that line for many years. Selling out his interest to his partners, he engaged in the produce business in Mountain City until he came to California.

In 1903 he sold out and, coming to the Coast, was awhile at Galt, and then at Dinuba, where he embarked in general merchandising characteristic of that enterprising community. While there he became acquainted with a civil engineer, Frank Rautsma, in the employ of the San Joaquin Company; and through him he was first interested in Tranquillity, and bought out the business of Graves Bros. There was at that time so little of the prospective town that for a couple of years he hauled all the goods for his store from Jameson, but he persevered as a real pioneer, and by 1913 he was able to build the new store edifice he at present occupies, and which is such a credit to the place. He made it large and commodious, and once again engaged in a general merchandise business, including groceries, drygoods, clothing, shoes, etc.

While in Tennessee, Mr. McKamey was married to Miss Emma Latture, a native of Sullivan County, and they have four children: Vesta, Mrs. C. I. Rider of Redwood City; Pearl, at home; Ottis O., who was in the United States Army; and Fay, Mrs. J. W. Tapp of Glendale, Ariz.

Besides his store-building, Mr. McKamey owns a comfortable residence. In national politics he is a Democrat, but in the hearty support of local issues designed to advance the general welfare of the community, he knows no party lines and votes for the best that is attainable.

**LEE S. BEALL.**—An influential factor for over thirty years in the progress and development of the community of his adoption, Lee S. Beall comes of an historic family, his grandfather, Zephaniah Addison Beall, participating in the War of 1812, and taking part in 1814 at the Siege of Baltimore, at the very time and place when Francis Scott Key fought the common enemy and, as a result of the all-night struggle, wrote his immortal Star Spangled Banner. He removed from Maryland to Ohio, married and then moved on to Indiana, being one of the pioneer settlers of that State. He established a home in Ripley County, and died at the age of eighty-six. In Ripley County, William M. Beall, Lee's father, was born; while the mother, Caroline E. Hancock before her marriage, a descendant of John Hancock, a signer of the Declaration of Independence, was born in Dearborn County, Ind. William M. Beall farmed in Indiana until November, 1886, the beginning of the great boom in California that beckoned the thousands from all quarters of the globe; and, coming under the spell, he made the trip west with his good wife, and located at River Bend, Fresno County, where he tilled the soil for a few years, and then, retiring from active life, moved to Fresno. Here he died at the age of eighty-four, and Mrs. Beall was over sixty at her death.

The birth of Lee S. Beall, on August 9, 1864, also occurred in Ripley County, where he attended school and lived with his parents until he was eighteen. Being energetic and industrious, he spent some time learning the carpenter's trade. On March 21, 1886, he was married to Miss Della Peters, a native of the same county, born February 28, 1863, a daughter of Enoch and Zerilda (Pendergast) Peters; her father still survives, in his eighty-fourth year. Soon after marriage, they started for California and cast in their lot with the sturdy pioneers of that day. They first located at River Bend and there continued until the fall of 1887, when they established a home



*L. S. Buall*



in the Red Bank section. Mr. Beall started farming, and for nearly five years raised grain.

In 1890, Mr. Beall purchased from J. P. Vincent his present place, a twenty-acre tract near Clovis. It was stubble-field, but he set it out as a vineyard and, having bought twenty acres adjoining, he continued to improve and develop the land until now he owns a place of forty acres, set out to muscat, Thompson and malaga grapes. He erected a commodious modern dwelling-house, other necessary buildings, and installed a pumping-plant.

While Mr. Beall has made for himself a substantial income, he has contributed to the permanent prosperity of Fresno and vicinity. He is a Democrat, and has attended and taken an active part in many political conventions. In 1902 he was elected justice of the peace of the second judicial township for four years. In 1906 he was defeated by Isaac Coberly. He was appointed justice of the peace in July, 1910, to fill a vacancy caused by Mr. Coberly's death, and he served for three and a half years. From 1907 to 1909 he was roadmaster of the district, and from 1909 to 1910 he was deputy assessor, under G. P. Cummings, and assessed the Clovis district. In July, 1914, he was elected justice of the peace and four years later was reelected without opposition, and is now serving his thirteenth year. He is a notary and deals in real estate.

Judge Beall has three children: Elsie W., now Mrs. Francis living near Fresno; Helen D., a graduate of the high school, class of 1919, and Harold Lee, in the Clovis high. Judge Beall served as district school trustee of the Jefferson school for eight years, acting also as clerk of the board. He has also served as trustee of the Clovis Union High School for eight years, during which time he was clerk for seven years, and in the last year, president.

Mr. Beall is a member of the Woodmen of the World, where he is a past officer. He belongs to Clovis Lodge, No. 139, I. O. O. F., in which he is a Past Grand, and he is an active member of the Knights of Pythias in Clovis. The Christian Church, to which his wife belongs, receives his support, and he is a member of the Clovis Chamber of Commerce. He is a firm believer in the cooperation of fruitmen, and has actively supported all the raisin associations and is a member and a stockholder of the California Associated Raisin Company. In 1903, Mr. and Mrs. Beall made a trip to their old home; and this was the first time they revisited the scenes of former years since they came to California.

Judge Beall is much respected as a public-spirited citizen endeavoring to advance the best interests of the community.

**JOHN G. C. SINCLAIR.**—Interesting as one of the few men now living who worked for old Billy Caruthers, the pioneer, John G. C. Sinclair is a highly respected citizen of the town of Caruthers. He was the grain-buyer here for more than a quarter of a century, and enjoys the confidence of those who have business relations with him. He lives on the old Billy Caruthers farm north of the town, and there extends an old-fashioned hospitality. He is a Scotchman by birth, and it goes without saying that he is bright and level-headed, a square-dealer, and excellent farmer and vineyardist; for as the pioneer vine-grower at Caruthers, he is public-spirited and takes a deal of interest in the welfare and progress of the community. In many ways he is well-posted, and he is fortunate in having an excellent wife and bright and loyal children.

He was born in the town of Wick, in Caithness-shire, Scotland, on April 8, 1864, grew up there, and on his twenty-first birthday sailed from Glasgow. He had taken to farming when he was sixteen years of age, and was brought up to follow agriculture. His father owned no farm, but was widely known as a successful commission man, auctioneer and cattle-salesman in Wick and in the small town of Thurso, and conducted auctions all

over the county, and had his own salesyards, where he offered stock under the hammer every two weeks.

John acquired a grammar-school education, and worked out on farms rather as a student, learning stock-raising, feeding and general farming. When he arrived in Boston, in 1885, he was equipped with experience beyond that of the average young man, and confidently traveled through the country, visiting Quebec and Chicago, and going on to Winnipeg, Manitoba. There he sought employment from Kenneth McKenzie, M. P., and worked on his Bonanza wheat farm at Portage la Prairie and Burnside for a year, including a very severe winter. The next year he went to work for the Hudson Bay Company in their flour mill.

In the fall of 1887 he came to Tulare County, Cal., and at the same time took out his first citizenship papers, determined to become a citizen of the United States, and for twenty-five years thereafter he followed grain-handling, as a grain-warehouse foreman.

In 1888, Mr. Sinclair came to Fresno County, and engaged with Mr. F. M. Miller, the grain-merchant of Fresno, who induced him to come to Caruthers and take charge of the new grain-warehouse there.

During the spring of 1888, there was very little doing in the warehouse, so with Mr. Miller's permission he took a job for two months on the Caruthers ranch; but when the time was up, Mr. Caruthers insisted that he should continue in his employ; and after due consultation with Mr. Miller, who gave his permission, Mr. Sinclair remained in the service of Billy Caruthers for a whole year, and only after that went back to work for Mr. Miller, who employed him for the next twenty-five years. He bought grain and superintended the warehouse from 1889 to 1914.

In the meantime he had bought a part of the Caruthers ranch, the home quarter section and two other quarter sections besides, retaining the 285 acres which he still operates as a dairy and for the cultivation of raisins and peaches. Twenty acres are planted to muscats, and fourteen acres to peaches, and twenty acres to alfalfa; and the balance is also devoted to alfalfa. He has ditch water from the Fowler Switch ditch.

Mr. Sinclair made a trip back to his native Scotland in 1901, and while there married his betrothed, Miss Christina S. Henderson, who was born at Dunn, Scotland, in Caithness-shire, a daughter of Donald and Christina (Sutherland) Henderson, being the fourth daughter in a family of ten children. Her father was a farmer in Scotland, and there both parents died. Mr. Sinclair's mother was Margaret Craig, a daughter of Donald Craig, who was a retail shoe-dealer at Wick.

Mr. and Mrs. Sinclair have had five children: Minnie H., who died in infancy; Donald, who graduated from the high school at Easton (before there was a high school at Caruthers) and who was in the Eighty-ninth Division of the Sanitary Ambulance Corps, and was stationed in France, doing duty between Verdun and Metz, returning home June 17, after serving in the army of occupation in Germany, landing at New York, May 24th, and being honorably discharged at the Presidio, June 17, 1919; John G. C. Sinclair, Jr., who was in the Easton High School and enlisted in the navy, and served as a pharmacist's mate on the Steamer Melville, south of Ireland, and who is now stationed at a naval base north of Scotland; Margaret C., who graduated from the same institution as an honor student, winning the cash prize of \$100 for the highest scholarship, and completing the regular four-year course in three years, and who is now at the State University, where she is majoring in history; and Alexander H., who is in the marines, stationed at the Bremerton Navy Yard, state of Washington, and who is a graduate of the Caruthers High School, Class of '17, which was the first four-year class graduated from that school.

Mr. and Mrs. Sinclair were brought up Protestants—the former in the Baptist Church and the latter in the Presbyterian communion; and now they

are both members of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Caruthers, the first church built there and which Mr. Sinclair helped to build, and of which he is a trustee. They were active in the Liberty Loans, and the work of the Red Cross, and Mrs. Sinclair was instrumental in getting the branch of the County Library at Caruthers. They built a beautiful residence on their home-place in 1912, and there they have dispensed a cordial hospitality. Mr. Sinclair is a stockholder in the Caruthers Cooperative Cheese Association, and has been active in educational matters. He worked hard to get the beautiful and commodious high school building, costing \$30,000, erected in 1914—one of the best-appointed school buildings in the county. The manual training department is in the basement; and the other departments are on the first floor, in a brick and cement building, with an auditorium having a capacity of 500 people. The school board is: President, James C. Gallaher; clerk, F. C. Bonyman; trustees, A. Beckman, John G. C. Sinclair and D. Clemens. Mr. Sinclair has also served on election boards and done jury duty.

**AXEL W. SWARD.**—California having early bidden high for the heroic pioneer, is rich in the number of such men and women whose lives read like romances because they themselves belong to the romantic; and prominent among these is Axel W. Sward, a retired merchant, landowner and banker of Kingsburg. Coming from an excellent Stockholm family that saw its ups and downs, Mr. Sward has reached by his own efforts and the cooperation of his wife, an enviable status socially, commercially and financially, among the men in Central California.

Born near Stockholm on July 29, 1864, Axel grew up in Sweden, where he attended the public schools. His father was Captain Peter August Sward, an esteemed officer of the Swedish Infantry, who died when the boy was only one and a half years old. The mother was thus left a widow with five children, among whom Axel was the youngest; so that her death when he had reached his fifth year, fell upon him more than the other children. He was therefore put out in a private family, and grew up to know what hard work meant. At the age of fourteen he was confirmed in the Lutheran Church, and soon after he struck out across the wide ocean to America.

All alone, he landed at New York City in 1877, and straightway proceeded to Minneapolis, where he had a varied experience and suffered many hardships. It took every penny of his patrimony to buy his ticket to that point, and for four days he had practically nothing to eat on the train from the coast to Minneapolis. He stepped off the train at half past nine at night, and would certainly have been in the greatest of dilemmas; but a kind-hearted fellow-countryman took him to his home and taught him enough English to enable him to ask for work.

It was very hard, however, just at that time to get employment, and for four weeks he was unable to get a job, so that he became very down-hearted, but finally, Axel secured work in a saw mill at Minneapolis; and then, for the last two years that he was in that city, he ran a grocery business of his own.

At the end of seven years, however, he went to Kansas City, Mo., and bought a blacksmith and wagon shop which he conducted successfully for eighteen months; after which he moved to Omaha where, for a year, he worked as a carpenter and builder. Then he went to Phelps County, in the same state, and started for himself as a contractor and builder.

It was there that he met and married Miss Almeda Dahlstrom, a native of Phelps County and the daughter of John Dahlstrom who had married Mary Dahlstedt. This honored couple were among the first pioneer farmers of Phelps County, and so Axel Sward bought a farm there and prospered.

In 1906, unable longer to withstand the lure of California, he came to Kingsburg and entered the commercial field here. He became a mem-

ber of the firm of Carlson & Sward, dealers in general merchandise; and three years later, when he sold out his share, he opened a boot and shoe store, putting in the most exclusive stock yet seen in this town.

Mr. Sward, who is a director in the Kingsburg Bank, owns forty of the choicest of Central California acres sixteen miles west of Kingsburg, and some very desirable lots in the city itself. He plotted the East Park Addition to Kingsburg, and he has sold nearly all of the lots there. He is generous-hearted and public-spirited, and always alert to advance any good cause. He gives his excellent wife, however, much of the credit for his advancement.

Mr. and Mrs. Sward, who are members of the Swedish Free Mission Church, still have three children, although three died in infancy. Harold is the subject of another sketch, and is well-known in merchant circles here; Marian is married to R. B. Denham, a farmer in Kings County; and Ruby is in the grammar school. Mr. Sward was on the building committee of the church, four years ago, when the congregation erected a church edifice at a cost of eight thousand dollars.

**NIELS HANSEN.**—The life which this narrative sketches began in far-away Jylland, Denmark, June 1, 1867. Niels Hansen, a successful viticulturist, whose well kept vineyard is located on Hayes Avenue, between Whites Bridge Road and Belmont Avenue, is a son of Jacob Hansen, a Danish farmer, and was reared on a farm in his native land and received a good education in the public school of his native place.

Filled with the desire to see more of the great world and to seek his fortune in the United States, where so many of his fellow countrymen had gained success, Niels Hansen sailed from his native land in 1892, destined for Weston, Pottawattamie County, Iowa. After his arrival in Iowa he was engaged to work on farms in the vicinity of Weston, and followed that line of endeavor until 1894, when he decided to continue his journey further westward, coming on as far as California and locating in Fresno County.

Soon after his arrival in Fresno County, Niels Hansen, together with his brother Hans, leased a ranch of 160 acres upon which they raised grain and grapes. The brothers continued the partnership for three years, when it was dissolved and Niels leased a vineyard and alfalfa ranch which he operated for three years. Being very industrious and enterprising, Mr. Hansen determined to quit paying rent and own a ranch himself, which plan was realized in 1899, when he purchased his present place consisting of forty acres situated on Hayes Avenue. He devotes it to vineyard, raising muscat and Thompson seedless grapes, with a border of figs. He has built a splendid residence and here he has been engaged in viticulture ever since.

In Fresno, on February 24, 1896, Niels Hansen was united in marriage with Emma Charlotte Christensen, a native of Hazel Dell, Iowa, and a daughter of P. N. Christensen, the well known and successful viticulturist of the Madison district, a sketch of whose life will be found on another page of this volume. Mr. and Mrs. Niels Hansen are the happy parents of five children: Agnes, a graduate of a boarding school at Lodi and now attending Union Pacific College at St. Helena; Katie and Laura are attending the Fresno High School; Richard; and Eleanor. Mrs. Hansen is a member of the Adventist Church.

In national politics, Mr. Hansen is a Republican. He is a member of the California Peach Growers, Inc., also a stockholder and member of the California Associated Raisin Company. Mr. Hansen possesses the happy faculty of making and retaining friends and is highly esteemed in his community for his uprightness of character and genial personality. He is interested in all worthy movements that have as their aim the upbuilding of Fresno County and especially of the community in which he has resided for so many years.





*Nils Hansen*



*Emma Hansen.*











